The image shows the interior of a tomb, likely the one in Jerusalem. The walls are made of rough, textured stone. On the right side, a white cloth is draped over a stone ledge. In the center, a set of stone steps leads to an arched opening that looks out onto a bright, sunny outdoor scene with some vegetation. The text is overlaid in the upper right corner.

**“Do not be afraid,
for I know that you seek
Jesus who was crucified.
He is not here; for He is risen
Matthew 28**

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ONEIDA



Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!"

Mark 4:26-27

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.

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

Choir Director-Barbara Seaton 315-225-9452

Office Secretary - John Merritt 315-527-2939

Sexton-Jennawade Skellham 315-281-3377

Treasurer - Frank Kordziel 315-687-3408

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
9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

GENERAL EMAIL

oneidafirstpres
@oneidafirstpres.org

WEB SITE

oneidafirstpres.org



Beyond Belief

Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them.

Luke 24:10-11

Three days later, he is gone. The future shattered when the earth quaked beneath their feet, and all their dreams were dashed to dust. Where is the hope when your world has crashed and burned?

The women, ever the practical ones, to do what must be done. They go to care for his physical body, but it is gone. Instead, they are greeted by messengers in dazzling white. "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen" (v. 5). Really?

When any of us hear something just outlandish enough—the sick are healed, the children are empowered, the poor are lifted up, the dead are raised - we may find ourselves wondering if it is all an idle tale. Even as the women relayed the first sermon, they must have wondered if it was true. Easter's good news is that everything is going to be OK, but OK is not going to look the way we expected. It is going to be beyond belief and exactly what we need.

(From "These Days" April 17th, 2022)



The Church At Worship

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ONEIDA

EASTER SUNDAY

April 20th, 2025, 10:00 AM

Pastor, Michael L. Yeoman

Organist, Brian Snyder

Choir Director, Barb Seaton

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

† Isaiah 65:17-25

† 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

† Luke 24:1-12

PRELUDE "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!" Arr. by Richard Blake

MORNING GREETINGS, JOYS AND CONCERNS

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed!

INTROIT "Every Morning Is Easter Morning" (Avery & March)
No Commitment Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Leader: This is the Good News – the light shines in the darkness & the darkness will never overcome it.

People: Hallelujah! Christ is risen.

Leader: This is the Good News: once we were no people; now we are God's people.

People: Hallelujah! Christ is risen..

Leader: This is the Good News – the stone is rolled away, the grave is empty & Christ is risen.

People: Hallelujah! Christ is risen indeed!

Leader: Let us worship God with Easter joy!

OPENING HYMN **“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”** **#123**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty God, we thank you for the hope that Easter brings— a hope that shines through our darkest days, a love that breaks the power of sin, and a joy that nothing can steal away.

As we gather in your name, fill us with resurrection life. Open our eyes to your presence among us. Renew our faith, restore our joy, and send us out as witnesses to your everlasting light and victory.

We worship you, Risen Savior— with gratitude, with awe, and with overflowing love.

Alleluia! Amen.

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Even on this day of victory, we come with hearts that still need healing. Though Christ is risen, we sometimes live as if the tomb were still sealed. Let us come before God with honesty, trusting in the mercy revealed in the Risen Christ.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Risen Lord, You have conquered death and opened the way to eternal life— yet we confess how often we live in fear, doubt, and forgetfulness. We cling to old ways, we resist new life, we fail to proclaim the hope that is ours in you.

Forgive us, Lord. Raise us from the tombs of our sin and breathe your resurrection Spirit into our hearts. Let the joy of Easter not be a single day, but a living reality shaping all we do. In your mercy, make us new. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Hear the good news: Christ is risen! The tomb is empty! Sin is defeated, and death has lost its sting. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new.

ALL: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI** **“Glory Be to the Father”** **#579**



PRAYER MISSION APRIL

Karing Kitchen

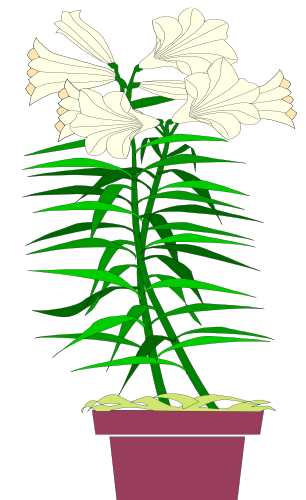
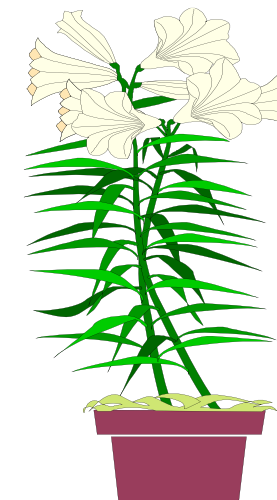
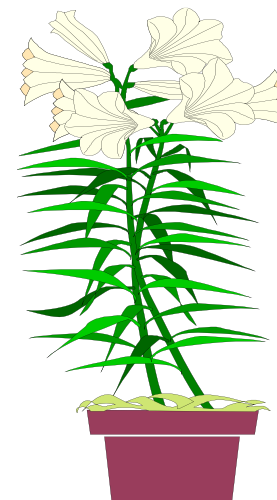
Volunteers from numerous Churches, Youth Groups, and other Civic Organizations help serve lunch, from 11:30am - 1pm, with a coffee hour at 10:30 am at this locally based soup kitchen. Every day of the last full

working week of each month a hot lunch is served to members of the community at no cost. Take outs are available as well.

Karing Kitchen, however, is not just a lunch. At Karing Kitchen we offer an environment where anyone can come as they are and feel comfortable, have someone to talk to, a shoulder to cry on, and someone who cares for them. Karing Kitchen is about "providing a nutritious hot meal, ensuring food security and advocating for a person's rights and responsibilities."

Quiet bags are available in the Sanctuary under the information table. If you take one please return the clip board in the bag when you leave the church.

Thank you!



FAMILY AND FRIENDS

WHO ARE GRIEVING FOR:

William (Alicia Lippert's brother)
Frieda Phoenix Pam Corrigan
Jerome DeVaul Sr.

Robert Sayles
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

California Wild Fire victims

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

Zach Carpenter, Jason Murphy, Jack Sharkey, Mark Sia, 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:

Seminary Students

ELDERS

CLASS OF 2025

Randy Bonville
Frank Kordziel
Lucille Merriman
Pat Thorpe

CLASS OF 2026

Paul Mancarella
Perry Tooker IV

CLASS OF 2027

DEACONS

CLASS OF 2025

Sue Kordziel
Rachel Mancarella
John Merritt
Kathy Nichols
Jennawade Skellham
Kristin Tooker
Michelle Yeoman

CLASS OF 2026

CLASS OF 2027

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

CHILDREN'S TIME

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

ANTHEM

"Christ Is Alive"

(Martin/Krimm)
John Cukierski, Trumpet

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 65:17-25

OT Page 654

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 15:19-26

NT Page 166

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

GOSEPL

Luke 24:1-12

NT Page 84

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

SERMON

"Roll the Stone Away"

Pastor Mike

***HYMN**

"Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain"

#115

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

(Ecumenical Version)

We believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God of God, Light of Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father (and the Son), who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER (sung in 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.

OFFERTORY “Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!” Arr. by Tom Birchwood

***DOXOLOGY**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***CLOSING HYMN** “The Day of Resurrection!” #118

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE** “Christ Is Risen, Alleluia” (Albrecht/Alhouse)
John Cukierski, Trumpet

POSTLUDE “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” Arr. by Matt Hyzer

Thank you for worshipping with us today! There is no coffee hour this week. Happy Easter!!!

John Cukierski is our guest musician today his bio is can be found in the bulletin.



LONG TERM PRAYER CONCERNS

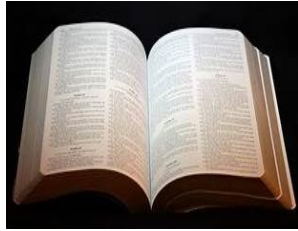


- | | |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Jude Alexander (Mancarella’s great nephew) | Becky Grasso |
| Fred Bavo (Jennawade’s Uncle) | Wendy Holtz |
| Kevin Bedford | Jim Hotaling |
| Brody | Millie Johnson |
| Richard Brown | Victor Johnson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

SHORT TERM PRAYER CONCERNS

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Sharon Pierce | Michael Moshier |
| Susan O’Bryan (Mike’s sister) | Michelle Newman |

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.



Collection Assistants for April/May

April 20th-Frank Kordzeil
April 27th-Paul Mancarella
May 4th-Lucille Merriman
May 11th-Perry Tooker IV

Scripture Readers for April/May

April 20th-Perry Tooker IV
April 27th-Lou White
May 4th-Frank Kordziel
My 11th-Barb Seaton

Coffee Servers for April/May

April 20th- No Coffee Service
April 27th-Fellowship
May 4th-Elaine and Tim Berquist
May 11th-Laura Reckintine & John Merritt

Projection Team for April/May

April 20th-Paul Mancarella
April 27th-Trish Vrooman
May 4th-Dan Gwilt
May 11th- Paul Mancarella



These Days for April, May and June are in and can be found in the Narthex, Sanctuary and Hall way outside the Boardroom.

Our Daily Bread for March, April, and May are in and can be found in the Narthex, Sanctuary and Hall way outside the Boardroom.



Upcoming Blood Drives February

**Thursday, April 24th: First Presbyterian Church
Cazanovia, NY
1:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.**

**Friday, April 25th; Oneida Health Care
Oneida, NY
10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
St. Paul's United Methodist Church
Oneida, NY
12:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.**

Ushers for April



BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK
Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday!
Mon-Phyllis Little
Tue-Andy Froass
Robert & Ryan Paul
Happy birthday! Happy birthday!



**LIFE at ONEIDA
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN**

Week of April 20th-April 27th
Easter Sunday, April 20th
10 a.m. Worship

Monday, April 21st

Tuesday, April 22nd

Wednesday, April 23rd
1:00 p.m. Senior's Bible Study Restarts
May 7th
3:00 p.m. Connection Youth Group

Thursday, April 24th
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Friday, April 25th

Saturday, April 26th

Sunday, April 27th



TODAY'S GUEST MUSICIAN

We are pleased to welcome trumpeter **Johnny Cukierski** as our guest musician for today. Johnny is a 15-year-old sophomore at Oneida Senior High School, and is a stellar student enrolled in multiple advanced and college courses. A talented musician, Johnny has played the trumpet since elementary school (preceding its formal introduction in 4th grade, thanks to early instruction from his older brother, Andrew). He currently plays trumpet in the OHS Concert Band, Jazz Band, and Marching Band, and is often requested to perform at events such as Oneida City's annual Memorial Association Flag Garden ceremony, where he plays Taps.

Demonstrating his well-rounded nature, Johnny is a three-sport Varsity athlete at OHS, competing in football, volleyball, and track and field. His commitment extends to his faith as well, actively participating in a vibrant youth group where he explores biblical teachings and their relevance to daily life.

Johnny's career aspirations have been clear since his fifth-grade cost analysis presentation to his mother on orthodontics. His passion for this field remains strong, driven by a heartfelt desire to "make people smile." He articulates a thoughtful understanding of how improved smiles can boost self-esteem and create a positive ripple effect in people's lives.

SENIOR BIBLE STUDY
SPECIAL HOLY WEEK EDITION
We will watch a video :

**The Easter Story:
The Life of Jesus**

This video takes us through some of the important days of Holy Week and is a good depiction of all that our Lord went through during the week that changed the world.

Wednesday, April 16th 1:00 PM
Janeth P. Whiting Community Center



Scholarship Applications



It's that time of year again! The scholarship applications will be available on website, by email, or mail or in

person. They can either be returned by email or mail or in person. Take one, fill it out, and bring it back either to the church office or you can hand it to one of the Deacons by Sunday, May 25th. If you

have any questions, please contact either **Kristin Tooker** or **John Merritt** at the church office. The

applications will be available mid April to the end of May.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY - Our 27th year of Remembrance Sunday will be on May 25th. We remember our loved ones with flowers in the sanctuary: around the communion table, along the stained glass windows and by the choir. If you would like to fondly remember a loved one, please list their name on the pink envelopes that are in the pews, or on a sheet of paper. Enclose 75 cents per person and write "Remembrance Sunday" on the outside. Please include your name and phone number in case we have a question with the spelling of the name. Please have them into the office by Monday, May 19th. The names will be listed in that bulletin for those who can't attend the service.

REIMAGINING "FESTIVAL" IN A NEW AGE

By now, most of our church community knows that after many, many years of hard work and dedication, the Presbyterian Women of the First Presbyterian Church had dissolved. This has become a national trend as it has become more difficult to recruit new members.

The work that this group of women have done over the years is more than most realize. Their most well-known project was the annual Festival of Christmas. This was a labor of love that goes back decades and raised thousands of dollars that aided many local organizations.

Last year Presbyterian Women assisted organizations such as the Rescue Mission, Toys for Tots, Willow Network, Matthews Place, Clear Paths for Vets, Help Restore Hope Center, Oneida Healthcare Auxiliary, Samaritans Purse, many area food banks, and other needy organizations. Without similar fundraising efforts these local organizations will feel the pain of loss that is already having direct impacts on them from federal and state budget cuts.

Romans 8:28 says ***"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose"***. You see friends, we can make what might seem impossible – possible through God. It only takes a few people to say, I am in – I want to help make this happen.

Over the next few weeks, we ask you to pray earnestly for God to touch your heart and show you how you, along with others might be able to make something like the festival was a reality for the church and the community.

Pray and then talk to Pastor Mike. Or tear off and fill out this form and place it in the offering plate:

I want to be part of Reimagining "Festival" in a New Age. Please count me in on

beginning the grassroots planning:

Name _____

Email _____

Phone # _____

CONSIDERING A SMALL GROUP?

Pastor Mike recently attended a conference that focused on grants, stewardship and church vitality. One of the sessions focused on attaining church vitality through the establishment of small groups.

According to the presenter, small groups are essential for fostering community, deeper connections, and spiritual growth within small churches. They also offer a space for meaningful relationships and accountability that larger churches may struggle to provide.

This is not something that is managed by the pastor, Rather, it becomes a passion of one individual to have the vision and excitement to start a small group and then simply say..... *hey, would you like to join me for.....*

Here are some ideas that they gave me:

Lunch Clubs – Get a group together that might enjoy the fellowship of sharing in a meal with others.

With a national epidemic of loneliness surrounding us, this group could have tremendous impacts on each other and

develop some very special friendships. Frequency and places is something that the group decides together.

Day Trippers: The group plans a day trip a month to some local attraction or one that is within an acceptable travel time for participants.

Game Clubs – Enjoy board games or interactive group games that promote laughter, bonding and friendly competition. The Janeth P. Whiting Community Center would be a great place for this!

Prayer Circles – Create a dedicated time for prayer where members can share their prayer requests and pray for one another.

Sewing / Knitting Clubs – Again, the Janeth P. Whiting Community Center might be a perfect spot for sewers or knitters to gather and have fun with this special craft together.

Spiritual Journaling – Provide journals for group members to record their thoughts, prayers and reflections on their faith journey. Share entries during meetings.

Book Clubs –A reading group where people meet to discuss books they've all read together, fostering a community of shared literary experiences and engaging in discussions about the book.

Creative Workshops – Host creative workshops like painting, crafting, etc.

Movie Nights – Gather as a group and watch a movie together then spend some time discussing it afterwards.

Walking Groups – Members meet at whatever frequency is decided and set destinations around the city to walk through and get to know the community better.

These are just a sample of the endless possibilities. If you have an idea, Pastor Mike will do all he can to help you get it started. What if.....

The background of the entire image is a soft-focus photograph of white lilies with yellow centers and green leaves. The flowers are scattered across the frame, creating a gentle and serene atmosphere.

In loving memory of Doris Bailey by Deb Owens

In loving memory of Sharon Ruth Hotaling by the Hotaling family

In loving memory of Barrie White by Lou White, Paul and Rachel Mancarella

In loving memory of Edward Merriman from Lucille and Michael Merriman

In loving memory of Rick Tianello from Lucille and Michael Merriman

The flowers today are given in the glory of God

:

In loving memory of Delores and Dan Dryer by Margaret Dryer

In loving memory of my parents Bradley and Lois Abbott from Ethel Abbott

In loving memory of Charles and Gertrude Arnold by Jack and Barb Arnold

In loving memory of Bob and Betty Sweezy by Jack and Barb Arnold

In loving memory of Frank and Gladys Merrell and Susan Froass



In loving memory of Oliver and Everdina Tooker by Kristin
and OP Tooker IV

In loving memory of Lonnie Fox, Arch and Helene Merritt,
Joe and Jane Merritt by John Merritt and Linda Fox

In memory of Alan Little by Phyllis Little

In memory of Douglas Lippert by Alicia Lippert

In memory of William by Alicia Lippert

In loving memory of Ruth and Theron Whipple by the
Thorpe family

In loving memory of the Herb, Betty and Larry Merrell by
the Thorpe family

In loving memory of Margaret, Pail and Elenor Thorpe by
the Thorpe family

In loving memory of our loved ones by the Yeoman and
Patchin families

In memory of Roger Warren by Sharon Warren