



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

May 28, 2017

11:00am

Seventh Sunday of Easter
Ascension Sunday/Memorial Day Weekend
DRAWN INTO GOD'S PRESENCE

Welcome and Greeting

(Please complete Prayer Concerns)

Gathering Prayer:

Redeeming God, you call us to be one with you, as you are one with Christ. As his perfect love casts out our fear, and changes it to love, unite us by your Spirit of peace, that we may be one with you, as you are one with Christ. Amen.

Today we mark the end of Jesus' post-resurrection appearances to his believers, and his ascent into heaven. We remember that Jesus promises the Holy Spirit will be with us always, so with the end of Eastertide, we look forward next week to Pentecost! Today we celebrate the Christ as our Risen King.

We also honor those veterans who have died, and give thanks to God for their service to God and country.

Prelude: "Variations on Coronation"

(Smith)

Introit: "Rejoice! The Lord Is King!"

The Choir

Call to Worship:

Shout for joy, sing songs of praise,

for God reigns over all the earth!

God has gone up with a shout!

Sound the trumpets and sing songs of praise!

***Opening Hymn of Praise:** "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"

STF # 2088

(Ushers receive prayer concern slips)

AWARE OF GOD'S PRESENCE

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:** "Come, Christians, Join to Sing"

150

Time with Young Disciples

Anthem: "Stand Up!"

(Raney)

The Choir

LISTENING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prayer for Illumination

Responsive Reading Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

O God, arise, and let your enemies be scattered; let those who hate you flee before you.

Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away; as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.

But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; let them also be merry and joyful.

Sing to God, sing praises to God's name; exalt the One who rides upon the heavens; the name of our God is the LORD; rejoice before the LORD!

Defender of widows, father of orphans, God in heaven's holy habitation!

God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom; but the rebels shall live in dry places.

O God, when you went forth before your people, when you marched through the wilderness,

the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; you refreshed the land when it was weary.

Your people found their home in it; in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.

Sing to God, O realms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord.

God rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; God's voice thunders forth, a mighty voice.

Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel, and whose strength is in the skies.

How wonderful is God in the holy places! The God of Israel giving strength and power to the chosen people! Blessed be God!

Scripture Lessons:

Acts 1:1-14

1 In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ²until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴While staying^[a] with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with^[b] the Holy Spirit not many days from now." ⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." ¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. ¹³When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of^[c] James. ¹⁴All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

John 17:1-11

17 After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, **2** since you have given him authority over all people,[a] to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. **3** And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. **4** I glorified you on earth by

finishing the work that you gave me to do. 5 So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. 6 "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. 7 Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; 8 for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. 9 I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. 10 All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. 11 And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

Sermon: "What Are You Looking At?"

The Rev. Leslie Latham

RESPONDING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

***Affirmation of Faith:**

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: That Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, That he was buried, that he was raised on the third day; And that he appeared, first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; He is our Lord and our God. Amen.

***Hymn of Response:** "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

151

Pastoral Prayer 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.

Invitation to the Offering:

Jesus said to the Father, All mine are yours, and all yours are mine. Therefore, let us offer to God this day our lives and labors in service of Christ's love.

Offertory: "Crown Him!" (Hegarty)

***Praising God's Goodness:** Doxology # 592

***Prayer of Dedication:** Unison

Glorious God, everything that is given to us rains forth out of the abundance of your love, even Jesus Christ our Lord. Bless these gifts and our lives together that all we are and all we offer give glory to you; in the name of Christ, who is the way, truth, and life. Amen.

ABIDING IN GOD'S PRESENCE IN THE WORLD

***Hymn of Sending:** "This Is My Song" See screen

***Benediction**

***Postlude:** "God of Our Fathers" (Hughes)

* 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: Harvey Karnuth ~ ICU @ MFS, long road of healing

Alayna ~ safe travels; Kim ~ good test results

Continuing Prayers: John Faux; Father Michael Ubeler; Bill Carney; Scott Greenawalt; Melissa Haacker; Paul Stuermer; Sid Tyrrell; Irving & Alice Hils; Holly Mazurek; Marge Klinger; Betty Kolnacki; 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

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: Bonnie Zimmer

GREETERS: Steve and Joya Palermo

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

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.

Central Branch Meeting: Wednesday, May 31 - 6-8 PM @ University Presbyterian Church of Buffalo 3330 Main Street, Buffalo; Gather for light supper, then enjoy a presentation from Kathleen Occek from Hearts and Hands regarding transportation partnerships for seniors. There will also be an update on refugee assistance opportunities. RSVP by to Leslie Latham at leslie@firstprestona.org.

Church Women United: June 2, 2017 1:00 p.m. @ First Presbyterian Church 149 Broad Street Tonawanda, NY 14150 ~ June Social Awareness – Mission.

Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup: Saturday, June 3rd @ 9:00 am; Please meet at the Hebelers front parking lot. Wear enclosed footwear (no sandals, flip flops, open-toed shoes) Gloves and vests will be provided. Any youth who need community service hours for school can use this opportunity to log hours toward their requirements.

Reminder: Starting June 4th, worship will begin at 10:00am.

MUSIC 4 MEALS: Concert is HERE on June 4 at 7:00PM. Come and support our Food Pantry and TCCO (Twin City Community Outreach)!

Joyful June Sale: First Presbyterian Church 149 Broad Street, Tonawanda, NY 14150; June 7, 2017; Our 45th Anniversary Sale Celebration ~ Thrift shop, mini boutique and plant place open 10 am to 1:30 pm; Special Summer Buffet Luncheon ~ @ 11 am – 1 pm; cost \$7.00; proceeds to benefit local charities.

Are You Interested in Becoming a Member of First Pres.? We are going to offer a membership class soon. Please contact Pastor Leslie if you are interested. Thanks!

VBS is going on the road! To Jericho Road Ministries in Buffalo August 7 - 10 from 10AM - 12PM each day. Our theme is "A Stranger in a Strange Land". Abraham & Sarah, Ruth & Naomi, Jesus, Mary, & Joseph in Egypt, the Disciples are the stories. Crafts, games, music, snacks, and science are also included. Please see Marla Maertin if you would like to help.

May 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 Choir 10:30a Worship 11a	29 office closed A.A. 9a-11a TOPS 6:30p Girl scouts 6-7:30p	30 Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p	31 Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p Circle II 9:30a Branch mtg. @ University Pres. 6p	Notes:		

June 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 A.A. 9a-11a Yoga 6:30-7:30p Worship mtg. 6p H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p	2 CWU social awareness here 1-2p UFO 7p	3 Adopt a highway 9a
4 Choir 9:30a Worship/communion 10a installation of officers Music 4 Meals concert 7p	5 A.A. 9a-11a TOPS 6:30p Girl scouts 6-7:30p	6 Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p Deacons mtg. 7p	7 Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p Joyful June sale 10-1:30p Movie ~ Chasing the Dragon 7p	8 A.A. 9a-11a Yoga 6:30-7:30p H4W 6:30p	9 UFO 7p	10
11 Worship 10a Matt's vocal team 2:30-5:30p	12 A.A. 9a-11a TOPS 6:30p Girl scouts 6-7:30p CE 7p	13 Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p	14 Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p Circle II 9:30a Work day and lunch	15 A.A. 9a-11a Yoga 6:30-7:30p H4W 6:30p Bells to PA	16 UFO 7p Bells to PA	17 Bag Sale 10-12p
18 Marla off Worship 10a Steve Piortowski	19 A.A. 9a-11a TOPS 6:30p Girl scouts 6-7:30p Session 7p	20 Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p	21 Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p Circle II 9:30a Healing service 6:30p	22 A.A. 9a-11a Yoga 6:30-7:30p H4W 6:30p	23 UFO 7p	24
25 Worship 10a Classic Sunday	26 A.A. 9a-11a TOPS 6:30p Girl scouts 6-7:30p	27 Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p	28 Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p Circle II 9:30a	29 A.A. 9a-11a Yoga 6:30-7:30p H4W 6:30p	30 UFO 7p	Notes: