

[illegible]A scenic mountain landscape with a lake and a blue sky with clouds. The text is overlaid on the image.

Now godliness with
contentment
IS GREAT GAIN.

1 Timothy 6:6

Rev. Michelle Bartel, Ph. D., Preaching
Stephanie Davisson , Accompanist
Bethany Dodge, Liturgist

Welcome
to
First Presbyterian Church
219-866-7005

www.firstpresrensselaer.org

www.facebook.com/First-Presbyterian-Church-Rensselaer

Church Mission Statement: We are a Presbyterian church responding to new mission frontiers presented by our changing culture. Guided by our Lord Jesus Christ, we love, serve and embrace all people.

Sunday Offering: \$85.00 Attendance: 21
Pastor: Rev. Michelle J. Bartel, Ph.D.
Youth Minister: Stephanie Davisson
Director of Music: Stephanie Davisson
Office Administrator: Bethany Dodge 219-866-7005
Maintenance/Housekeeping: Pat McKinney
Technology Assistant: Andrew Dodge
Prayer concerns: Margaret Miller, Family of Joyce Cady, Carol Geisel, Rick & Kelly Dragoo, Julie Wall, Dawn Jefferson, Joy Mendenhall, Sharon DeWees, Tony’s mother, Family of Richard and Wendy White, Ron Sheffler and family, Ed & Barb Michael, Carol Hoover, the family of Bill Gehring, Deb & Jen H, Baha & Mavluda, Bessy & her family, the family of Malcolm and Jessica, Zachary Ausel, the Jones family, and Central Presbyterian Church in Lafayette.
If you would like a child’s folder or a wireless hearing assistance device, let the usher know.

The Lord’s Prayer

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.

Lead us not into temptation;

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory,

for ever. Amen.

Church Calendar

Sunday, Sept. 28	9:30 a.m.	Worship
Monday, Sept. 29	9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Church Office open
Tuesday, Sept. 30	9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Church Office open
	3:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Dance Magic
	4:00 p.m.	Bible Study (lounge)
Wednesday, Oct. 1	9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Church Office open
	5:00 p.m.–6:30 p.m.	Youth Group
Thursday, Oct. 2	9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Church Office open
Saturday, Oct. 4	7:00 p.m.	AA – Alcoholics Anonymous (Lounge)
Sunday, Oct. 5	9:30 a.m.	Worship, Communion
World Communion		Peace and Global Witness Offering
Sunday		

Announcements

- Bible study will meet at 4:00 p.m. Tuesday in the lounge .
- Office hours will be Monday–Thursday from 9am-4pm.
- Youth meets this Wednesday from 5:00-6:30pm.
- The **Peace and Global Witness** offering will be collected on Sunday **Oct. 5th.**

For we are what he has made us,
created in Christ Jesus for good
works, which God prepared be-
forehand so that we may walk in
them.

Ephesians 2:10

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on
earth, where moth and rust consume and
where thieves break in and steal, but store up
for yourselves treasures in heaven, where nei-
ther moth nor rust consumes and where
thieves do not break in and steal. For where
your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:19-21

If you love friends, you will serve your
friends. If you love community, you will
serve your community. If you love money,
you will serve your money. And if you love
only yourself, you will serve only yourself.
And you will have only yourself.

Stephen Colbert

What do you treasure most in your
life? Where is that treasure?

Is it in your family?

Your calling?

Your friends?

Your community?

Your job?

*Whatever your treasure is, and wherever
your treasure is, is it also in Christ?*

God of love, help us to use the gifts you give us
for the people who need us. Help us to see their
need and, inspired by your Son, reach beyond
ourselves, beyond our institutions, to the very
margins and bring all to you, the center.
May all we do be in preparation to serve more
fully, seeking you in the world that we are invited
to create with you. Send your Spirit to keep us
aglow with the desire of justice.

—Author Unknown, found on the website of
Xavier University

“A generous person will prosper; whoever
refreshes others will be refreshed.”

Proverbs 11:25

“Give, and it will be given to you. A good
measure, pressed down, shaken together and
running over, will be poured into your lap. For
with the measure you use, it will be measured
to you.”

Luke 6:38

16th Sunday after Pentecost
Sept. 28, 2025

✠ Please stand in body or spirit

Prelude

Welcome

Rev. Michelle Bartel

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 146):

Bethany Dodge

Leader: Come! Praise the Lord!

People: Praise God for the heavens and the earth and all that is in them!

Leader: Come! Praise the Lord!

People: Praise God who feeds the hungry and uplifts the downtrodden!

Leader: Come! Praise the Lord!

People: Praise God who gives sight to the blind and sets prisoners free!

Leader: Come! Praise the Lord!

People: The Lord will reign forever! Praise the Lord!

Let us worship the Lord with joy!

✠ Hymn of Praise #12 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Almighty God, you call us to lives of service, but we confess that we ignore our neigh-
bors in need right outside our door. You call us to share our abundance, but we con-
fess that we choose our own comfort over generosity to others. You call us to build
community, but we confess that we are too often gatekeepers, letting in only the ones
that make us comfortable. Forgive us, Lord. Help us to be content with enough and
inspire us to share what we have – our prosperity, our power and our love – until all
your children have life and dignity in beloved community. Lord, hear our prayer.
Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ prays for us.
Christ reaches out with endless love and mercy. Friends, believe the good news:
in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made ready to love and serve.

People: Alleluia, Amen.

✠ Response #581 *Gloria Patri*
Announcements

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Psalm Reading Psalm 146 p. 581 OT

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God

Old Testament Reading Amos 6:1a, 4-7 p. 854 NT

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading Luke 16:19-31 p. 79 NT

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading 1 Timothy 6:6-19 p. 210 NT

Sermon

Be Rich in Good Works

“They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share,
thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so
that they may take hold of the life that really is life.”

OUR RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Hymn of the Word #314 *Longing for Hope, We Wait in Darkness*

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer (we use “debts and debtors” in the prayer)

The Offering
(The Offering plates will not be passed. You may place your offerings
in the plates on the pedestals either before or after Worship.)

✠Doxology #607 *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*

✠ Prayer of Thanksgiving
All that we have is a gift from you. Lord, bless these gifts and inspire us to use
them in ways that transform and enliven your people. May they be a blessing to
those who need them most. Amen.

✠ Hymn of Sending #846 *Fight the Good Fight*

✠ Benediction

Congregational Response #749 *Come! Live in the Light!* Verse 1 and Refrain

Postlude

-Call to Worship Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, Assurance of Pardon, Prayer
for Illumination, and Prayer of Thanksgiving written by Rae Watson for *The Presbyterian
Outlook*