



First Presbyterian Church

149 Broad Street
Tonawanda, New York 14150 ~ 2111
Church: (716) 692-1319
Rev. Dr. Rebecca Chaffee

Come, Worship the Lord, Our God
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
CCLI License # 2839486

October 16, 2022

10:30 am

PRELUDE *Prelude in C Major*

Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. Sisters and brothers, let us worship God.

GATHERING PRAYER

Eternal God,

You remain constant through all of our striving, and patient with our ceaseless prayers.

We seek your wisdom, yearn for your justice, and crave your blessing, for our own sakes and for the sake of the world. By the power of the Holy Spirit and in the name of Christ, who prays with us. **Amen.**

***HYMN:** *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* **#12**

CALL TO CONFESSION

In spite of our best efforts to live faithfully, we fall short of what God intends for us. Because God has already promised to be merciful, we dare to tell the truth about our lives. In humility and trust, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace,

For our failure to love others as you have loved us, **forgive us.**

For wasting your gifts and hoarding our goods, **forgive us.**

For losing heart and abandoning hope, **forgive us.**

For all the ways we turn from you, **forgive us**

We offer our prayers in the name of the One who saves us, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Time for Silent Confession

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Grace flows like a river;
mercy like a never-ending stream.

Believe the good news:
in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Speak to us, by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and equip us to be messengers of your life-altering,
world-changing, blessing-filled Word.
Through Jesus Christ we pray. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Jeremiah 31:27-34

²⁷The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of humans and the seed of animals. ²⁸And just as I have watched over them to pluck up and break down, to overthrow, destroy, and bring evil, so I will watch over them to build and to plant, says the LORD. ²⁹In those days they shall no longer say:

‘The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge.’

³⁰But all shall die for their own sins; the teeth of everyone who eats sour grapes shall be set on edge.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, ‘Know the LORD’, for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, ¹⁵and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

4 In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ²proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favourable or unfavourable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. ³For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, ⁴and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

SERMON: “Knowing the Lord”

Rev. Dr. Rebecca Chaffee

PASTORAL PRAYER

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.

CALL TO THE OFFERING

God is our rock and our fortress. Let us celebrate our salvation by fearlessly giving a portion of what has already been given to us, either by placing it in the basket in the back of the church, or by mailing it in.

THE OFFERTORY *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Eternal God,

May these gifts be signs of your grace, and may our lives show forth the coming kingdom, that when Christ comes again he will find faith on earth. Amen.

***HYMN:** *A Mighty Fortress is Our God #275*

CHARGE

Hear Paul's encouragement to the church in Philippi as a charge also to us: Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

BENEDICTION

Be of good courage, for the Lord will keep our going out and our coming in from this time on and forevermore.

We would like to thank Rev. Dr. Rebecca Chaffee for sharing her gifts with us today.

Hymns

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” #12

1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, Thy great name we
praise.

2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above, thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and
love.

3 To all life Thou givest, to both great and small; in all life Thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree, then wither and perish, but nought changeth
Thee.

4 Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light. Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.
All praise we would render; O help us to see, 'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

“A Mighty Fortress is Our God” #275

1 A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
his craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

2 Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,
were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same;
and he must win the battle.

3 And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure, for lo! his doom is sure;
one little word shall fell him.

4 That Word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; the body they may kill:
God's truth abideth still; his kingdom is forever!