

***CLOSING HYMN #66** “Every Time I Feel the Spirit”

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “Trumpet Voluntary in D”

JOHN BENNETT
BELINDA VAIR

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- + Our **Mission of the Month** is **Salvation Army of Upstate New York**.
- + Bible Study begins on **Thursday, September 10 at 4:00**. We will study the **Gospel of Luke** chapters 1-2.
- + **Free Community Lunch** will be **Saturday, September 26, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM**.
- + Pastor Ken will be in Richmond, VA 9/21 – 9/27. Laura Ruehle will lead worship September 27.
- + Thank you to the Worship & Music team for providing us with this morning’s coffee hour.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF JOHNSTOWN, NY
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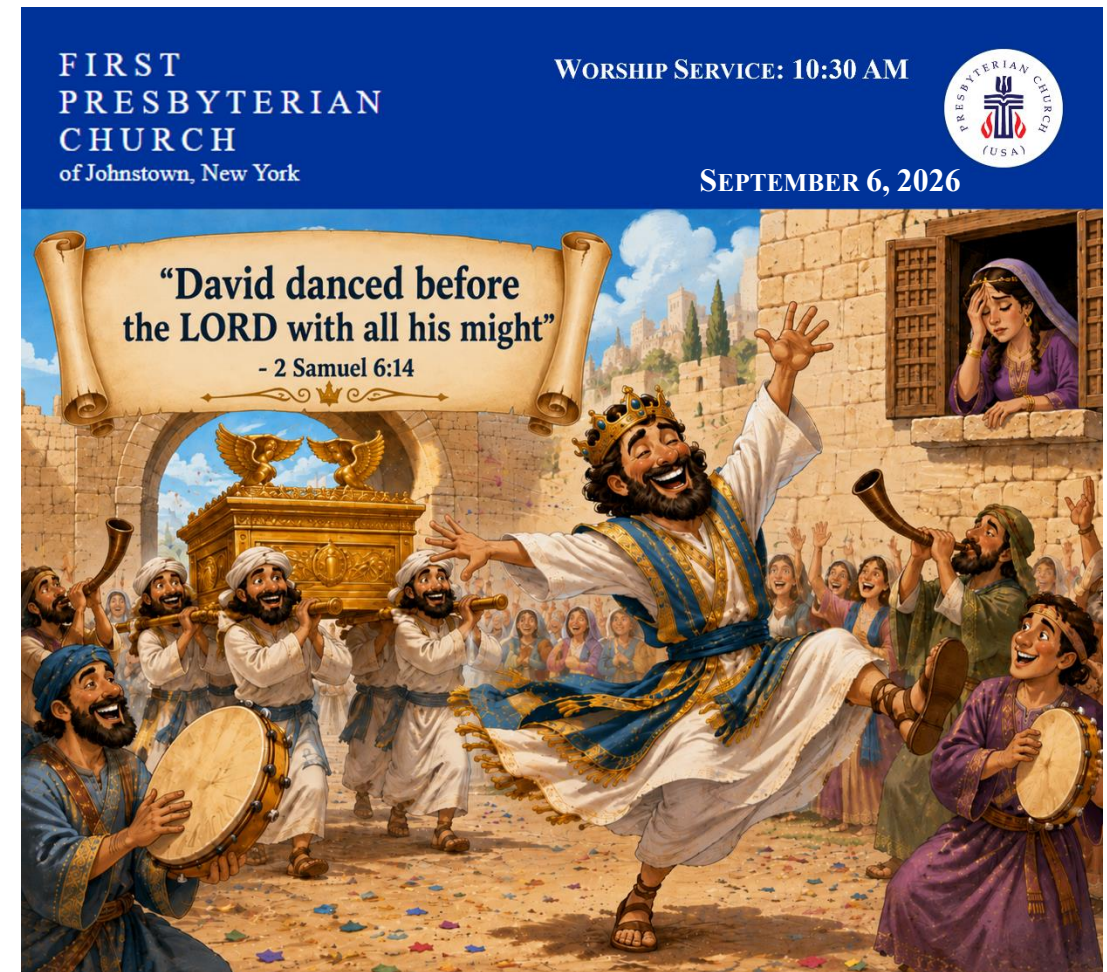
Church website: <https://www.johnstownpresbyterian.org>

 **YouTube** <https://www.youtube.com/@FirstPresbyterianJohnstown>

 **Find us on: facebook.** [@johnstownfirstpresbyterian](https://www.facebook.com/johnstownfirstpresbyterian)

Ken Killian, Pastor
Craig Talarico, Clerk of Session
Dawn Austin, Office Administrator

Belinda Vair, Music Director
Jim Wright, Custodian



Welcome to worship at the First Presbyterian Church, Johnstown. Whether you are here in the sanctuary or joining us online, we are glad you are with us. Wherever you are on your faith journey, you are welcome here, and we give thanks for the gift of worshipping together today!

PRELUDE “My Jesus, I Love Thee”

ARR. BY SANDRA EITHUN
BELINDA VAIR

CHORAL INTROIT

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (PLEASE RISE IN BODY OR SPIRIT)

Leader: Come, people of God, and make room for joy!

People: We come to celebrate the goodness of God.

Leader: Like David, may we worship with all our hearts.

People: We will not be afraid to sing, laugh, and rejoice.

Leader: The music of grace is playing all around us.

People: We are met with compassion, not blame.

Leader: Bring your doubts, your grief, and your faith.

People: May we have the courage to dance.

Leader: Come, let us worship God with freedom and joy.

All: Let us worship God with all that we are. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN #741** “Guide My Feet”

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: Gracious God,
we confess that we often take ourselves too seriously.

We worry about what others think, try too hard to look like we have it all together, and forget the joy of simply being your people.

Forgive us when fear keeps us from dancing, when perfection keeps us from playing, and when pride keeps us from laughing at ourselves.

Free us to live with open hearts, to receive your grace with joy, and to celebrate your presence among us.
Amen.

Leader: Let us take a moment for silent confession and personal reflection.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.

World without end, amen! Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OAKLEY COLE

Leader: Holy Spirit,

open our hearts and minds to your Word.

Help us hear your voice, receive your grace, and rediscover the joy of living freely in your presence.

Teach us to loosen our grip, laugh a little, and follow where you lead.
Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

2 Samuel 6:14-22 (Pew Bible Page #280)

Matthew 11:16-19 Pew Bible Page #11)

Leader: This is the word of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC “Amazing Grace” BELINDA VAIR & HELEN THOMPSON

PASTORAL PRAYER

SERMON “The Art of Holy Play”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS)

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 and ever. Amen.