



First Presbyterian Church

**149 Broad Street
Tonawanda, New York 14150 ~ 2111**

Church: (716) 692-1319

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[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:

Judy Winters

Finance Secretary: Nancy Burns

Sexton: Michael Donovan

Office Director of Christian

Education: Shirley Hagle

Youth Director: William Welch IV

Come, Worship the Lord, Our God

January 28, 2018

11:00am

Fourth Sunday After Epiphany DRAWN INTO GOD'S PRESENCE

Welcome and Greeting

(Please complete Prayer Concerns)

Gathering Prayer:

Almighty God, Light from Light, who commands the universe and all that is made, your Word is the power that makes whole what is broken, the force of good, and the food of peace. Teach us now as you taught in the synagogue. Heal us now so that in all that we say and do, the freedom we have in you may be for others, too; in Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

Prelude: "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

(Handel/Hughes)

Call to Worship:

God calls the simple, the weak and the powerless.

God's weakness is stronger than our strength; God's foolishness is wiser than our wisdom.

God calls the hopeless, the lonely and the lost.

God's tenderness chooses us in spite of our needs. God's righteousness saves us in spite of our fears.

God calls each of us to the grace of the cross.

God is the source of our life! Alleluia!

***Opening Song of Praise:** "God, You Spin the Whirling Planets"

#285

(Prayer Concerns Collected)

AWARE OF GOD'S PRESENCE

*Call to Confession:

The One who pardons, heals, and strengthens all who repent calls us to name our failings and our hopes. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

***Prayer of Confession:**

Unison

God of love and justice, we long for peace within and peace without. We long for harmony in our families, for serenity in the midst of struggle. We long for the day when our homes will be a dwelling place for your love. Yet we confess that we are often anxious; we do not trust each other; and we harbor violence. We are not willing to take the risks and make the sacrifices that love requires. Look upon us with kindness and grace. Rule in our homes and in all the world, and show us how to walk in your paths, through the mercy of our Savior. Amen.

**Time of Silent Prayer*

***Declaration of Forgiveness:**

The God who made you and knows our every thought hears us now and forgives us all our sin. We have been redeemed through Jesus Christ, God's Son, our Savior, who is Alpha and Omega, all in all.

***Gloria Patri:** "Glory Be To The Father"

#579

***Our Faithful Response:** "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind"

#345

Time with Young Disciples

Anthem: "Jesus Loves Me"

(Tomlin)

(Stephan Palermo, soloist)

LISTENING IN GOD'S PRESENCE**Prayer for Illumination****Scripture Lessons:**

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

¹Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ²Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; ³but anyone who loves God is known by him. ⁴Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." ⁵Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—

6 yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

7 It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. 8 "Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. 9 But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. 10 For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? 11 So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. 12 But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. 13 Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

Mark 1:21-28

21 They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. 22 They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. 23 Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, 24 and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." 25 But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" 26 And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. 27 They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." 28 At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Sermon: "Wild"

The Rev. Leslie Latham

RESPONDING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

***Affirmation of Faith Apostles' Creed**

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:** "Though I May Speak"

#335

Pastoral Prayer and 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

Do not let idols grow and multiply in your hands, but give of yourselves, your time, and your possessions out of love for this creation, and honor toward what you have been given.

Offertory: "My Jesus, I Love Thee"

(Liszt/Gordon)

***Doxology**

#592

***Prayer of Dedication:**

Unison

For Earth, which you have molded, for creatures and animals, plants, water, air, and fire, for Jesus who died and rose again, for the breath of life, we give you thanks, O God. Let these gifts be used for good wherever there is need, in the name of all that you have first given us, especially Christ Jesus, your Son, our Savior. Amen.

ABIDING IN GOD'S PRESENCE IN THE WORLD

***Hymn of Sending:** "Live Into Hope"

#332

***Benediction**

***Postlude:** "Come, Ye Sinners Poor and Needy"

(Schubert/Nix)

* 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: Alvin Marohn; Jessica Haacker; Gerry Tyrrell; Father Michael Ubeler; Scott Greenawalt; Sid Tyrrell; Irving & Alice Hils; Holly Mazurek; Marge Klinger; Betty Kolnacki; Ruth Gebera; Aron; Wilma Bender; Wally Frech; Rosemary Taber; Jack Greenawalt; Willie Day; Mike Crowell; Larry Rayner; Jackie Rexford; Gail Schurr; Michael Grant; Paul Rayner; Anthony Dragone; Adehlia Kowsky; Peggy Hess; Russ McClure; Mike Klinger; Bob Erisman

Prayers and caring for our homebound: Lillian Manning; Marge Klinger; Georgia Anson; Fay Tag; 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 Judy in the church office @ 692-1319

LITURGIST: Diane Charsley**GREETERS:** Cheryl, Kate, Ryan & Timmy Yurek and Marla Maertin

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.

Presbyterian Women of WNY Winter Gathering: Saturday, February 3 at 10:30am at North Presbyterian Church, 300 N. Forest Road, Williamsville. The topic is "Building Community Through Spiritual Practices." The cost for lunch is \$7.00. For more details, see the bulletin board in the Narthex or talk to Jane Crossan or Laura Marohn.

Presbyterian Women's Board Meeting: Friday, Feb 9 at 6:30pm in the parlor.

Ash Wednesday Potluck Dinner and Worship Service – Wednesday, February 14 in the parlor. The Potluck Dinner will begin at 6pm followed by a Worship Service at 7:15pm.

Ashes to Go: Can't get to church on Ash Wednesday? Come to Billygans Café at 38 Niagara Street in Tonawanda on February 14 from 11:30-1. Ashes will be offered by your friends at First Pres Church.

Soup and Study Night: Wednesday, February 21, there will be a Soup and Study time in the parlor beginning at 6:00pm. Sign-up to bring a soup or bread to share and plan to come for fellowship and Lenten study. These sessions will be held during the Wednesdays in Lent – February 21, February 28, March 7, March 14, and March 21. Sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Service of Blessing and Healing: Wednesday, February 21 @ 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.

Youth Mission Trip: The Youth Group will be participating in a Mission Trip to New York City from February 17-February 20. They will be volunteering at Jan Hus Presbyterian Church which runs a Homeless Outreach and Advocacy Program. For more details, see Billy Welch.

Church Women United World Day of Prayer Celebration: Join us right here at First Pres on March 2 at 1:00pm. The topic is "All God's Creation is Very Good!" A program caring for population of the country of Suriname in South America. See Donna Blinston for questions.

Annual Congregational Meeting: Sunday, March 4, right after worship. Please mark your calendars.

Church Directory: Time to update our Church Directory. Do we have your correct address, phone number, or email address? Please take a moment to update your information and pass it along to the Church office. The update forms can be found in the Narthex.

Lost and Found: There's still a pair of glasses and a cross pin that were found in the pews after the Christmas Eve worship service. They can be picked up in the Church Office.

January 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed			
28 Sunday School 9:30a Worship 11a	29 AA 9a Girl Scouts 6p TOPS 6:30p	30	31			

February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 AA 9a Yoga 6:30p H4W Rehearsal 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7:30p	2 UFO 7P	3
4 H4W Warm-up 9a Sunday School 9:30a Worship 11a Ladies' Choir Rehearsal 12:15p	5 AA 9a Girl Scouts 6p TOPS 6:30p	6 Deacons 1p Adult Bible Study 7p	7 Circle II 9a	8 AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Worship Mtg 3p Choir Rehearsal 7:30p	9 PW Board Mtg 6:30p UFO 7P	10
11 Sunday School 9:30a Choir Warm-up 10:30a Worship/Communion 11a Ladies' Choir Rehearsal 12:15p	12 AA 9a Girl Scouts 6p TOPS 6:30p CE Mtg Session 7p	13 Adult Bible Study 7p	14 ASH WEDNESDAY Circle II 9a Potluck Dinner 6p Soloist Warm-up 7p Ash Wednesday Worship Service 7:15pm	15 AA 9a Yoga 6:30p H4W Rehearsal 6:30p Choir Rehearsal (Cake) 7:30p	16 UFO 7P	17 Youth Group Mission Trip to NYC
18 Lenten/Communion Worship 8:30a H4W Warm-up 9a Sunday School 9:30a Worship 11a Ladies' Choir Rehearsal 12:15p	19 AA 9a Girl Scouts 6p TOPS 6:30p	20 Adult Bible Study 7p	21 Circle II 9a Soup & Study 6p Healing Service 6:30p	22 AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Choir Rehearsal 7:30p	23 UFO 7P	24
25 Lenten/Communion Worship 8:30a Sunday School 9:30a Ladies' Choir Warm-up 10:30a Worship 11a	26 AA 9a Girl Scouts 6p TOPS 6:30p	27 Adult Bible Study 7p	28 Circle II 9a Soup & Study 6p			