



Everyone is welcome here
**UNITED PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF BINGHAMTON**

A "MORE LIGHT PRESBYTERIANS" CONGREGATION



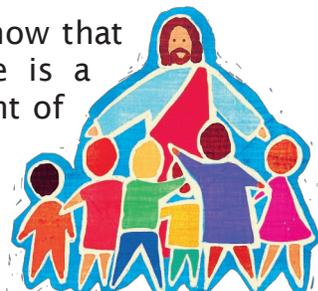
Sunday, March 17, 2019 • 10:00am

f Our worship service is streaming on Facebook Live: facebook.com/UPCBinghamton/videos/

Children In Worship: "Let the little children come to me..." —*Matthew 19:14*

We are glad that your children are here today, and we hope that you know that they are welcome and encouraged to be in worship with you. There is a PrayGround space with books, coloring sheets, and quiet toys in the front of the sanctuary, if that suits your family's needs.

There is also a nursery for infants through age 4 with a staff attendant, if that is a better choice for your family. Ask an usher or a pastor how to find it!



Welcome to the Celebration!

March 17, 2019 • 10:00am

HEARING ASSISTANCE devices are available; please inquire with one of our ushers.

Today's songs are found in the green "Worship & Rejoice" book.

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

We Gather as a Community of Faith

GATHERING MUSIC "Pléaráca na Ruarcach" (O'Rourke's Feast)

WORDS OF WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

One: People of God, listen! We are being called together.

**All: The Spirit of God calls us into new relationships
and invites us into unity and communion as Her people.**

One: People of God, listen! There is a whispering presence urging us to draw near.

**All: Our loving God reaches into our lives in this season
and spreads wings of protection and nurturance over us.**

One: Come, children of God, let us be gathered. Let us find safety.

Let us remember the love and redeeming grace of God as we worship.

All: Come, let us be a people gathered together in God's protective love.

**SONG OF GATHERING #449 Day by Day*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

As each petition is concluded, the prayer leader and congregation respond:

One: Lord, in your loving kindness,

All: Hear our prayer.

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE 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!

We Gather in the Word

FOCUS LESSON *Psalm 139:1-18*

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

TESTIMONY

Fred Russell

We Respond to the Word

***WE SAY WHAT WE BELIEVE** (*unison*, from "A Brief Statement of Faith," PC(USA), 1991)

In life and in death we belong to God.

**Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God,
the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and we serve.**

**In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ
in our daily tasks, and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

**With believers in every time and place we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen!

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*unison*)

Let these gifts be a consolation for all who are in need.

Let us be more blessed by the giving than we have been blessed in receiving.

And let us desire only the power of Christ's resurrecting love. Amen!

***SONG OF RESPONSE #495** *Stand By Me*

PRAYER FOR HEALING AND HOPE (*unison*)

Gracious God, we come to you in this season of turning and returning.

**We thank you that you receive the broken heart,
the troubled conscience, the conflicted spirit.**

**Your gift of grace frees us to confess the broken places in our lives,
to receive your healing and be restored to wholeness,
to seek the wisdom and strength we need for the life of discipleship,
and to commit ourselves again to love you, our neighbor,
and the entire Creation with all our being.**

**Open our hearts to seek healing and new life,
and to be renewed by your grace.**

Amen!

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE (*responsive*)

One: With the whole church

**All: We affirm that we are made in God's image,
befriended by Christ, and empowered by the Spirit.**

One: With people everywhere

**All: We affirm God's goodness at the heart of humanity,
planted more deeply than all that is wrong.**

One: With all creation

**All: We celebrate the miracle and wonder of life
and the unfolding purposes of God,
forever at work in ourselves and in the world.
Thanks be to God. Amen!**

We Go Forth in Gratitude to Serve

MINUTE FOR MISSION One Great Hour of Sharing

Marilynn Guinane

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INVITATIONS

*SONG OF SENDING #498 *Lead Me, Guide Me*

*BLESSING EACH OTHER ON THE WAY (*responsive*)

One: The pieces of our lives are all held in God's hands,
and we are blessed with new life through God's forgiveness and grace.

**All: We are called to hold each other in love and compassion —
and to cherish the pieces we each hold in our relationships —
with others, with Creation, and with our God.**

One: May we all find wholeness and new life in this season.

**All: Let us journey together in compassion and understanding,
recognizing that our God reclaims us in love, again and again. Amen!**

*THE SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

One: The Peace of the Risen Christ be with you.

All: And also with you!

(Please exchange a greeting of peace with those around you as our worship concludes.)

*The flowers that grace our sanctuary this morning are given
to the glory of God and in memory of Richard A. Hill, husband of Jean Hill,
father of Richard A. Hill, Jr., Sharmon J. Decker, and Douglas L. Hill,
on the 23rd anniversary of his death on March 15, 1995.*

***Please join us after worship downstairs in Fellowship Hall
for a St. Patrick's Day luncheon, hosted by the McKeage family.***

Pastors Rev. Kimberly P Chastain and Rev. Becky Kindig

Music Rebecca Mebert, *Music Coordinator/accompanist*; Aimee Backus, *Choral director*;
Phil Westcott, *United Ringers handbell choir director*; David Williams, *guitar*

Liturgist Doug Jones ~ ***Ushers*** Marilynn Guinane and Sherry Conklin

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Gathering Music: "Pléaráca na Ruarcach" by Turlough O'Carolan, from *Irish Session Tunes* (The Red Book, Ossian Publications Ltd., 2000). Hymns from *Worship & Rejoice* (Hope Publishing Co., 2008). Testimony music: "You Get What You Give" by Gregg Alexander and Rick Nowels, performed by New Radicals. Offertory: "Old Irish Blessing," words traditional, music by Denes Agay (WB Music Corp., 1970).