



Welcome to those who have worshipped in this place for years.
Welcome to our first time guests.
Welcome to all generations, families, single people and couples.
Welcome to those who have no church home, need strength, have doubt, want to follow Christ or do not believe.

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor - Michael Yeoman 315-761-2721
Oneidafpcpastor@gmail.com

CHURCH STAFF

Office Secretary - John Merritt 315-527-2939
Sexton-Jennawade Skellham 315-281-3377
Treasurer - Frank Kordziel 315-263-1474
Church Organist—Brian Snyder 315-761-7866
Choir Director-Barbara Seaton 315-225-9452
Financial Secretary - Pat Thorpe 315-363-8948
Clerk of Session - Pat Thorpe 315-363-8948

304 Broad Street
(corner of Broad and Stone)
Oneida, NY 13421

CHURCH OFFICE

Phone: 315-363-7590

HOURS:

Monday – Friday
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

GENERAL EMAIL

oneidafirstpres
@oneidafirstpres.org

WEB SITE

oneidafirstpres.org



Then they opened their treasure and presented Him
gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Matthew 2:11

Our Mission Statement

The vision of the members of Oneida First Presbyterian Church
is to LIVE God's plan for our family, our community and our
world. TOGETHER with God's grace and guidance, we will
reach out and sow the LOVE of Jesus Christ.



The Church At Worship
First Presbyterian Church of Oneida
FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
Traditional Service of Lessons and Carols
Sunday, December 28, 2025

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

PRELUDE Away in a Manger/There's a Song in the Air arr. by Larry Shackley

MORNING GREETINGS, JOYS AND CONCERNS

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Leader: For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.
People: So, teach us to count our days so that we may gain a wise heart.

Leader: But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day.
People: Teach us, O Lord, how to lead lives of holiness and godliness while, in accordance with your promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made;
People: let us rejoice and be glad in it.

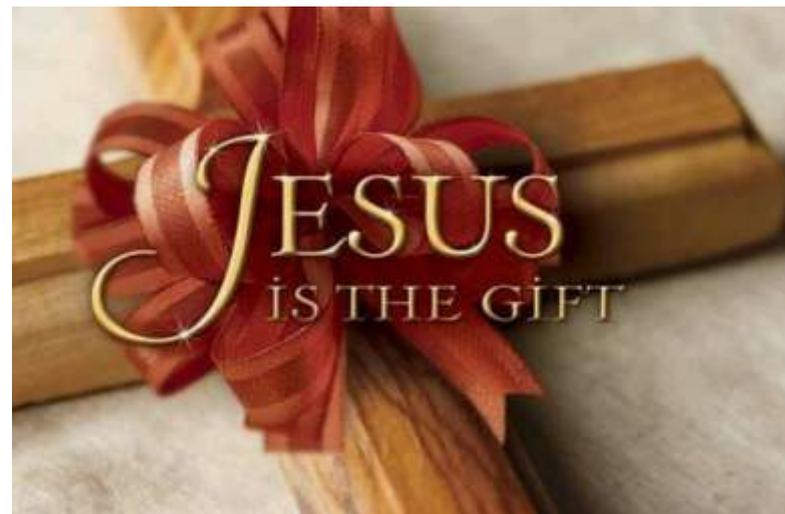
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to the Lord.

ALL: O Lord, guide us as we look to You and worship You. Amen.

*FIRST CAROL

“Joy to the World”

#40



Jesus, The Greatest Gift

They opened their treasures and presented [Jesus] with gifts.

Matthew 2:11

“What sweeter music can we bring/Than a carol for to sing/The birth of this our heavenly King/” the lines of this seventeenth-century poem “What Sweeter Music” by Robert Herrick were reimagined by modern-day choral composer John Rutter to become an Advent season favorite. Its gentle melody describes a long, cold season of waiting that’s thawed by the spring-time feeling of Jesus’ arrival. The singers bring Him a Christmas carol; the listeners are invited to bring their hearts.

Rutter’s arrangement was commissioned to correspond with a church reading on the wise men who brought Jesus gold, frankincense, and myrrh. These mysterious mage traveled a great distance to meet baby Jesus with the express purpose of worshiping Him (Matthew 2:1-2). When they finally found Him, they “were overjoyed,” bowed down in reverence, and “opened their treasures” at His feet (vv. 10-11). Warned in a dream, they left without informing wicked King Herod (v.12).

The Christmas season shouldn’t focus on material gifts-but it’s certainly about giving and receiving gifts. God gave His Son to heal a broken world. If we’ve never given Him our hearts, today’s a wonderful day to do so. If He already reigns there, let’s offer a carol of peace and joy as we think about His arrival all those years ago in Bethlehem-and wait for His return.

From “Our Daily Bread”, December 25, 2025

FOOD PANTRY

Our food pantry stock is getting low. We are asking for donations of non perishable goods and personal paper products. Many people in the Oneida area live on fixed income and inflation is making it difficult for them to keep basic food staples in their own pantries. You can drop off your donations during Sunday services or drop them off during the week. If you drop them off during the week please call in advance so that John will know you are coming. Thank you for your continued support of this important mission.



Our flowers this morning are in memory of Barrie White from Lou White and family.

Meet
Our new
website!



[HTTPS://WWW.ONEIDAPRESBYTERIANCHURCH.ORG/](https://www.oneidapresbyterianchurch.org/)

Stay Connected With Us

***PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison)**

Gracious and faithful God, You came to us in Jesus Christ not only in the beauty of Christmas, but in the ordinary days that follow.

As the decorations come down and our routines return, remind us that You still dwell among us—in our homes, our work, our relationships, and in all the places we least expect.

*Help us not to rush past Your presence or pack away the gift of Your Son, but to carry Christ with us into the days and decisions ahead. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen*

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Friends in Christ, The Word became flesh and lived among us— not just for a season, but for our whole lives. Yet when the celebrations end and life feels ordinary again, we are tempted to move on, to return to old habits, and to forget the gift we have received.

Trusting in God's mercy and grace, let us confess our sin together.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)**

Loving and merciful God, You came near to us in Jesus Christ, yet we confess that we do not always make room for You. We welcome You with joy at Christmas, but struggle to follow You when the music fades and the days feel routine.

We confess that we have been distracted by the busyness of life, the worries of the world, and the comfort of familiar ways.

*Forgive us for treating Your presence as something temporary, rather than the gift meant to shape our lives. Renew us by Your Spirit, that we may live each day aware of Your nearness and faithful to Your call. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.*

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

The Lord is just in all his ways, and kind in all his doings. The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. He fulfills the desires of all who fear him; he also hears their cry, and saves them. Friends, hear and believe the good news: In Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven! Alleluia! Amen.

Upcoming Blood Drives For October



Friday, January 2nd; Munnsville Fire Department
Munnsville, NY
1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.



To All Team/Committee Chairpersons
Treasurers and to
Whoever Else It Applies

All Annual Reports are due in the Church Office by Wednesday, December 31st. If you would like to get them in earlier, that would be a big help to John. If you are a Treasurer and waiting for a bank statement, the deadline does not apply to you.
But please get them in as soon as possible.

***CLOSING CAROL** *“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”* **#31**

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *“Love Came Down”* **arr. by Mark Hayes**



Thank you for worshipping with us today! Please join us for coffee and fellowship in the auditorium.

From Fellowship

The Fellowship Committee would like to thank everyone who brought in food for the Christmas Pot Luck dinner. It was all delicious!! The Committee would also like to thank everyone who helped set up and clean up after the event.

Our next event will be a Chili Cook Off in January. So get your award winning chili recopies ready!!!

Just a reminder from the deacons

The first Sunday of the month is the loose change collection. If you have any loose change laying around the house bring it in and put it in the collection plate. That change will go to help feeding local families and stocking local food pantries.

If you know of anyone who needs to be added to the Deacon's military service list please let Jennawade know, or call into the office so that we can keep our list updated. The Deacons routinely send out cards and packages to our military friends.

ELDERS

CLASS OF 2025

Randy Bonville
Frank Kordziel
Lucille Merriman
Pat Thorpe

CLASS OF 2026

Barb Arnold
Sue Kordziel
Paul Mancarella
Carol Miller
Kathy Nichols
Perry Tooker IV

CLASS OF 2027

Stephanie Gwilt

CLASS OF 2028

Leigh Silkowski

DEACONS

CLASS OF 2025

Sue Kordziel
John Merritt
Kathy Nichols
Jennawade Skellham

CLASS OF 2026

Becky Ewen
Frank Kordziel
Rachel Mancarella
Kristin Tooker
Michelle Yeoman

CLASS OF 2027

**FAMILY AND FRIENDS
WHO ARE GRIEVING FOR:**

Elli Pfluke
The Family of Andy Walters

Laura Reckentine

SPECIAL CONCERNS:

All first responders, nurses, doctors and healthcare professionals.

All victims and survivors of gun violence.

The Citizens of Ukraine

Pray for those who are serving overseas and our Police/Fire Safety personnel.

Israel and all victims of terrorism

PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS: Pray for those who are stationed in non-combat zones:

Jason Murphy, Jack Sharkey, Nicholas Young, Philip Messina, Ryan Geer, John Goodwill, Errol Crossman, Corey Reed, Andrew Fargo, Jim Jennings, Peter Thompson, Dylan McClelland, Sean Fuller Jr.

Those serving in combat zones:



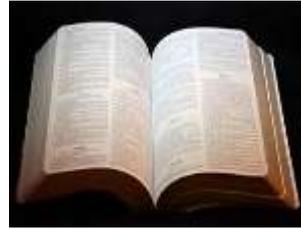
MISSION EMPHASIS:

The Trustees of the Presbytery of Utica



Collection Assistants for December/January

December 28th-Sue Kordziel
January 4th-Paul Mancarella
January 11th-Kathy Nichols
January 18th-Leigh Silkowski



Scripture Readers for December/January

December 28th-Frank Kordziel & Paul Mancarella
January 4th-Barb Schwartz
January 11th-Perry Tooker IV
January 18th-Frank Kordziel



Coffee Servers for December/January

Dec 28th- No Coffee Service
January 4th-Tish Vrooman & Donna Laurin
January 11th-Ethel Abbott & Sue Kordziel
January 18th-Paul and Chrissy Thompson



Projection Team for December/January

December 28th-Paul Mancarella
January 4th-Trish Vrooman
January 11th-Dan Gwilt
January 18th-Paul Mancarella

LONG TERM PRAYER CONCERNS

Jude Alexander (Mancarella's great nephew)	Victor Johnson
Fred Bavo (Jennawade's Uncle)	Dawn Kimball
Kevin Bedford	Dan King (Pastor @ New Life Assembly of God)
Brody	
Richard Brown	Jean Kowalik
Marty Canning	Florence LaRock
Elizabeth Coulby	Isaac McGovern
Cora Cramer (Ethel Abbott's sister)	Laurie Mudge
Fran Dowd (Jim Sweet's sister)	Michelle Newman
Emeri Dryer (Maggie's grand daughter)	Becky Nichols
Peggy Eastman	Michael O'Bryan (Mike's Brother in law)
John Ferguson	Mike Oot
Robert Feldmann (Melinda's Father)	Tom Panasci
Linda Felix	Dan & Claudia Rayome
Jillian Felt	Dave Scribner
Andy Froass	Debbie Shaw
Don Fuller (Stephanie Gwilt's Father)	Debrah Skellham
Pat Grabow (Chrissy Thompson's Mom)	Brian Stites
Becky Grasso	Millicent Vidal
Wendy Holtz	Jan Whiting
Jim Hotaling	

SHORT TERM PRAYER CONCERNS

Joe Todd	Becky Nichols
Myron Thurston	Tim Berquist
Mike Borchardt	

If you have a prayer need, there are cards in the pews. Fill it out and hand it to an usher. If you know of anyone who is sick, in the hospital, or in need of our prayers, PLEASE call the Church Office, 363-7590. Please let us know also when they are healed and can be taken off the prayer list.

UPCOMING FELLOWSHIP EVENTS

January Chili cook-off

Date to be determined

February—Birthday Bash

February 8th— Fellowship will provide Coffee, Tea and soft drinks

If anyone is in need of a pastoral visit or knows of a congregation member who would like a visit, please let Pastor Mike know. (315) 761-2721



PRAYER MISSION DECEMBER – The Salvation Army Red Kettles have been an American tradition since 1891, helping raise financial support for critical Salvation Army programs and services year round. This campaign allows you to host your own Red Kettle - online. Over the years, the Red Kettle Campaign has grown into one of the most recognizable and important charitable campaigns in the United States – providing toys for kids, coats for the homeless, food for the hungry and countless social service programs year-round. You become a vital part of our Christmas efforts when you help those in need by hosting an Online Red Kettle and filling it with donations from family, friends and colleagues.



LIFE at ONEIDA ***FIRST PRESBYTERIAN***

Week of Dec 28th-Jan 4th

Sunday, December 28th
10 a.m. Worship

Monday, December 29th

Tuesday, December 30th

Wednesday, December 31st

Thursday, January 1st
Office Closed—Happy New Year!!!

Friday, January 2nd

Saturday, January 3rd

Sunday, January 4th
10 a.m. Worship
Communion





Birthdays

Jan. 1	Sharon Warren
Jan. 5	Karen Sarensky
Jan. 8	Beverly Vineall
Jan. 10	Samuel Mastriano
Jan. 15	Donna Laurin
Jan. 18	Jon Musgrove
Jan. 21	Stephanie Thompson,
Jan. 22	Matthew Froass
Jan. 23	Christopher Joslyn Jr.



FLOWER MEMORIALS

There is a calendar hanging on the bulletin board to the right of Mike's office. If you would like to donate a flower arrangement on Sunday morning in memory of a loved one, please write your name on the date you would like to do it. Then call John in the office 363-7590 by the Tuesday before that Sunday so that he can print the memorial in the bulletin.



Music and Worship would like to thank everyone who purchased poinsettias for the sanctuary. You can pick up your poinsettias anytime after the Sunday night service. Your flowers will have your name on them.



COFFEE SERVERS

You will be receiving soon (February) a list of Coffee Servers for the year 2025.

The Fellowship Committee is thankful for your service to your church. You will be reminded two weeks in advance of your time. If you are unable to serve at that time, it would help the committee if you could switch with a friend. PLEASE, mark your calendar upon receiving the list.



JANUARY



2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 OFFICE CLOSED	2	3
4 10 a.m. Worship Communion	5 6:30 pm Activ8 Her BS	6	7 1 p.m. Senior BS 4 p.m. Connection	8 7 p.m. Choir Practice	9	10
11 10 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Team Meetings	12	13	14 1 p.m. Senior BS 4 p.m. Connection	15 7 p.m. Choir Practice	16	17
18 10 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Deacons Meeting	19 6:30 pm Activ8 Her BS	20	21 1 p.m. Senior BS 4 p.m. Connection	22 7 p.m. Choir Practice	23 6:30 p.m. OACC Coffee House NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	24
25 10 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Annual Business Meeting	26 6:30 p.m. Session Meeting	27	28 1 p.m. Senior BS 4 p.m. Connection	29 7 p.m. Choir Practice	30	31