



First Presbyterian Church

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The mission of historic First Church is to bring diverse people of metropolitan Buffalo together to follow Jesus Christ through worshiping God, fostering spiritual growth, and serving the community.

*Wherever “◇” appears, you are asked to stand if you are able to do so.
Text in **bold print** indicates congregational responses.*

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JUNE 22, 2014

PRELUDE

Voluntary on *St. Clement*

Robert Lind

◇CALL TO WORSHIP: *(responsive)*

Jesus said: Take up your cross and follow me.

We have been crucified with Christ; now, by God’s grace, we walk in newness of life.

Seek your life on earth and you will lose it; but lose your life in Christ and you will find it.

If we have died in Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.

◇PRAYER OF THE DAY *(responsive)*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray:

Holy and gracious God, your steadfast love abides with your people on every age. You teach us to trust in you and call us to live in peace with one another. Show us the way to live grateful lives, without fear, knowing the true worth of your creation, including ourselves; in Jesus’ name, we pray. **Amen.**

◇HYMN 481

“Praise the Lord, God’s Glories Show”

Llanfair

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

O Lord our God, we confess that we do not reflect your glory. You deliver us from evil, but we continue to live in sin. You offer us new life, but we continue to live in fear. Forgive us; restore and reorder our lives by the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, so that we may follow you faithfully, not counting the cost; to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS *(responsive)*

If we have died in Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. Therefore, consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God.**

◇CANTICLE

“Glory to the Father”

Richard Wetzel

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
as in the beginning, so now, and forever. Amen.**

◇PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Jeremiah 20:7-13

OT page 722

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 10:24-39

NT pages 10-11

SERMON

“The Unrelenting God”

Rev. Dr. Philip S. Gittings

◇HYMN 357

“O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee”

Maryton

◇AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

Adapted from Heidelberg Catechism Q27

What do you understand by the providence of God?

The almighty and ever present power of God by which God upholds, as with his hand, heaven and earth and all creatures, and so rules them that leaf and blade, rain and drought, fruitful and lean years, food and drink, health and sickness, prosperity and poverty—all things, in fact come to us not by chance but by his fatherly hand. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD’S PRAYER (*unison*)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY

Sonata in C

Domenico Scarlatti

◇DOXOLOGY

Tallis’Canon

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen**

◇PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*responsive*)

Astounding Spirit, you have showered your gifts upon us. Now we offer you our lives, to be transformed, made new, and given in love for the world in Jesus’ name. **Amen.**

◇HYMN 263

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

St. Denio

◇CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Fugue in B minor

J. S. Bach

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OFFICERS



SESSION AND TRUSTEES BY CLASS AND TERM

Clerk of Session

Janet Hill

Class of 2014

Mark Armesto (T) (1)

John Darby (T) (2)

Lauren Hill (T) (2)

Marv Riegler (2)

Erica Wichtowski (1)

Class of 2015

Jean Hess (2)

Tim Hess (1)

Janet Hill (2)

Don Houck (T) (2)

Susan Koeppel (1)

Virginia McIntyre (1)

Class of 2016

Ian Bradford (T) (2)

Mike Henry (T) (2)

Stephanie Smith (1)

Ryan Nadbrzuch (T) (1)

Maria Oakley (1)

BOARD OF DEACONS BY CLASS AND TERM

Class of 2014

Pat Brown (1)

Russell Carlson (2)

Mary Field (2)

Karen Frieder (2)

Olga Rico-Armesto (1)

Lou Ann Luther Riegler (1)

Class of 2015

Liz Kamke (1)

Tina Osei (1)

Judith Paradzai (2)

Phil Sims (2)

Denis Wettlaufer (2)

Class of 2016

Jackie Addo (1)

Cleo Alexander (2)

Mark Juan Armesto (2)

José Gomez (2)

Gifty Koramoah (1)

Ken Madell (2)



(T) indicates that the Elder has also been nominated or elected to serve as a Trustee while on Session.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY, JUNE 22, 2014

Today's Liturgist is Gail Frantz.

Welcome to all visitors— you have a friend at First Church! If you would like to learn more about our diverse, welcoming faith community, please speak to a Deacon after worship.

If you have a prayer request to include during Prayers of the People, please use one of the blue prayer cards available in the Narthex or by asking a Deacon. Please write neatly and give your card to a Deacon.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING CALLED

A congregational meeting of the First Presbyterian Society of the Town of Buffalo has been called for **today, Sunday, June 22, 2014**, immediately following worship in the Sanctuary for the purposes of receiving the report of the Nominating Committee; electing officers on the Board of Deacons, Session, and Board of Trustees.

JUNE ADULT EDUCATION

Phil Gittings has challenged, asked, and prayed for all our young adults and everyone else interested in ministry with young adults to attend the very special discussions on Sunday mornings during June! We hope you'll come— no matter what your age.

During the month of June our Adult Sunday School will be sharing a very special few weeks together. At 9:30 a.m. on June 22 and 29 we will meet to discuss the June 2014 issue of our denomination's magazine, "Presbyterians Today." The issue is totally given over to articles by and about young adults and their vision for the church. The articles focus on a variety of topics including embracing new leaders, 11 practical ways to engage young

adults, and one called "Preach this, tweet that"! There's even an article called "The Word Made Flesh" that talks about tattoos as a spiritual practice.

So if you want an interesting, exciting and absolutely wonderful experience of learning in June, then come to Sunday school at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday. Maybe God's Spirit will teach us all some wonderful new things if you join us for this class.

MOM'S PLAYGROUP

Attention Mothers of Young Children! In keeping with our commitment to fostering spiritual growth, the CE committee is starting a group for mothers of young children. This group will provide both fellowship and educational opportunities for moms. This group will continue to use ideas from the Raising Spiritually Healthy Children program that has been done in the past. Our first meeting is planned for **Saturday, June 28 from 3 to 5 p.m.** in the Chapel. For more information, contact Erica Wichtowski or Meg Doerzbacher!

JAZZ WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays, July 6 & August 13
5:30 PM Potluck Supper
7:00 PM Worship service with Jazz music
Sponsored by the Church Life Committee

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB GATHERING

We will meet on Thursday, June 26 at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Joyce Young for a pot luck meal, and to discuss the book Nothing Daunted by Dorothy Wickendon.

FIRST CHURCH STAFF LIST

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| <p>The Reverend Dr. Philip S. Gittings, <i>Interim Pastor</i> RevPhil@firstchurchbuffalo.org Voicemail extension 13 / Cell: 548-0466</p> <p>The Reverend John Long, D.D., <i>Parish Associate for Community Outreach</i> johnrlong17@verizon.net</p> <p>Dr. David Bond, <i>Organist/Choirmaster, Bookkeeper</i> DBond@firstchurchbuffalo.org Voicemail extension 17</p> <p>Meg Doerzbacher, <i>Christian Education Director</i> Meg@firstchurchbuffalo.org Voicemail extension 16</p> | <p>Christina Banas, <i>Business Manager</i> CBanas@firstchurchbuffalo.org Voicemail extension 11</p> <p>Quinton Meyer, <i>Volunteer Assoc. for Pastoral Care</i> meyer405@aol.com / Cell:909-2259</p> <p>Liz Kamke, <i>Outreach Assistant</i></p> <p>Tom Hollfelder, <i>Custodian/Security Guard</i> <i>Church Office</i> Voicemail extension 10 <i>email@firstchurchbuffalo.org</i></p> <p><i>Weddings</i> Voicemail extension 15 <i>weddings@firstchurchbuffalo.org</i></p> |
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GARDEN WALK HELP NEEDED

First Church will be open for tours during the Garden Walk on Saturday, July 26 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM and Sunday, July 27 after worship until 4:00 PM. Volunteers are needed to assist with tours. A script will be provided. Please sign up in the Narthex. Thank you!

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, June 22

9:30 a.m. Adult Christian Education — Pastor's Study
11:15 a.m. Worship, Rev. Dr. Philip S. Gittings preaching — Sanctuary
11:30 a.m. Summer Sunday School — Chapel
12:15 p.m. Congregational Meeting — Sanctuary
12:45 p.m. Fellowship Time — Narthex

Monday, June 23

Building Closed

Tuesday, June 24

10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Staff Meeting — Pastor's Study
12:30 p.m. Food Bag Assistance — Historical Hall

Wednesday, June 25

1:00 p.m. Bible Study — Pastor's Study
6:00 p.m. P&A Committee Meeting — Pastor's Study
6:30 p.m. Church Life Committee Meeting — Historical Hall

Thursday, June 26

3:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Native Offerings Crop Share Pickup — Courtyard & Narthex

Friday, June 27

No events

Saturday, June 28

3:00 p.m. Mom's Group — Chapel

Sunday, June 29

9:30 a.m. Adult Christian Education — Pastor's Study
11:15 a.m. Worship, Rev. Dr. Philip S. Gittings preaching — Sanctuary
11:30 a.m. Summer Sunday School — Chapel
12:15 p.m. Fellowship Time — Narthex

WHAT TO EXPECT IN WORSHIP NEXT WEEK:

June 29 — 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The month of June will close with a discussion of what it means to receive the Word of God and how even the little things can become incredibly important to us in our faith journey.