



First Presbyterian Church

149 Broad Street

Tonawanda, New York 14150 ~ 2111

Church: (716) 692-1319

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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

September 15, 2019

11:00am

14th Sunday After Pentecost

DRAWN INTO GOD'S PRESENCE

Welcome and Greeting

(Please complete Prayer Concerns)

Gathering Prayer:

Merciful Lord, in Christ we see the lengths and depths to which you go to save us. Make us glad in our salvation, so that we may share this good news with friends and neighbors and with all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prelude:

Call to Worship:

Be rich in faith, says the God who gives us life.

We trust in God, who is faithful to us.

Be strong in spirit, says the God who carries us through life.

We trust in God, who surrounds us with love.

Be generous to one another, says the God of abundant grace.

We trust in God, who is the giver of every gift.

Be steadfast in your lives, says the God of wisdom.

We trust in God, who endures forever.

***Opening Song of Praise:** "Immortal, Invisible"

#12

(Prayer Concerns Collected)

AWARE OF GOD'S PRESENCE

***Call to Confession**

The proof of God's amazing love is this: that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Trusting in God's faithfulness and compassion, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

***Prayer of Confession**

Unison

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

***Time of Silent Confession**

***Declaration of Forgiveness**

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

May the God of mercy, who forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

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:** "To God Be the Glory"

#634

Time with Young Disciples:

Anthem:

LISTENING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lessons:

1 Timothy 1:12-17

¹²I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, ¹³even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Luke 15:1-10

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³So he told them this parable: ⁴"Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' ⁷Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸"Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' ¹⁰Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Sermon: "The Faithful Response: Grumble or Rejoice?" **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:** "A Woman and a Coin"

#173

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:

Friends, let us love not only in our words but also in our deeds through the tithes and offerings that we give today.

Offertory:

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

#606

***Prayer of Dedication:**

Unison

Holy One, receive these offerings as you receive our lives. Gather our false starts and uncertain efforts, our generosity and our reluctance. Enliven us with your breath, and make your purposes known that our lives might show forth your glory. For we pray in the name of Jesus and by the power of your Spirit. Amen.

ABIDING IN GOD'S PRESENCE IN THE WORLD

***Hymn of Sending:** "Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us"

#187

***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: Denis Luzuriaga, Michael, Maras Family, and Katie.

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; and Jackie.

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: Tom Dugan

GREETER: Jane Crossan

USHERS: 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.

Service of Healing and Blessing: Wednesday, September 18 at 6:30pm

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 their lives, Presbyterian or otherwise. Please join us in the sanctuary.

Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup: Saturday, September 21 at 8am

Questions and info: Contact Marilee Mathias - 716-694-8259

Rain date: Saturday, September 28

Presbyterian Women Fall Gathering: Saturday, September 21 at 10am

All the women in the church are invited to attend the Fall Gathering at First Presbyterian Church in Springville. The speakers are Sherry Pomeroy, PhD, RN, and Elizabeth A. Ingold from Ingold Law Firm where the topics will include wills, Advance Directives, Health Care Proxy, Health Care Advocate, and Funeral Planning, etc. The cost for lunch is \$7.00. Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Any questions, contact Jane Crossan.

Adult Sunday School: Sunday, September 22 at 9:45am

The regular class will begin on September 22nd. We welcome all "new" adults to our journey in understanding God's Word for us today, and look forward to seeing the regulars.

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

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

Bible Study: Thursday, September 26 at 6pm

The Adult Bible Study will meet the fourth Thursday of the month at 6pm. For questions, contact Nancy Bassett.

Homecoming Sunday Potluck: Sunday, September 29 at 12:15pm

On our fifth Sundays, we like to do something different. On September 29, we'll celebrate Homecoming Sunday, a time to welcome (back) folks who have been part of our community for a long time, a little time, "haven't been here in a while but it's my home" time, "I've been meaning to stop back" time. We'll gather for a potluck dinner. If the weather's amenable, we hope we can worship in the courtyard one more time! So bring your favorite homey dish to share, your place settings, your friends and family, and let's celebrate Homecoming in God's Kingdom. See you there!

"Octoberfest Sale" and Luncheon: Wednesday, October 2

Circle II Women's Group will hold their "Octoberfest Sale" and luncheon from 10am-1pm. Lunch will be served from 11am-12:30pm featuring ham noodle casserole, fresh baked pie, and a beverage for a cost of \$6.00. Come and shop the Mini-Boutique, Thrift Shop, and Plant Place and relax and have a delicious lunch. Proceeds to benefit local charities. Take-out is available for \$6.50.

Sub Sandwich Luncheon: Sunday, October 6 at 12:15pm

Mark your calendars for Sunday, October 6 right after worship. The Deacons are sponsoring a freewill Sub Sandwich luncheon. Bring a can of tomato soup or chicken noodle soup or a box of macaroni and cheese for donation to the Tonawanda Schools Holiday Party. Monetary donations are also welcome. Sign-up is in the Narthex.

September 2019						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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 Adopt-A-Highway 8a PW Fall Gathering 10a 1st Pres Church - Springville
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
29 Sunday School 9:30a Worship/Communion 11a Homecoming Potluck Lunch 12:15p	30 AA 9a TOPS 6:30p	Mark your calendar for: Friday, October 11 at 4pm Latham-Donovan Wedding Reception on Sunday, October 13 right after worship				

October 2019						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Deacons 1p	2 "Octoberfest Sale" 10:00a-1:30p	3 AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness 6:30p Worship Team 6p H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p	4 UFO 7p	5
6 Sunday School 9:30a Worship/Communion 11a Sub Sandwich Lunch 12:15p	7 AA 9a TOPS 6:30p	8	9 Circle II 9a	10 AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness 6:30p H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p	11 Latham-Donovan Wedding 4p UFO 7p	12
13 Sunday School 9:30a Worship 11a Reception for Pastor Leslie & Mike-12:15p	14 Office Closed AA 9a TOPS 6:30p	15 Memory Lane 10:30am-2:30pm	16 Circle II 9a Healing Service 6:30p	17 AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness 6:30p H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p	18 UFO 7p	19
20 Sunday School 9:30a Worship 11a	21 AA 9a TOPS 6:30p	22	23 Circle II 9a	24 AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness 6:30p Bible Study 6p H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p	25 UFO 7p	26
27 Sunday School 9:30a Worship 11a	28 AA 9a TOPS 6:30p CE Mtg 6p Session 7p	29	30 Circle II 9a	31 AA 9a Yoga 6:30p Hardcore 30 Fitness 6:30p H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p		