



# *First Presbyterian Church*

**149 Broad Street**

**Tonawanda, New York 14150 ~ 2111**

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**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

February 23, 2020

11:00am

Transfiguration of the Lord

**DRAWN INTO GOD'S PRESENCE**

**Welcome and Greeting**

*(Please complete Prayer Concerns)*

**Gathering Prayer:**

God our light, make us attentive to your Word as to a lamp shining in a dark place, that seeing your truth we may live faithful lives until that great day dawns and the morning star rises in our hearts. Amen.

**Prelude:**

**Call to Worship:**

The glory of God transfigures the mundane.

**The light of God transfigures familiar faces.**

At the heights of our worship, may God's presence shine through the commonplace.

**At the depths of our pain, may God's presence give us courage and peace.**

**May God's light, shining in the face of the Christ, light up all our days!**

**\*Opening Song of Praise:** "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" #12  
(Prayer Concerns Collected)

**AWARE OF GOD'S PRESENCE**

**\*Call to Confession**

Trusting in God's steadfast love, let us confess our sin.

**\*Prayer of Confession**

Unison

**Glorious God, you are all wisdom and a lamp to our feet, yet we fail to listen to you and neglect to follow your guidance. Forgive us, heal us, and lead us on, that we may walk in your ways and be happy in your refuge; in Jesus our Christ we pray. Amen.**

**\*Time of Silent Confession**

**\*Declaration of Forgiveness**

Unison

**The good news of our faith is this: if we call upon God we will be answered and forgiven. That promise gives us peace and joy; let us share that peace and joy with one another.**

**\*Passing of the Peace**

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

**And also with you.**

**Gloria:** "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!"

#591

**\*Our Faithful Response:** "Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory"

#190

**Time With Young Disciples****LISTENING IN GOD'S PRESENCE****Prayer for Illumination****Scripture Lessons:****Exodus 24:12-18**

12 The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." 13 So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. 14 To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

15 Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. 16 The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. 17 Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. 18 Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

**Matthew 17:1-9**

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. 2 And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. 3 Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. 4 Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." 5 While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" 6 When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. 7 But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be

afraid." 8 And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. 9 As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

**Sermon:**

**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:**

With what shall we come before the Lord this day? We come with a love of justice and a passion for sharing Christ's love. Let us walk in humble gratitude, offering to God a portion of the gifts that God freely shares with us, gifts for the healing of the world.

**Offertory:**

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

**#606**

**\*Prayer of Dedication:**

**Unison**

**We thank you, God, that you have blessed us with an abundance of gifts for the flourishing of your world. May this offering of our life and labor reveal your love as we seek to share your promised reign with all creation. Amen.**

### **The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy.....

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**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. Gluten free option is available.)*

**Prayer after Communion:**

**Unison**

**We give you thanks, Lord Jesus Christ, for the gifts of grace that we have received from your hands. Now send us forth to reflect your light, proclaiming your saving death and resurrection until you come again in glory. Amen.**

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

**\*Hymn of Sending:** "Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud"

#11

**\*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. Oliver – 8 year old with spot on kidney
- 2.
- 3.

**Prayer Concerns or Joys Last Week:** Bob Palfi is at Our Lady of Peace Nursing Home, and Kelsey Burns taking her driving test this week.

**Continuing Prayers:** Scott Greenawalt; Pat & Bob Erisman; Kris Yettra; Judy Geerkin; Paul Card; Nadia; Doris Carlson; Bonnie Bringhurst; Marlene Tyrrell; Deal Kowsky; Bonnie Zimmer; Mary Jo; Shirley Hagle; Jackie; Denis Luzuriaga, Michael, Maras Family, Katie, DeSain & Fluellen Families, Brett, Diane and Bob Eshelman and family, Mary and Norma Bender, Nancy Bassett, Humphrey Family, Kay Knight, Michael Harrington, family and friends of Cheryl Yurek; and Bruce Gillette.

**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:** Nancy Bassett

**GREETER:**

**USHERS:** Team 4

**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.

**Shrove Pancake Tuesday: Tuesday, February 25 at 6pm**

Join us at 6pm on Tuesday, February 25 for pancakes. Free to all until we run out. Hope to see you there.

**Ash Wednesday Potluck and Worship Service: Wednesday, February 26**

There will be a Potluck Dinner on Wednesday, February 26 at 6pm; so bring a dish to pass and enjoy some fellowship. The dinner will be followed by a communion/worship service at 7:15pm.

**Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation: Sunday, March 1 – 12:00pm**

Mark your calendars for Sunday, March 1 – The Annual Meeting will take place right after worship. Copies of the Annual Report will be available on February 16 and February 23. Please take one copy per family and don't forget to bring it back with you on March 1.

**Morning Prayers and Communion Service: Sunday mornings at 8:30am in the Parlor**

Sunday mornings during Lent, Pastor Leslie will hold a worship service with communion beginning on March 1<sup>st</sup> at 8:30am. All are invited. (March 1, March 8, March 15, March 22, March 29, and April 5.)

**Church Women United of the Tonawandas: Friday, March 6 at 1pm**

All women are invited to attend the "World Day of Prayer Celebration" on March 6<sup>th</sup> at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 61 Payne Avenue, N. Tonawanda. The topic is: "Rise! Take Your Mat and Walk" in honor of the country of Zimbabwe. Contact Donna Blinston with any questions.

**Potluck and Putt Putt: Sunday, March 8 at 12:15pm**

Mark your calendars for Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> for a fun time. Bring a dish or dessert to share and your own place setting. Then try your hand on our 9 hole indoor Putt Putt at "The Links at 1<sup>st</sup> Pres." Bring a friend or better yet, a whole foursome! Sign-up sheet is in the narthex.

**Adult Bible Study: Sunday, March 15 – 12:15pm**

The Adult Bible Study with Nancy Bassett will meet right after worship on March 15. The next book is Carved in Stone, about the Ten Commandments. All are welcome to attend. Please call Nancy Bassett (716-648-0581) if you wish to join the class and have not let her know. Feel free to bring a lunch or snack for yourself.

**Hunger Sunday: March 15**

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. There is a list posted of the things that the food pantry is in need of most; please check the list. Many thanks to Donna and Bruce Blinston for dropping off all the donations each month.

**Memory Lane Respite Program: Tuesday, March 17**

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 know of someone that may benefit from this program, please contact one of the Respite team members. 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, March 18

A service devoted to healing and wholeness is held the third Wednesday of every 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.

### Service Trip to VIVÉ: Saturday, March 28 at 9:30am

The Mission and Outreach Team will be visiting VIVÉ and doing odd jobs to help support this mission. Everyone is invited to come along and help. Meet in the church parking lot. For more details, contact Betsy Crocker.

### Deacons Tonawanda School Mission Project

The Deacons are continuing to provide much needed clothing to needy children in the Tonawanda Schools. The schools have expressed an extreme need for underwear (Boys and Girls underwear size 6 and size 8 at one school and Boys underwear 6-8, 10-12, 14-16 at second school. Either a monetary donation or clothing donation is acceptable. There is also a tote in the Narthex located under the sign-up chart for Flowers. Thank you for your continued support for our ongoing mission. Please see Jane Crossan or Leslie Dugan with any questions you may have.

February 2020						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>23</b> Sunday School 9:30a  Worship 11a	<b>24</b> AA 9a  CE 6p Session 7p	<b>25</b> Shrove Pancake Dinner 6p	<b>26</b> Ash Wednesday Potluck Dinner 6p  Worship 7:15p	<b>27</b> AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness 6:30p  H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p	<b>28</b> UFO 7p	<b>29</b>
March 2020						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> Lenten Communion Worship 8:30a  Sunday School 9:30a  Worship 11a  Annual Meeting after worship	<b>2</b> AA 9a	<b>3</b> Deacons 1p	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness 6:30p  Worship Team 6p  H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p	<b>6</b> UFO 7p  Chuch Women United – 1pm	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> Daylight Savings Time Lenten Communion Worship 8:30a Sunday School 9:30a Worship 11a Potluck Luncheon & Putt Putt 12:15p	<b>9</b> AA 9a	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness 6:30p  H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p	<b>13</b> UFO 7p	<b>14</b>