



For, behold, I create  
new heavens and a new  
earth: and the former  
shall not be remembered,  
nor come into mind.  
- Isaiah 65:17

## *First Presbyterian Church*

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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

**Minister of Music:** Kurt Ebsary

**Administrative Assistant:**

Judy Winters

**Sexton:** Kevin Donovan

**Office Director of Christian Education:**

Shirley Hagle

**Youth Director:** William Welch IV

# Come, Worship the Lord, Our God

November 17, 2019

11:00am

23rd Sunday After Pentecost

## DRAWN INTO GOD'S PRESENCE

**Welcome and Greeting**

*(Please complete Prayer Concerns)*

### **Gathering Prayer:**

O God, our Redeemer, all creation sings your praise! You are justice and mercy, judgment and grace. Following our Lord Jesus Christ, we seek to be faithful, ever sustained by your Spirit, that we might stand blameless at the last with Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

### **Prelude:**

### **Call to Worship:**

This is Sabbath—we seek deep within our restful selves for re-creation.

**This is Sunday—we celebrate the bright resurrection and its good news.**

This is the day which God has made.

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**Let us worship God!**

**\*Opening Song of Praise:** "Shall We Gather at the River"

#375

(Prayer Concerns Collected)

## AWARE OF GOD'S PRESENCE

### **\*Call to Confession**

Trusting in God's goodness to us, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

### **\*Prayer of Confession**

Unison

**God of peace, we confess we are a people of fear. We have let anxiety rule our days and worry our nights. We have been distracted by nerves and focused on tension. We confess we have ignored your command to not be afraid. Forgive us, O God. Calm our hearts, settle our stomachs, and renew in us the ability to find our comfort in you. Amen.**

*\*Time of Silent Confession*

### **\*Declaration of Forgiveness**

**The prophet Isaiah assures us: God is building a new heaven and a new earth; the former things will not be remembered or come to mind. Forgiven and freed, rejoice in what the Lord is creating in you, in me, in all creation. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

### **Passing of the Peace:**

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all

**And also with you.**

**\* Gloria:** "Halle, Halle, Halle"

#591

**\*Our Faithful Response:** "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"

#738

### **Time with Young Disciples**

## **LISTENING IN GOD'S PRESENCE**

### **Prayer for Illumination**

### **Scripture Lessons:**

**Isaiah 65:17-25**

<sup>17</sup>For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. <sup>18</sup>But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight. <sup>19</sup>I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress. <sup>20</sup>No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed. <sup>21</sup>They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. <sup>22</sup>They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. <sup>23</sup>They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the LORD— and their descendants as well. <sup>24</sup>Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear. <sup>25</sup>The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent—its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the LORD.

**Luke 21:5-19**

<sup>5</sup>When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, <sup>6</sup>"As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

<sup>7</sup>They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" <sup>8</sup>And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

<sup>9</sup>"When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." <sup>10</sup>Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; <sup>11</sup>there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

<sup>12</sup>"But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. <sup>13</sup>This will give you an opportunity to testify. <sup>14</sup>So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; <sup>15</sup>for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. <sup>16</sup>You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. <sup>17</sup>You will be hated by all because of my name. <sup>18</sup>But not a hair of your head will perish. <sup>19</sup>By your endurance you will gain your souls.

**Sermon:**

**The Rev. Leslie Latham**

**RESPONDING IN GOD'S PRESENCE**

**\*Affirmation of Faith:**

**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.**

**\*Hymn of Response:** "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

#353

**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.

**Invitation to the Offering:**

Let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God, with gratitude and praise.

**Offertory:**

**\*Praising God's Goodness – Doxology**

#606

**\*Prayer of Dedication:**

**Unison**

**Loving God, before we give to you, you have given to us. All we offer we have received from you. We thank you for your goodness, and we praise you for your bountiful works, though Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**ABIDING IN GOD'S PRESENCE IN THE WORLD**

**\*Hymn of Sending:** "I Will Come to You (You Are Mine)"

#177

**\*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.
- 2.
- 3.

### **Prayer Concerns or Joys Last Week:**

**Continuing Prayers:** Scott Greenawalt; Pat & Bob Erisman; Kris Yettra; Judy Geerkin; Paul Card; Nadia; Doris Carlson; Bonnie Bringham; Marlene Tyrrell; Deal Kowsky; Bonnie Zimmer; Mary Jo; Shirley Hagle; Jackie; Denis Luzuriaga, Michael, Maras Family, Katie, DeSain & Fluellen Families and Brett.

**Prayers and caring for our homebound:** Marge Klinger; Georgia Anson; Fay Tag; Doris Carlson; Alice Weber; Bob Palfi; Lillian Simon; Joy Welch; Wilma Bender; Margaret McBride; Peggy Hess, 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:** Bonnie Zimmer

**GREETER:** Jane Crossan

**USHERS:** Team 1

**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.

**Angel Tree Gifts:** The Youth Group will be handing out tickets on November 17, November 24, and December 1. This year the Angel Tree Gifts will be donated to the City of Tonawanda Elementary Schools in conjunction with our church's ongoing mission project. Please attach your ticket to the unwrapped gift and return it no later than December 8. Monetary donations are also appreciated. Please do not spend more than \$15.00 on your gift. Any questions, contact Billy Welch or Jane Crossan.

### **Adult Bible Study Class: Sunday, November 17 at 12:15pm**

The Bible Study Class will be held right after worship on the third Sunday of the month at 12:15pm. The next class will be on November 17 at 12:15pm. Feel free to bring a lunch or something to snack on. Any questions, contact Nancy Bassett.

### **Hunger Sunday: November 17**

Don't forget that the third Sunday of the month is Hunger Sunday. Food and cash donations are welcome and proceeds are donated to the Twin Cities Community Outreach. Drop off box is in the Narthex. Thank you for your support.

**Memory Lane Respite Program: Tuesday, November 19**

The Memory Lane Respite Program will be held from 10:30am-2:30pm. There are many opportunities for you to help in volunteering and no monthly commitment. Monetary donations are greatly appreciated. If you would like to volunteer, stop by and see what the program is all about or contact Mike Donovan. Fun for all!

**Service of Healing and Blessing: Wednesday, November 20 at 6:30pm**

A service devoted to healing and wholeness is held the third Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm. This is a "come as you are" service, includes communion, is open and welcoming to all who seek wholeness in their lives, Presbyterian or otherwise. Please join us in the sanctuary.

**Thanksgiving Baskets:** The Deacons will be assembling fruit baskets for our homebound folks on Saturday, November 23 at 9:30am. All are welcome to come and help assemble the baskets. Baskets will be available for delivery on Saturday, November 23 and Sunday, November 24. Please consider signing up to deliver a basket. Contact Jane Crossan if you are interested in helping in any way.

**Community Thanksgiving Dinner with Friends and Neighbors: November 24**

All are welcome to attend the Ecumenical Thanksgiving Dinner at Kenmore United Methodist Church at 32 Landers Road in Kenmore at 12:00 noon on Sunday, November 24. You can dine in, or arrange for home delivery by calling 716-875-5091.

**Youth Group to Deliver Thanksgiving Dinners:** The Youth Group will once again be delivering meals on Thanksgiving day to the homebound folks in the Tonawandas. If you would like to volunteer and help out, please contact Billy Welch.

**Christmas Memorial Flowers:** It's not too early to be thinking about Christmas poinsettias. The Deacons will be selling flowers before and after worship on November 24 and December 1. The cost is \$10.00.

**"Hanging of the Greens" - Saturday, November 30 at 9:30am**

The "Hanging of the Greens" for Christmas will be held on Saturday, November 30 at 9:30am. Please join in the tradition of clothing our sanctuary in Christmas love! All are invited.

**Advent Worship Services - 8:30am in the Parlor**

Advent Worship Services will take place on December 1, December 8, December 15, and December 22. This worship will also include communion. All are welcome.

**“The Marvelous Advent Adventure” - Intergenerational Event**  
**Sunday, December 1 from 9:00am – 10:30am in Fellowship Hall**

The CE Committee has planned an Intergenerational Event for December 1. We'll be making ornaments, a gift or two, playing games, singing songs, sneaking a cookie while we frost them, and learning all about the season of Advent. Breakfast will be available. Everyone in the church is invited! Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.

**Circle II Bag Sale: Saturday, December 7**

Circle II Women's Group will hold a "Classic Bag Sale" on Saturday, December 7 from 10am-12pm. Come and fill a bag for \$2.00. You won't want to miss all the bargains.

**Presbyterian Women's Annual Christmas Tea: Sunday, December 8**

All women of the church are invited to attend right after worship. Come and enjoy yourself with lots of treats and fellowship. (Men are welcome too). Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.

**Tonawanda City Schools Holiday Party Food Drive**

Please help the Deacons collect food for those children in need right here in our own city. Bags will be filled with particular food items and will be given to the kids at the holiday party to take home to have during their Christmas break. Tickets will be handed out with specific items that are needed. Cash donations are also welcome. Contact Jane Crossan for details.

**Charlie Brown Mitten Tree**

Our Charlie Brown Mitten Tree will soon be accepting your beautiful handmade or purchased hats, mittens or scarves. These warm items will be distributed to children in need in Tonawanda. All items need to be on the tree by December 11<sup>th</sup>. Watch for the Charlie Brown Tree in the Narthex.

November 2019						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>17</b> Sunday School 9:30a  Worship 11a  Hunger Sunday  Bible Study 12:15p	<b>18</b> AA 9a  CE Mtg 6p Session 7p	<b>19</b>  Memory Lane 10:30am-2:30pm	<b>20</b>  Healing Service 6:30p	<b>21</b> AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness 6:30p  H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p	<b>22</b> PW Mtg 6p  UFO 7p	<b>23</b> Assemble Thanksgiving Baskets for Shut-ins-9:30am All are welcome to help.