



First Presbyterian Church

149 Broad Street

Tonawanda, New York 14150 ~ 2111

Church: (716) 692-1319

E-mail: church@firstprestona.org

Pastor Leslie E-mail: leslie@firstprestona.org

[Pastor Leslie Cell: \(716\) 490-0420](tel:(716)490-0420)

Web address: www.firstprestona.org

"CCLI" License # 2839486

Pastor: The Rev. Leslie Latham

Ministers:

All Members of the Church

Clerk of Session: Nancy Burns

Church Treasurer: Tom Dugan

Music Director: Marla Maertin

Administrative Assistant:

Kathleen Nolan

Finance Secretary: Nancy Burns

Sexton: Zachary Nolan

Office Director of Christian

Education: Shirley Hagle

Youth Director: William Welch IV

Come, Worship the Lord, Our God

January 8, 2017

11:00am

Baptism of the Lord and Holy Communion

DRAWN INTO GOD'S PRESENCE

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering Prayer

"I am a baptized person, and today I will live out my baptism." (Martin Luther placed his hand on his head and repeated this phrase every day. I encourage all of us to do the same! ~PL)

As the acolyte lights the Christ Candle, take a moment to pray for people or groups who stand in special need of God's love.

Prelude: "How Brightly Shines the Morning Star"

(Bender)

Introit: "Good Tidings Now We Bring"

(Vader & Rouse)

The Choir

Call to Worship:

God creates the heavens and stretches them in sunset-crimson splendor and storm-purple cloud.

God spreads the earth with the blue and white of snow billows and the sun-gold of sparkling icicles.

Yet God breathes into every child the breath of life.

And God fills with spirit all who walk the journey-path of life.

Let us worship God, who flings the silver of galaxies into deep space, beyond time as we know it.

Let us worship God, who calls us by name and holds our hands when we stumble.

***Opening Hymn of Praise:** "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright"

69

(Ushers receive prayer concern slips)

AWARE OF GOD'S PRESENCE

***Call to Confession**

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; yet we are justified by the gift of God's grace through the redemption that is ours in Christ Jesus. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

***Prayer of Confession:**

Unison

God of glory, we confess that we have not sought your face. We adore the high and mighty and ignore your humble servant. We act with prejudice and partiality and fail to share your love for all. Forgive us, God of grace. Pour out the power of your Spirit and renew us in our calling: to show the wonder of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Time for silent prayer

***Declaration of Forgiveness:**

As a voice from heaven said to Jesus; so, in Christ, God speaks to us: You are my child, my beloved; with you I am well pleased.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

***Passing of the Peace:**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

***Gloria Patri: "Glory Be to the Father"**

579

***Our Faithful Response: "When Jesus Came to Jordan"** Tune: MUNICH (*O Word of God Incarnate*)

Time with Young Disciples

Anthem: "Mary Was the First One to Carry the Gospel"

(Lowry & Gaither)

The Choir

LISTENING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lessons:

Isaiah 42:1-9

42 Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. ²He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; ³a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. ⁴He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching. ⁵Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: ⁶I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people,^[a] a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. ⁸I am the LORD, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. ⁹See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

Matthew 3:13-17

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. ¹⁶And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved,^[a] with whom I am well pleased."

Sermon: "Re-Membering"

Rev. Leslie Latham

RESPONDING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Hymn of Response: "Wade in the Water"

STF # 2107

Call to the Offering:

God has told us what is good; and what does the Lord require? To do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.

Offertory: "O Sing A Song of Bethlehem"

(arr. Smith)

***Praising God's Goodness:**

Doxology # 592

***Prayer of Dedication:**

Unison

God of glory, in baptism we dedicate our lives to you. Hold us close in our baptismal vows as we bring ourselves, our time, and our possessions to you, so they may be gifts of your love in a world in which your voice of love is drowned out by violence, hatred and oppression. Use us and all we have in your glory. Amen.

Remembrance of Our Baptism:

In the beginning, O God, your Spirit moved over the water, and you created all that is, seen and unseen.

We give you thanks for the gift of water that sustains all life.

In the time of Noah, you destroyed evil in the water of the flood; and by your saving ark, you gave a new beginning.

We give you thanks for new beginnings.

You led Israel through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land.

We give you thanks for the gift of freedom and the gift of the land.

In the water of the Jordan our Lord was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit; by the baptism of his death and resurrection, Christ set us free from sin and death and opened the way to eternal life.

We give you thanks for our own baptism and the gift of eternal life.

The Lamb has come to lead us to springs of living water.

We give you thanks for the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb.

We pledge ourselves to be servants to others, to seek not our own good, but to care for the hungry and thirsty people of the world.

We renew our baptismal covenant with you, O God, praying for the strength to be faithful in all things, to your glory and for the service of your people. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

***Hymn before Communion:** "We Come as Guests Invited"

517

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper: Communion for the Baptism of the Lord

See insert

***Hymn of Sending:** "You Are Mine"

STF # 2218

***Benediction**

***Postlude:** "And the Glory of the Lord"

(Handel)

* Those who are able, please stand

WORSHIP AIDS:

Large Print Bulletins, Hymnals & Hearing Devices – available from ushers.

Children's Sanctuary - at the rear of the church

Baby Changing Tables - in both rest rooms of Church School Building.

Deacon's Prayer Chain - To activate Prayer Chain call Kathy in the church office @ 692-1319.

New Prayer Concerns or Joys

1.

2.

3.

Prayer Concerns or Joys Last Week:

Continuing Prayers: Larry Burns; Irving & Alice Hils; Holly Mazurek; Marge Klinger; Betty Kolnacki; Judy Geerkin; Ruth Gebera; Aron; Wilma Bender; Wally Frech; Rosemary Taber; Jack Greenawalt; Willie Day; Sue Klein; Mike Crowell; Larry Rayner; Jackie Rexford; Gail Schurr; Michael Grant; Paul Rayner; Sid Tyrrell; Anthony Dragone; Adehlia Kowsky; Leola Mitchell; Peggy Hess; Russ McClure; Mike Klinger; Bob Erisman

Prayers and caring for our homebound: Lillian Manning; Marge Klinger; Georgia Anson; Fay Tag; Lee Mitchell; Doris Carlson; J. Robert Weber; Ann Thorpe; Ruth Weber; Joan Loeswick; Phyllis Brown

Because God's love is for all - everyone is always welcome.

We pray that God may bless you with peace, inspiration, and strength. We are a community, seeking to learn what it means to follow Jesus. No matter what you may be going through, no matter where you may be on your faith journey – you are most welcome here! If you would like more information, please call Kathy in the church office @ 692-1319

LITURGIST: Sue Schurr

GREETERS: The Schurr Family

USHERS: Randy Marohn, J. William Haley, Bonnie Zimmer, Linda Barry, Larry Rayner, John Greth

COFFEE HOUR: Nancy & Jane

STEPHEN MINISTERS: are always available to provide confidential support in times of need. Simply call Janet Haacker @ 694-4290.

REMINDER: Please call Pastor Leslie @ 490-0420 or Kathy in the office @ 692-1319 if you or a loved one are ill, hospitalized or in need of a visit.

Flowers on the Communion Table

Are to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Alvin and Dorothy Marohn given with love by Laura, Alvin and Nathan.

Epiphany Concert TODAY • 6:00 PM

Come celebrate as St. Francis hosts its tenth annual prism concert featuring St. Francis Choir, First Presbyterian Choir, Friedens Friendship Choir, Grove Street Christian Choir, St. Bartholomew's Anglican Choir, St. Jude's Choir, and instrumental ensembles from local churches and schools. A great way to conclude your Christmas Celebration!

Fun, Food, Fellowship!

You're invited to the Singles and Doubles Post Holiday Luncheon Sunday January 15, 2017 at 12:30pm in the Church Parlor or Fellowship Hall (depending on reservations); Catered by The Grill at the Dome Featuring Hickory Smoked BBQ Pulled Pork, Marinated Chicken Breast, Seasoned Fresh Vegetables and Macaroni and Cheese; Cost is \$10 per person (kids under age 10 are \$5); There will be no gift exchange; RSVP to Diane Charsley by 1/8/2017 at [716-481-730](tel:716-481-730) or decharsley@roadrunner.com or sign up in the Narthex. Set up by the PW board will be Friday evening January 13th.

Service of Wholeness and Healing

January 18th @ 6:30pm First Presbyterian Church 149 Broad Street, Tonawanda, will hold an evening service devoted to healing and wholeness, which will include communion. This is a "come as you are" service, open and welcoming to all who seek wholeness for their lives, Presbyterian or otherwise. Please join us in the sanctuary.

3rd of our First Presbyterian Distinguished Speaker Series ~ January 20th @ 7pm in the Sanctuary; Speaker is Pat Loeswick. Pat will tell "The Story behind the Kiss". Light refreshments will be served. If you are able to donate your time or some refreshments please see Nancy Rolando. Everyone is invited.

Year End Reports

All church groups, ministry teams and deacons need to complete a Year-end report and turn it into Kathy Nolan by January 29, 2017. Thank you!

January 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
8 Baptism of our Lord Sunday school 9:30a Choir 10:30a Worship / Communion 11a FHBells 3:30p Choir 4:30p Epiphany concert St. Francis 6p	9 <i>A.A. 9a-11a</i> <i>TOPS 6:30p</i> <i>Girl scouts 6-7:30p</i>	10 CE 7p Deacons 7p <i>Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p</i>	11 <i>Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p</i> Hebrew scripture class 7-8:15p	12 <i>A.A. 9a-11a</i> <i>Yoga 6:30-7:30p</i> H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p	13 UFO 7p Youth Duffield winter retreat	14 Youth Duffield winter retreat
15 H4W 9a Sunday school 9:30a Worship 11a Single and double luncheon 12p Youth Duffield winter retreat	16 office closed <i>A.A. 9a-11a</i> <i>TOPS 6:30p</i> <i>Girl scouts 6-7:30p</i> Session 7p	17 <i>Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p</i>	18 <i>Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p</i> Healing service 6:30p Hebrew scripture class 7-8:15p	19 <i>A.A. 9a-11a</i> <i>Yoga 6:30-7:30p</i> H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p	20 UFO 7p Distinguished speaker ~ Pat Loeswick 7p	21
22 H4W 9a Sunday school 9:30a Worship 11a Music team mtg. BYO lunch 12:15p	23 <i>A.A. 9a-11a</i> <i>TOPS 6:30p</i> <i>Girl scouts 6-7:30p</i>	24 Leslie Denver <i>Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p</i>	25 Leslie Denver <i>Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p</i> Hebrew scripture class 7-8:15p	26 Leslie Denver <i>A.A. 9a-11a</i> <i>Yoga 6:30-7:30p</i> Choir 7:30p	27 Leslie Denver UFO 7p	28 Leslie returns
29 H4W 9a Sunday school 9:30a Soloist 10:30a Worship/ guest 11a Youth spaghetti Year-end reports due	30 <i>A.A. 9a-11a</i> <i>TOPS 6:30p</i> <i>Girl scouts 6-7:30p</i>	31 <i>Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p</i> Central branch mtg. Kenmore 6-8p	Notes:			