



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

Finance Secretary: Nancy Burns

Administrative Assistant:

Judy Winters

Sexton:

Office Director of Christian

Education: Shirley Hagle

Youth Director: William Welch IV

Come, Worship the Lord, Our God

September 9, 2018

11:00am

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

DRAWN INTO GOD'S PRESENCE

We Welcome Aaron Tham As Our Musician

Rally Day!

Welcome and Greeting

(Please complete Prayer Concerns)

Gathering Prayer:

Good and generous God, you have blessed us with favor and counted us as your people through our glorious Lord Jesus Christ. Freed by your grace, let us extend your generosity to others, sharing our bread with the poor, pleading the cause of the afflicted, and receiving all who assemble in your name with the warmth of your love and the richness of your hospitality; in the good name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prelude:

Call to Worship:

What does this worship service need?

Quiet where faith can grow, songs that nurture hope, scripture that remembers love, honest words to untangle a knotty existence, and gifts offering service of the heart.

Who shall come to this worship service?

All who have prayer at the center of their lives, and who are lonely for the touch of God.

What then shall we do?

Let us worship our God!

***Opening Song of Praise:** "God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand" #262

(Prayer Concerns Collected)

AWARE OF GOD'S PRESENCE

***Call to Confession**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord who surrounds us with favor forevermore.

***Prayer of Confession**

Unison

Christ Jesus, our teacher and friend, we have not listened for your word amid the clamor of words all around us. We are happier to repeat familiar tunes than to listen for new melodies and strange harmonies. We try harder to defend what we think we know, rather than reach for that which is beyond our grasp. Slow to trust, afraid of the unknown, we are cautious to hear and do your will. Give us ears to hear the cries of our neighbors, and for hearts to do your will. Teach us until we learn afresh to sing the songs of faith, hope and love. Amen.

Time of Silent Confession**Declaration of Forgiveness**

The mercy of our God triumphs over judgment through our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, who has pleaded our cause, forgiven our sin, healed our sickness, and delivered us from evil.

***Passing of the Peace:**

May 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: "Praise the Source of Faith and Learning"**

#2004

Time with Young Disciples**LISTENING IN GOD'S PRESENCE****Prayer for Illumination****Scripture Lessons:**

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23

A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold. ²The rich and the poor have this in common: the LORD is the maker of them all.

⁸Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity, and the rod of anger will fail. ⁹Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor.

²²Do not rob the poor because they are poor, or crush the afflicted at the gate; ²³for the LORD pleads their cause and despoils of life those who despoil them.

Mark 7:24-37

²⁴From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, ²⁵but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

Sermon: "Discipleship 101"

The Rev. Leslie Latham

RESPONDING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

***Affirmation of Faith Apostles' Creed**

Unison

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

Those who are generous are blessed through the good name of Jesus Christ our Savior, by whom we have received the favor of our God—better than silver or gold. From the riches of God’s grace, let us present our gifts of gratitude to bless those in need.

Offertory:

***Praising God’s Goodness - Doxology** #592

***Prayer of Dedication:** Unison

Generous God, thank you for these gifts we bring from your abundance. Bless gifts and givers to show your love to all those in need through our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, healer of the sick, advocate of the afflicted, provider for the poor. Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

***Hymn Before Communion: “Live Into Hope”** #332

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

“The Lord’s Supper for the Season of Pentecost ” (see insert)

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

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.

Sharing the Bread and Cup

(The congregation will walk down the center aisle, take the bread, dip it into the cup and eat.)

***Prayer after Communion** Unison

ABIDING IN GOD’S PRESENCE IN THE WORLD

***Hymn of Sending: “Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples”** #434

***Benediction**

***Postlude:**

* 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 Judy in the church office @ 692-1319.

New Prayer Concerns or Joys

1. Ruth Gebera – at Buffalo General Hospital in ICU
2. Jon Apple – at Mercy Hospital in ICU
3. Martina Luzuriaga – friend of Pastor Leslie having back surgery

Prayer Concerns or Joys Last Week: Patricia Cenia, Evalyn Mariá Luz, José Cruzita, people in Lares, Puerto Rico, John Greggs, and John Faux.

Continuing Prayers Alvin Marohn; Rick C.; Gail Schurr; Kathy Evans; Gerry Tyrrell; Father Michael Ubeler; Scott Greenawalt; Irving & Alice Hils; Joan Cantonese; Holly Mazurek; Marge Klinger; Ruth Gebera; Wilma Bender; Wally Frech; Rosemary Taber; Jack Greenawalt; Willie Day; Mike Crowell; Larry Rayner; Jackie Rexford; Michael Grant; Paul Rayner; Anthony Dragone; Adehlia Kowsky; Peggy Hess; Russ McClure; Mike Klinger; Bob Erisman; Kris Yettra ; Judy Geerkin; Anna Dobrowski; David Haines; and Lauren Mauer.

Prayers and caring for our homebound: Lillian Manning; Marge Klinger; Georgia Anson; Fay Tag; Doris Carlson; J. Robert Weber; Ruth Weber; Richard Weber; Alice Weber; Bob Palfi; Wilma Bender; Lillian Simon; Joy Welch; Margaret McBride; and Sue Strasser

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 Judy in the church office @ 692-1319

LITURGIST: Tom Dugan

GREETERS: Janet, Jessica & Sue Schurr

USHERS: Team 2

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 Judy in the office @ 692-1319 if you or a loved one are ill, hospitalized or in need of a visit.

We would like to thank Aaron Tham for sharing his gifts with us today.

Memory Lane Respite Program: Our next respite program will be held on September 18 from 10:30am-2:30pm. There are many opportunities to help in volunteering or donating items, with no monthly commitment. There is a tote in the Narthex with a list of items that are being requested. Monetary donations are also much appreciated – check can be made payable to the church and write “Memory Lane” in the memo line. If you know of anyone suffering from dementia and would like more information about this program, please contact the respite committee: Kathy Greenawalt, Janet Haacker, Marilee Mathias, Pastor Leslie Latham or Judy Winters.

Service of Blessing and Healing: Wednesday, September 19 @ 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.

Tonawanda School Mission Project: School is back in session and the Deacons are teamed up with the Tonawanda Elementary Schools again to provide much needed clothing to needy children. Either a monetary donation or clothing donation is acceptable. There is a tote in the Narthex where you can drop off donations. See Jane Crossan or Leslie Dugan with any questions. Thank you for your continued support.

Display Case: If you are interested in displaying something that you collect or you have some treasures that you would like to share with our church family, please contact the church office.

Church Women United of the Tonawandas: Annual Meeting & Luncheon on Friday, September 14 at 12 noon. Potluck luncheon at St. Paul’s United Church of Christ located at 4529 Mapleton Road, North Tonawanda. Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Any questions, see Donna Blinston for details.

Presbyterian Women’s Fall Gathering: All Presbyterian Women of the church are invited to the PW Fall Gathering on Saturday, September 29 at Maryvale Presbyterian Church in Cheektowaga. Registration is at 10:30am. The topic is “God is With Us in Times of Trouble.” The cost for lunch is \$7.00. Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Any questions, see Jane Crossan.

Communion Workshop: Saturday, October 6 from 10am-12noon. For anyone wishing to take/serve communion, come and learn the meaning of communion and help make the bread that will be served on October 7. Sign-up with Pastor Leslie. All ages are invited!

Sub Sandwich Luncheon: Mark your calendars for Sunday, October 14 at 12:15pm. The Deacons are sponsoring a Sub Sandwich Luncheon right after church. Bring a can of beef stew, chili, baked beans or hearty soup for donation to Hearts For The Homeless. Monetary donations are also welcome and will be used for the Mission Trip to Puerto Rico. Watch for the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

September 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9 Rally Day 9:30am Sunday School 9:30a Worship/Communion 11a	10 AA 9a Girl Scouts 6p TOPS 6:30p Mission/ Outreach Team 6p	11	12 Circle II 9a	13 AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness Class 6:30p	14 Church Women United Annual Mtg & Luncheon 12p UFO 7P	15
16 Sunday School 9:30a Worship 11a	17 AA 9a Girl Scouts 6p TOPS 6:30p CE Mtg 6p Session 7p	18 Memory Lane 10:30a-2:30p	19 Circle II 9a Healing Service 6:30p	20 AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness Class 6:30p	21 UFO 7P	22
23 Sunday School 9:30a Worship 11a	24 AA 9a Girl Scouts 6p TOPS 6:30p	25	26 Circle II 9a	27 AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness Class 6:30p St. Francis Resource Fair	28 UFO 7P	29 PW Fall Gathering 10:30a
30 Sunday School 9:30a Worship 11a Mission Sunday						
October 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 AA 9a Girl Scouts 6p TOPS 6:30p	2 Deacons 1p	3 Circle II “Octoberfest Sale” 10a-1:30p	4 AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness Class 6:30p	5 UFO 7P	6 Communion Class 10am All Ages Invited
7 Sunday School 9:30a Worship/Communion 11a World Communion Day	8 AA 9a Girl Scouts 6p TOPS 6:30p	9	10 Circle II 9a	11 AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness Class 6:30p Worship 3p	12 UFO 7P	13