



LIVERPOOL FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

603 TULIP STREET

LIVERPOOL, NY 13088

315.457.3161



ORDER OF WORSHIP
13th Sunday after Pentecost
23 August 2026

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

For contemporary Christians, Matthew 16.13f can be heard as The promise of Christ to build his church despite the forces of death arrayed against it.

Welcome and Congregational Life

Prelude Mike McClelland
a candle is lit reminding of us that Christ is present

*Gathering Song: **God of Grace and God of Glory** #292
*ushers will gather prayer cards and offerings,
please use the QR code below as a giving option*

Call to Worship (Responsively) **Elder Tom Ogden**

With all my heart I praise you, Lord.

In the presence of angels I sing your praises.

I worship at your holy temple and praise you for your love and your faithfulness.

You were true to your word and made yourself more famous than ever before.

When I asked for your help, you answered my prayer and gave me courage.

You, Lord, will always treat me with kindness.

Your love never fails. You have made us what we are.

Don't give up on us now!

Invocation (Unison) **Elder Tom Ogden**

Lord, in our busy life, we often miss simple signs of your presence, perhaps because we aren't looking. This morning, as we gather to worship you, we ask you to make us more aware that you are near. Enable us to not only see you, but also to acknowledge you. Lead us in the ways of faithfulness. Amen.

*Hymn of Praise: **O Breath of Life** #291

Call to Confession

Elder Tom Ogden

We know, from previous examples and experience, that our faith is not always consistent. We make well-meaning commitments. And then, we fail to follow through. When we do, we are ashamed and frustrated. We even become afraid – afraid that God may turn his back on us.

But, because of God's love, we are repeatedly given opportunities to admit our mistakes and failures and to ask to be forgiven, so that we can try again. NOW is such an opportunity. Let us pray together:

Prayer of Humility (Unison)

Elder Tom Ogden

Source of life, day by day we are given opportunities to witness to your loving presence in our life and our world. And, time and time again, we miss our chances. We may not even admit that we know you. We may not acknowledge what you have done for us in our times of need. Sometimes others are hard-pressed to see any evidence of our faith at all. Even worse, those times come close on the heels of loud displays of our faith.

We are like shifting sands, or waving grass. Forgive our failures and for our apparent lack of faith. Steady us and give us the ability to admit and to share our hope in you with others who equally struggle with their faith. Together, help us to make a big deal of your love for us all.

... Silent, Personal Prayer ...

Assurance of Pardon

*Response: Doxology

#624

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise him, all creatures, here below
Praise him above, you heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen***

Scripture Lesson

Elder Tom Ogden

Prophet: Isaiah 51.1-6

Contemporary English Version

If you want to do right and obey the Lord, follow Abraham's example. He was the rock from which you were chipped. God chose Abraham and

Sarah to be your ancestors. The Lord blessed Abraham, and from that one man came many descendants.

Though Zion is in ruins, the Lord will bring comfort, and the city will be as lovely as the garden of Eden that he provided. Then Zion will celebrate; it will be thankful and sing joyful songs.

The Lord says: You are my people and nation! So pay attention to me. My teaching will cause justice to shine like a light for every nation. Those who live across the sea are eagerly waiting for me to rescue them. I am strong and ready; soon I will come to save and to rule all nations.

Look closely at the sky! Stare at the earth. The sky will vanish like smoke; the earth will wear out like clothes. Everyone on this earth will die like flies. But my victory will last; my saving power never ends.

Letter: Romans 12.1-8

Contemporary English Version

Dear friends, God is good. So I beg you to offer your bodies to him as a living sacrifice, pure and pleasing. That's the most sensible way to serve God. Don't be like the people of this world, but let God change the way you think. Then you will know how to do everything that is good and pleasing to him.

I realize God has treated me with undeserved grace, and so I tell each of you not to think you are better than you really are. Use good sense and measure yourself by the amount of faith that God has given you. A body is made up of many parts, and each of them has its own use. That's how it is with us. There are many of us, but we each are part of the body of Christ, as well as part of one another.

God has also given each of us different gifts to use. If we can prophesy, we should do it according to the amount of faith we have. If we can serve others, we should serve. If we can teach, we should teach. If we can encourage others, we should encourage them. If we can give, we should be generous. If we are leaders, we should do our best. If we are good to others, we should do it cheerfully.

Be sincere in your love for others. Hate everything that is evil and hold tight to everything that is good. Love each other as brothers and sisters and

honor others more than you do yourself. Never give up. Eagerly follow the Holy Spirit and serve the Lord. Let your hope make you glad. Be patient in time of trouble and never stop praying.

A time with young disciples

Morning Lessons

Gospel: Matthew 16.13-20 Contemporary English Version

When Jesus and his disciples were near the town of Caesarea Philippi, he asked them, "What do people say about the Son of Man?"

The disciples answered, "Some people say you are John the Baptist or maybe Elijah or Jeremiah or some other prophet."

Then Jesus asked, "But who do you say I am?"

Simon Peter spoke up, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

Jesus told him: Simon, son of Jonah, you are blessed! You didn't discover this on your own. It was shown to you by my Father in heaven. So I will call you Peter, which means "a rock." On this rock I will build my church, and death itself will not have any power over it.

I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven, and God in heaven will allow whatever you allow on earth. But he will not allow anything you don't allow.

Jesus told his disciples not to tell anyone he was the Messiah.

Sermon: Rocky Dr. Cupp

Prayer of the People and the Lord's Prayer Dr. Cupp

Our Father in Heaven, your name is Holy. Your kingdom come, and your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us what we need for today and forgive us our sins in the same way we forgive others.

Do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

*Hymn of Commitment: **Take My Life and Let It Be** #379

Blessing

*Response:

Amen, Amen, Amen

Postlude

Mike McClelland

Please stand if you are able.

And feel free to sit when you can no longer do so comfortably



Use your mobile phone camera with this QR (quick response) code to open the secure website eservicepayments.com to give an on-going or one-time donation to LFPC. Or go to our website at: www.liverpoolfirstpres.org/give.

Wifi access: network LiverpoolFirstPres Guest; password: godsgrace

Welcome to our guests!

- Complete a Connection Card to stay in touch with us.
- Hearing devices are available from an usher.
- Restrooms located through the left-hand door at the front of the sanctuary and at the bottom of the stairs at the rear of the sanctuary.

LFPC welcomes **families with young children** to worship. Children are invited to stay with their adults in the sanctuary. Our “playground”, in the back corner, is full of items to help children to attend worship with quiet play and art. Age-appropriate children’s bulletins are available from an usher. Diaper changing stations are located downstairs and in the nursery. Every Sunday the nursery is open and staffed for infants through age 6. The nursery is through the right-hand door at the front of the sanctuary.

For the safety of our worshippers and friends **all entrances are locked on Sunday once the service has begun**. For admittance, please text the phone number on the worship entrance door.



Pastor Garrett is available in-person at the church Mon, Tue and Wed 9:30 – 12:30 or by appointment

Pastor: Rev. Garrett Anderson

Treasurer: Tom Ogden

Financial Secretary: Mike Herd

Organist/Pianist: Steve Uhl

Preschool Director: Tracie Folley

Admin Assistant: Lisa Bricault

Bookkeeper: Tim Fay

Sexton: Ken Pfeffer

Choir Director: Dr. David Rudari

Christian Formation Coordinator: Ashley Gouger

Ruling Elders (in session): Tim Bricault, Tim Fay, Tracie Folley, Leigh Anne Herd (*clerk*), Linda Hook, Bill Newell, Pierre Nzuah, Tom Ogden, Liz Wavle-Brown

Deacon Board: Karen Bloom, Linda Breckheimer, Debbie Cangemi, Ruth Crissman, Carol Jerosé, Jessica Gorman, Brittany Holt, Bonnie Santos, Fletcher Smith, Marianne VanHoute, Jon Woodworth, Sue Woodworth

Salt of the earth, light of the world, ministers of God’s grace: entire congregation

Join a Group!

Fathers • Brothers • Sons (Early Risers) – 8:00am
Craft & Chat – 6:30pm
Enneagram – 6:30pm
Fathers • Brothers • Sons – 6:30pm
Becoming Faithful Followers (BFF) – 6:30pm
Manuscript Study – 1:15pm
Elsie O'Neil Circle – 12:30pm
Choir – 7:00pm

2nd Sunday – **starts Sept 13**
1st & 3rd Mondays
starts Sept 15
1st & 3rd Tuesdays – resumes in the fall
2nd & 4th Wednesdays – **resumes Sept 9**
1st & 4th Thursdays – resumes in the fall
2nd Thursday – **resumes Sept 10**
Thursdays – **resumes Sept 10**

*contact church office (office@liverpoolfirstpres.org) for more information



Please join us downstairs for coffee and conversation after worship.
Sign-up sheet to bring snacks to share is in Fellowship Hall.

Hosted by the Fellowship Committee



FROM DAVID and STEVE...

Choir Rehearsals will begin
on Thursday, **September 10**
at 7:30 in the Choir Room

Our first Sunday is the **13th**

Returning Members
Former Members
New Members
Are Welcome

****note date change****

Enneagram Class Starting Sept 15 6:30 – 8 pm



- For beginner AND experience enneagram students
- Understand your gifts and blind spots of personality and how you are more than just it
- Have more compassion and less judgement for others and yourself
- Recognize your habitual responses to life
- Grow in developing a richer knowledge of yourself as a child of God
- Email revgarrettanderson@gmail.com if interested

MISSIONS OF THE CHURCH – August 2026

 Join the Summer Challenge to feed Liverpool Elementary School children for the upcoming school year!! (ends Sept 13)	Isaiah's Table Little Pantry Ready to eat items (pop-top cans or pouches, Cereal, Pasta, Cereal bars, Bar soap, Deodorant, Hand sanitizer, Feminine hygiene products, nail clippers, or a monetary donation made out to: Isaiah's Table	 <u>Baby Items:</u> Diapers (all sizes needed, esp. size 6) Baby wipes
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Any questions, contact the church office (315) 457-3161 or office@liverpoolfirstpres.org
Donations can be dropped off in the foyer during office hours and on Sundays before worship service

Planning Ahead August/September 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
23 10:15 <i>Worship</i>	24 Newsletter articles due	25	26 7:00 <i>Al-Anon</i>	27 7:00 <i>Al-Anon</i>	28	29
30 10:15 <i>Worship</i>	31	Sept 1	2 7:00 <i>Al-Anon</i>	3 7:00 <i>Al-Anon</i>	4 6:00 <i>Family Tapestry</i>	5
Communion 6 10:15 <i>Worship</i>	7 Office Closed	8	9 6:30 <i>BFF</i> 7:00 <i>Al-Anon</i>	10 12:30 <i>Elsie O'Neill</i> 7:00 <i>Al-Anon</i> 7:00 <i>Choir</i>	11	12 10-3 pm Fill-A-Bus 9:00-12:00 <i>CNY</i> <i>Knitting</i>