

Blessings

First Presbyterian Church

149 Broad Street

Tonawanda, New York 14150 ~ 2111

Church: (716) 692-1319

Mr. Leon Weinsheimer

Come, Worship the Lord, Our God

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

CCLI License # 2839486

August 28, 2022

10:00 am

PRELUDE

Blest are They

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

God calls us to service,
rather than honor.

God call us to love the unknown,
rather than the familiar.

We come to this time of worship,
trusting in the grace of Jesus Christ,
who is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

GATHERING PRAYER

Holy God,

You alone are worthy of honor and praise.
Open our eyes to see the world as you see it.
Give us the wisdom to witness your presence
in all people. Transform us in love,
grow us in our faith, call us to love with a full heart
and to share your promises with all people. **Amen.**

HYMN: *What a Friend We Have in Jesus #465

CALL TO CONFESSION

God invites us to mutual love.
But to find that mutuality, we must release
our need for honor,
our desire for privilege.
In humility let us seek forgiveness,
trusting in the promises of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, forgive us for we exalt ourselves
and mock the humble.**

**We choose to believe we are self-sufficient
rather than trust in your strength.**

**Open us to your spirit,
that we might serve all people
without regard to the outcome,
devoting ourselves to your honor alone.**

We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Time for Silent Confession

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

God rejoices when we repent and return,
offering us finest wheat and honey from the rock
to sustain us in new life. Rejoice! For you have been
reconciled to God and to one another.

With joy, seek the honor of God's service. **Amen.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of Wisdom,
open us to the work of your Spirit, that we may hear
and faithfully respond to your holy Word. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

1 Samuel 16: 1-7

¹The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king."

²But Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears about it, he will kill me." The LORD said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' ³Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate." ⁴Samuel did what the LORD said. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked, "Do you come in peace?"

⁵Samuel replied, "Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me." Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. ⁶When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed stands here before the LORD."

⁷But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

Proverbs 3:5-6

⁵Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;

⁶in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Philippians 4:6-9, 13

⁶Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. ⁹Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

¹³I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

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 *Though I May Speak*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of grace,
We give thanks for your faithfulness to us,
we give thanks for your hope in us,
we rejoice in the knowledge of your unending grace.
In the light of your mercy,
and confident in your love,
we dedicate these offerings, and ourselves, to you.
Amen.

*HYMN: *There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit #408*

CHARGE

God graces us with abundance and inspires us to be generous. Now, go into the world, confident in the Lord's provision, seeking those who are the stranger and providing for those who cannot repay you. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

May the God of mystery take you to unexpected places,
may the God of humility teach you to serve without pride,
may the God of wisdom inspire your work in the kingdom;
and the blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier,
be with you now and always.

We would like to thank Mr. Leon Weinsheimer for sharing his gifts with us today.

Hymns

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus” #465

- 1 What a friend we have in Jesus all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit; oh, what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!
- 2 Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged, take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness take it to the Lord in prayer!
- 3 Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a solace there.

“There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit in the Air” #408

1. There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;
There are sweet expressions on each face,
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

Refrain:

Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet heavenly Dove,
Stay right here with us, filling us with Your love.
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived,
When we shall leave this place.

2. There are blessings you cannot receive
Till you know Him in His fullness and believe;
You're the one to profit when you say,
"I am going to walk with Jesus all the way." (Refrain)