



# Faith

## **First Presbyterian Church**

149 Broad Street  
Tonawanda, New York 14150 ~ 2111  
Church: (716) 692-1319  
Mr. Michael Donovan

**Come, Worship the Lord, Our God**  
**17th Sunday after Pentecost**  
CCLI License # 2839486

**October 2, 2022**

**10:30am**

**PRELUDE**    *Hosanna, Praise is Rising*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

In the midst of war and division, we wait for God:

**The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,  
God's mercies never come to an end.**

In the midst of devastation and loss, we wait for God:

**The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,  
God's mercies never come to an end.**

In the midst of change and uncertainty, we wait for God:

**The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,  
God's mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning.  
Great is your faithfulness, O God!**

## **GATHERING PRAYER**

God of our salvation,

We thank you for the gift of faith.

We thank you for all those who have taught us the good news.

Kindle in us always this gift, this good treasure,  
that we may live the life to which you have called us,  
according to your purpose and grace.

We pray in the name of the one who abolished death  
and brought life to light through the gospel,  
our Savior Christ Jesus. Amen.

**HYMN:      *Lift High the Cross* #826**

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

We turn to God in praise and prayer  
not from a position of power and strength,  
but from the broken edges of our lives,  
from the broken edges of the world and the church.  
We offer our prayers of confession,  
trusting in the One who is reconciling all things.

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Merciful God,  
we confess that the world suffers because of our sin.  
We use power against others for our own benefit.  
We misuse the natural resources of the earth  
in carelessness and greed.  
By our habits and apathies,  
others are subjected to desolation, even despair.**

**Forgive us for making enemies and exiles  
of those you call us to love and serve.  
Forgive us for laying waste to the landscape of creation.  
Forgive us for being complicit in causing others to grieve  
and to wander without rest.  
We wait on you, O God.  
We hope in you.  
You alone can restore all things, even us.  
We pray in Christ's name. Amen.**

*Time for Silent Confession*

### **DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

God, in Christ Jesus,  
grants us grace, mercy, and peace.  
Let us hold to the sound teaching of the faith:  
that God has the power to save us  
and has given us grace through all the ages.  
**We receive the treasure of faith entrusted to us,  
with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.  
Thanks be to God!**

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Holy God, through Christ Jesus you bring the light of the gospel  
into our lives as grace revealed. Help us to guard this treasure  
and to share it with others, too, so that the faith that has lived in  
our ancestors and now lives in us may come to life in every new  
generation. We pray with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us. **Amen.**

### **SCRIPTURE LESSONS:**

#### **Psalms 37:1-9**

<sup>1</sup> Do not fret because of those who are evil or be envious of those who do wrong;

<sup>2</sup> for like the grass they will soon wither, like green plants they will soon die away.

<sup>3</sup> Trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.

<sup>4</sup> Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

<sup>5</sup> Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this: <sup>6</sup> He will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn, your vindication like the noonday sun. <sup>7</sup> Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; do not fret when people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.

<sup>8</sup> Refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret—it leads only to evil. <sup>9</sup> For those who are evil will be destroyed, but those who hope in the LORD will inherit the land.

## **Luke 17:5-10**

<sup>5</sup>The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" <sup>6</sup>He replied, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you.

<sup>7</sup>"Suppose one of you has a servant plowing or looking after the sheep. Will he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, 'Come along now and sit down to eat'? <sup>8</sup>Won't he rather say, 'Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink'?"

<sup>9</sup>Will he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do? <sup>10</sup>So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.'"

**SERMON:**

**Mr. Michael Donovan**

**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**    *Change My Heart, O God*

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Gracious God, you are good news for a weary world.  
You are hope for people in despair, and you are home to exiles.  
Accept, we pray, the offerings we bring this day.  
Use them according to your own purpose and grace.  
In Christ's name we ask it. Amen.**

**HYMN:**        *O God Who Gives Us Life #53*

**CHARGE**

Fulfill your holy calling  
by serving God and serving neighbor  
without thought of reward.  
And hope always in God,  
through whom all things are possible.

**BENEDICTION: 2 Corinthians 13:13**

<sup>13</sup> May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**We would like to thank Mr. Michael Donovan for sharing his gifts with us today.**

**HYMNS**

**“Lift High the Cross” #826**

**Refrain**

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.

1. Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod, the Lamb victorious, Christ, the Son of God.

**(Refrain)**

2. All newborn servants of the Crucified bear on their brow the seal of Christ who died. **(Refrain)**

3. O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree, your death has brought us life eternally. **(Refrain)**

4. So shall our song of triumph ever be: praise to the Crucified for victory. **(Refrain)**

**“O God Who Gives Us Life” #53**

1. O God, who gives us life and breath, who shapes us in the womb,  
Who guards our lives from birth to death, then leads us from the tomb;  
Deliver us from fears that kill the life we have from you.  
Help us to know your Spirit still is making all things new.

2. O God, who calls your people out to venture and to dare,  
To plumb the bleak abyss of doubt and find you even there:  
When we despair in wandering through wastes of empty lies,  
Refresh us with the living spring of hope that never dies.

3. O God of covenant and law, revealed in cloud and flame,  
Your mighty deeds evoke our awe; we dare not speak your name.  
Yet we by faith are drawn to you and will your people prove,  
As on our hearts you write anew the covenant of love.