



First Presbyterian Church

149 Broad Street

Tonawanda, New York 14150 ~ 2111

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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

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

August 18, 2019

10:00am

10th Sunday After Pentecost

We Worship in the Great Outdoors with Hearts4Worship Leading

DRAWN INTO GOD'S PRESENCE

Welcome and Greeting

(Please complete Prayer Concerns)

Gathering Prayer:

Lord of Life, we greet this new day sustained by the great cloud of witnesses who praise your name. Help us to lay aside any burden or distraction that might prevent us from fully serving you this day. Give us perseverance and joy so that we may come to the end of the day confident in your presence and aware of your blessings. Amen.

Prelude:

Call to Worship:

In faith, Abraham and Sarah set out for a new land.

In faith, we seek to follow God in our lives.

In faith, the church seeks to discern the future to which God calls us in our age.

In faith, we gather now to worship, seeking new life in Christ.

God of present, past and future, guide us now to your new age of promise.

Let us worship God.

***Opening Song of Praise:** "How Great Thou Art"

#467

(Prayer Concerns Collected)

AWARE OF GOD'S PRESENCE

***Call to Confession**

Trusting in God's hopes for us, let us come before God with contrite hearts, asking for reconciliation and seeking peace.

***Prayer of Confession**

Unison

God of Abraham and Sarah; God of Jesus Christ; God of our mothers and fathers, you are a God who acts in history. Yet we confess that we are too busy with our

own lives to perceive you at work in our time. We fall into fear and despair about our troubled world, as if you didn't care about us. Forgive our lack of faith and help us to join you as you labor to bring new life on earth. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

***Time of Silent Confession**

***Declaration of Forgiveness**

Unison

Beloveds, our sins are forgiven, for God is merciful and just. Therefore, let us be reconciled to the Lord and to one another, walking in the light of Christ.

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

Hymn of Response: "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God"

#364

LISTENING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prayer for Illumination

Responsive Reading

Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19

Listen, Shepherd, Israel's Shepherd—get all your Joseph sheep together.

Throw beams of light from your dazzling throne

So Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh can see where they're going.

Get out of bed—you've slept long enough!

Come on the run before it's too late.

Remember how you brought a young vine from Egypt,

cleared out the brambles and briers and planted your very own vineyard?

You prepared the good earth, you planted her roots deep;

the vineyard filled the land.

Your vine soared high and shaded the mountains,

even dwarfing the giant cedars.

Your vine ranged west to the Sea, east to the River.

So why do you no longer protect your vine?

Trespassers pick its grapes at will;

Wild pigs crash through and crush it,

and the mice nibble away at what's left.

God-of-the-Angel-Armies, turn our way!

Take a good look at what's happened and attend to this vine.

**Care for what you once tenderly planted—
the vine you raised from a shoot.**

And those who dared to set it on fire—give them a look that will kill!

**Then take the hand of your once-favorite child,
the child you raised to adulthood.**

We will never turn our back on you;

breathe life into our lungs so we can shout your name!

God, God-of-the-Angel-Armies, come back!

Smile your blessing smile: *That* will be our salvation.

Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 5:1-7

¹ Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard:

My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ² He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.

³ And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?

⁵ And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶ I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

⁷ For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

Sermon:

The Rev. Leslie Latham

RESPONDING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

***Affirmation of Faith:** *Hebrews 12:1-2*

Unison

¹Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ²looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

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:

Mindful of the abundance we have received in Christ, we offer ourselves and our gifts to the world.

Offertory: "He is Exalted"

Twila Paris

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

#592

***Prayer of Dedication:**

Unison

We trust, O God, in your provision and loving kindness. Use these gifts and our lives that we might bear your fruit with praise and thanksgiving. We ask this in the confidence of your mercy and love. Amen.

ABIDING IN GOD'S PRESENCE IN THE WORLD

***Hymn of Sending:** "Guide My Feet"

#354

***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. Betsy Crocker – Upcoming surgery at the end of the month
- 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 Bringhurst, Marlene Tyrrell, Deal Kowsky, and Bonnie Zimmer.

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: Janet Haacker

GREETER: Andrea, Ryan & Renée Tasevski

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.

Summer Concert and Ice Cream Social - Marla Maertin Memorial Concert: This concert will take place TODAY at 2pm in the Gazebo at Clinton Park. Music will be provided by Zach Carr and Sue Rozler. Bring your lawn chairs or blanket and listen to an afternoon of wonderful music as we remember Marla.

Memory Lane Respite Program: Tuesday, August 20

The Memory Lane Respite Program will be held on August 20 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 on August 20th and see what the program is all about or contact Mike Donovan.

Service of Healing and Blessing: Wednesday, August 21: 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 for lives, Presbyterian or otherwise. Please join us in the sanctuary.

Bible Study Class: The Bible Study class will resume on **Thursday, August 29 at 6pm**. Any questions, contact Nancy Bassett.

“Early Autumn Sale and Luncheon: Wednesday, September 4

Circle II Women’s Group will hold their “Early Autumn Sale” and Luncheon on Wednesday, September 4 from 10am-1pm. Lunch will be served from 11am-12:30pm featuring Chicken Salad Plate, fresh baked pie, and a beverage for a cost of \$6.00. Come and shop the Mini-Boutique, Thrift Shop, and Plant Place and then relax and have a delicious lunch. Proceeds to benefit local charities. Take-out is available for \$6.50.

Rally Day: Sunday, September 8 at 9:30am in the Parlor

There’s only a few weeks left of summer and school will be starting shortly. We hope you are ready to come back to Sunday School. There are a lot of fun activities planned for this year. Come and check it out!

Music for Meals-Marla Maertin Tribute Concert: Sunday, September 8 at 5pm

Both the choir and Hearts4Worship will be playing music for this concert. This should be a wonderful event and we’re excited to share our music. Stay tuned for more details.

Church Women United Annual Meeting & Luncheon: Mark your calendars for Friday, September 13 at 12 noon at our church in Fellowship Hall. More details will follow. See Donna Blinston for questions.

Clerk On The Go Outreach: Sunday, September 22 at 12pm

Our church is hosting this event right after worship on September 22. Staff from the Erie County Clerk’s office will be here to present information about Enhanced Driver’s Licenses, Real ID Program, passport applications, etc. This event is free and open to the public, so tell your family and friends. Flyer is posted in the Narthex.

August 2019						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
18 Worship 10a - Outdoors Hunger Sunday Concert in the Park – Marla Maertin Memorial Concert 2p	19 AA 9a TOPS 6:30p CE Mtg 6p Session 7p	20 Memory Lane 10:30a-2:30p	21 Circle II 9a Healing Service 6:30p	22 AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness 6:30p H4W 6:30p	23 UFO 7p	24

August 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25 Worship 10a	26 AA 9a TOPS 6:30p	27	28 Circle II 9a	29 AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness 6:30p Bible Study 6p H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p	30 UFO 7p	31

September 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Worship 10a	2 Office Closed AA 9a TOPS 6:30p	3 Deacons 1p	4 “Early Autumn Sale” 10:00a-1:30p NYS Sexual Harassment Training 10a Kenmore United Methodist Church	5 AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness 6:30p H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p	6 UFO 7p	7
8 Rally Day Sunday School 9:30a Worship 11a Music for Meals 5p	9 AA 9a TOPS 6:30p	10	11 Circle II 9a	12 AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness 6:30p H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p	13 Church Women United Annual Meeting 12p Fellowship Hall UFO 7p	14
15 Sunday School 9:30a Worship 11a	16 AA 9a TOPS 6:30p CE Mtg 6p Session 7p	17 Memory Lane 10:30am-2:30pm	18 Circle II 9a Healing Service 6:30p	19 AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness 6:30p H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p	20 UFO 7p	21
22 Sunday School 9:30a Worship 11a Clerk On The Go 12p	23 AA 9a TOPS 6:30p	24	25 Circle II 9a	26 AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness 6:30p Bible Study 6p H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p	27 UFO 7p	28