



Diane Charsley captured this image of sunlight on the cross during our Gratitude Walk on 8/29

First Presbyterian Church

149 Broad Street

Tonawanda, New York 14150 ~ 2111

Church: (716) 692-1319

Rev. Leslie Latham

Come, Worship the Lord, Our God

15th Sunday after Pentecost

CCLI License # 2839486

Words to hymns are on the back of the bulletin

September 5, 2021

10:00am

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "Jesus Calls Us"

CALL TO WORSHIP

What does this worship service need?

**Quiet where faith can grow, songs that nurture hope,
scripture that remembers love, honest words to untangle a knotty existence,
and gifts offering service of the heart.**

Who shall come to this worship service?

**All who have prayer at the center of their lives,
and who are lonely for the touch of God.**

What then shall we do?

Let us worship our God!

GATHERING PRAYER

Good and generous God, you have blessed us with favor and counted us as your people through our glorious Lord Jesus Christ. Freed by your grace, let us extend your generosity to others, sharing our bread with the poor, pleading the cause of the afflicted, and receiving all who assemble in your name with the warmth of your love and the richness of your hospitality; in the good name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

HYMN: #331 “God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand”

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins to the Lord who surrounds us with favor forevermore.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Christ Jesus, our teacher and friend, we have not listened for your word amid the clamor of words all around us. We are happier to repeat familiar tunes than to listen for new melodies and strange harmonies. We try harder to defend what we think we know, rather than reach for that which is beyond our grasp. Slow to trust, afraid of the unknown, we are cautious to hear and do your will. Give us ears to hear the cries of our neighbors, and for hearts to do your will. Teach us until we learn afresh to sing the songs of faith, hope and love. Amen.

Time for Silent Confession

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

The mercy of our God triumphs over judgment through our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, who has pleaded our cause, forgiven our sin, healed our sickness, and delivered us from evil.

PASSING OF THE PEACE #448 “Peace of God Be with You”

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

James 2:1-17, Mark 7:24-37

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 "Spirit of Gentleness"

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Generous God, thank you for these gifts we bring from your abundance. Bless gifts and givers to show your love to all those in need through our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, healer of the sick, advocate of the afflicted, provider for the poor. Amen.

HYMN: #757 "Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples"

CHARGE

Favored by the excellent name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, share your bread with the poor, advocate for the afflicted, show your faith in acts of kindness, love your neighbor as yourself.

BENEDICTION

Hymns

“God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand” - 331

1. God of the ages, whose almighty hand leads forth in beauty all the starry band of shining worlds in splendor through the skies, our grateful songs before thy throne arise.
2. Thy love divine hath led us in the past. In this free land with thee our lot is cast. Be thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay, thy Word our law, thy paths our chosen way.
3. From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence, be thy strong arm our ever sure defense. Thy true religion in our hearts increase. Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.
4. Refresh thy people on their toilsome way. Lead us from night to never-ending day. Fill all our lives with love and grace divine, and glory, laud, and praise be ever thine.

“Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples” - 757

1. Today we are all called to be disciples of the Lord,
to help to set the captives free, make plow-share out of sword,
to feed the hungry, quench their thirst, make love and peace our fast,
to serve the poor and homeless first, our ease and comfort last.
2. God made the world and at its birth ordained our human race
to live as stewards of the earth, responding to God's grace.
But we are vain and sadly proud; we sow not peace but strife.
Our discord spreads a deadly cloud that threatens all of life.
3. Pray justice may come rolling down as in a mighty stream,
with righteousness in field and town to cleanse us and redeem.
For God is longing to restore an earth where conflicts cease,
a world that was created for a harmony of peace.
4. May we in service to our God act out the living word,
and walk the road the saints have trod till all have seen and heard.
As stewards of the earth may we give thanks in one accord
to God who calls us all to be disciples of the Lord.