



# First United

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1917 Fifth Avenue, Troy, NY 12180  
Unitedprestroy.org † (518)272-2771

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MAY 3, 2026

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

GATHERING MUSIC

Fanfare and Trumpet Tune

Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

I. Maestoso and IV. Adagio

from the Partita on "Let Us Build a House/All Are Welcome" (*Two Oaks*)

Charles L. Lenz (b. 1952)

WELCOME

\*GATHERING WORDS

Christ is risen!

**Hallelujah! Christ is risen, indeed!**

Gather us in, Architect of Creation, to your household where there is space for everyone!

**Craft our hearts to be a shelter for the outcast and the stranger!**

Dwell with us and show us the way:

**Scaffold us with grace to offer mercy as freely as we have received it.**

Let us worship the living God who is still building the world yet to come!

\*HYMN

#301- *Let Us Build a House*

***Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,  
A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;  
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions: all are welcome;  
All are welcome; all are welcome in this place.***

***Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,  
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.  
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;  
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:  
All are welcome; all are welcome in this place.***

*Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine, and wheat;  
A banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;  
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us: all are welcome;  
All are welcome; all are welcome in this place.*

*Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone  
To heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've know.  
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;  
Let us bring an end to fear and danger: all are welcome;  
All are welcome; all are welcome in this place.*

*Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard  
And loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;  
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: all are welcome;  
All are welcome; all are welcome in this place.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Christ, our guide, you tell your disciples that you are the Way, the Truth, and the Life, yet how often we lose our way, confuse the truth, and choose little deaths rather than live in your abundance. We confess our distractions, how tempted we are by roads more traveled. We admit the seduction of certainty, of those who say what we want to hear. We have witnessed how our way of life make us sick and threaten our planet, yet we feel powerless to live otherwise. Forgive us, we pray. Give us courage to trust in you when we cannot see the next step of the journey. As you have granted us mercy, open our troubled hearts to forgive ourselves as well as others so that we may abide in relationship with you. Amen.**

WORDS OF GRACE

\*GLORIA

#240- Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

*Alleluia, Alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.  
Alleluia, Alleluia! Give praise to his name.  
Come let us praise the living God,  
joyfully sing to our Savior.  
Alleluia, Alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.  
Alleluia, Alleluia! Give praise to his name.*

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, be with you!  
**And also with you!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

1 Peter 2:2-10  
John 14:1-14

**We believe in the triune God, Parent, Child, and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects, and cares for the church through the Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end.**

**We believe that God has revealed himself as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among all people. We believe that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor, and the wronged. We believe that God calls the church to follow them in this; for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry. We believe that God frees the prisoner, supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, and blocks the path of the ungodly.**

**We believe that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, which implies, among other things, that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. Therefore, we reject any ideology which would legitimate forms of injustice and any doctrine which is unwilling to resist such an ideology in the name of the gospel.**

**To the one and only God, Parent, Child, and Holy Spirit, be the honor and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

*Christ, you are the Savior, the Way to the Father,  
The Truth we depend on, the Life that we need.  
We trust you, believing! We listen, receiving  
The joy of the gospel by which we are freed.  
Yet, Lord, you remind us: Through mercy you find us,  
By grace you forgive us. The way home is yours!  
We dare not judge others, our sisters and brothers  
Whom you choose to welcome through love's open doors.*

*With outcast and sinner you sat down to dinner;  
You healed the Samaritans, Gentiles, too.  
The poor knew your caring — the rich, your declaring  
That God welcomes everyone, not just a few.  
A conquering nation brought harsh occupation.  
A soldier came asking; you offered a hand.  
A thief saw your power in his final hour;  
You welcomed him home to God's heavenly land.*

*O Lord, all around us, your mercies astound us  
As others discover the Way you reveal.  
A man whispers, "Help me!" A woman cries, "Mercy!"  
A doubter discovers your welcome is real.  
O Way to the Father, your mercy is broader  
Than we as your people have often proclaimed.  
May we welcome others as sisters and brothers,*

***And treasure the life that we share in your name.***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

COMMUNION

INVITATION

PREFACE

***The Lord be with you. And also with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

THANKSGIVING FOR GOD

SANCTUS

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory!  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest,  
hosanna in the highest!***

***Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest,  
hosanna in the highest!***

THANKSGIVING FOR CHRIST

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

***Christ did die, Christ did rise, Christ will come again.  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest,  
hosanna in the highest!***

INVOCATION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
thy kindom come, your 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 yours is the kingdom, and the power, and  
the glory, forever. Amen.**

AMEN

***Amen, Amen, Amen  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest,  
hosanna in the highest!***

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

\*SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Andante

Edward MacDowell (1860-1908)

\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

INVITATION TO OFFERING

*An offering plate will be passed during the service,  
or you may give online through Tithe.ly: <https://tithe.ly/give?c=1309305>  
Please note where you would like your gift to be directed (general fund, deacons, etc.)*

OFFERTORY

*On Lyra Davidica (Easter Hymn)*

J. Wayne Kerr (b. 1958)

\*DOXOLOGY

#232- *Jesus Christ is Risen Today* (vs. 4)

***Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!  
Praise eternal as God's love. Alleluia!  
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia!  
Parent, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!***

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Generous God, here are our gifts of time; here are our gifts of talents;  
here are our gifts of money. Bless these offerings to be building stones  
for Your Kindom, and guide us to follow your blueprint of mercy, grace,  
and liberation. Amen.**

\*HYMN

#246- *Christ is Alive!*

***Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.  
Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.***

***Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,  
But saving, healing, here and now, and touching every place and time.***

***In every insult, rift, and war where color, scorn, or wealth divide,  
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, where even hope has  
died.***

***Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call,  
and find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.***

\*BENEDICTION

SENDING MUSIC

Recessional on Truro (from the Partita)

Maureen Howell (b. 1962)



**Pastor:** Rev. Marranda Major (marranda@unitedprestroy.org)  
**Guest Organist:** David A. Vredenburg – Eastern NY Chapter,  
American Guild of Organists (AGO)  
**Onscreen Visuals:** Charlotte Albertin, Martha Juenger,  
and Jim Parmelee  
**Audiovisual Production:** Martha Juenger

Class of 2026  
Dan Rogers  
Peggy Smith Savchik

**Session**  
Class of 2027  
Jim Parmelee  
Sue Steele  
Marilynn O'Dell

Class of 2028  
Alan Chandler  
Kodzo Dzikunu  
Bruce Reed

Class of 2026  
Peg Drew  
Martha Juenger  
Pat Rudebush

**Diaconate**  
Class of 2027  
Debbie Brown  
Miriam Parmelee  
Brenda Westbrook

Class of 2028  
Diane Chandler  
Olga Green  
Noel Hains