



First Presbyterian Church

**149 Broad Street
Tonawanda, New York 14150 ~ 2111
Church: (716) 692-1319**

Rev. Leslie Latham

CCLI License # 2839486 *Words to hymns are on the insert*

First Sunday of Lent: FAST

March 6, 2022

10:30am

We Celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Draw near to God

and God (*raise both arms to the sky*)

will draw near to us. (*bring hands toward heart, crossing them over your heart*)

When we fast, we free up space to ponder God's goodness.

Let us (*extend arms forward, palms facing upward*)

keep company (*bend elbows and bring together hands in prayer*)

with Jesus. (*sign "Jesus" using right middle finger touching the middle of left palm, repeat with left middle finger touching the middle of right palm*)

GATHERING PRAYER

Gracious God, may we find ourselves craving for more of you rather than the cravings for food we so readily fill. Redirect our hunger so that we may yearn for righteousness and thirst for time spent with you. May our fast lead us to hold fast to you. Amen.

HYMN: O Lord, The Spirit Led You

Tune: LLANGLOFFAN ("Lead On, O King Eternal" #362)

O Lord, the Spirit led you into the wilderness;
For forty days the devil would put you to the test.
You fasted! You were famished! And soon the devil said,
"If you're God's Son, then show it: just turn this stone to bread."

Yet, Christ, your way was steady — as solid as that stone;
You trusted in God's promise, and not in bread alone.
Nor would you bow to earn you a kingdom made of sod,
For everyone must offer allegiance unto God.

High on the temple tower, you heard the tempter say:
If you think God has power, then simply step this way!
But you rebuked the devil, said, "No!", and turned around;
When others fell for evil, you stood on solid ground.

You were, in most ways, like us, and yet you did not sin.
We're grateful you walk with us as Lenten days begin.
May we, in each decision, be faithful, strong and sure.
May we, too, have a vision of things that will endure.

Text: Copyright © 2019 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved.

CALL TO CONFESSION

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. In humility and faith, let us confess our sin to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, whose ways are good and true, we confess that we have not lived as Christ has called us to live. We have shut our eyes to evils our world allows. We have sealed our ears from the cries of the suffering whose pain we abide. We have clung to the hostility we harbor against one another and hardened our hearts to the creative power of love.

Therefore, we pray: Open our eyes to see injustice in our world. Give us courage to resist the powers that oppress the poor. Open our ears to hear the cry of the needy. Teach us generosity for sharing the abundance of your creation. Open our minds to imagine an end to human strife. Grant us wisdom to pursue the ways of peace. Open our hearts to love our neighbors and our enemies near and far. Give us desire to embody the compassion of Christ. For the sake of the world, in the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

Time for Silent Confession

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news! The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good.

Hear the good news: in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

CONGREGATION'S RESPONSE: *Kyrie Eleison* #579

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

Matthew 4:1-4

SERMON:

Rev. Leslie Latham

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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.

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.

OFFERING

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Receive, O God, the fruits of our labor and with these gifts accept the offering of our lives. Unite us with Christ that we may share in his ministry and glorify you. Amen.

SONG BEFORE COMMUNION #525 *Let Us Break Bread Together*

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

... Therefore we praise you, joining the song of the universal church and the heavenly choir:

Holy, holy, holy...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord, you have put gladness in our hearts; you have satisfied our hunger with good things. In giving all, you have not withheld from us your own dear Son.

How can we withhold anything from you, our Lord and our God? Renew us day by day with the gift of your Spirit, that we may give ourselves completely to your service and walk with joy in the footsteps of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

HYMN: #43 *You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord (On Eagle's Wings)*

CHARGE

BENEDICTION

Scripture Lessons

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

¹You who live in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
²will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress;
my God, in whom I trust."

⁹Because you have made the LORD your refuge,
the Most High your dwelling place,

¹⁰no evil shall befall you,
no scourge come near your tent.

¹¹For he will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways.

¹²On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.

¹³You will tread on the lion and the adder,
the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot.

¹⁴Those who love me, I will deliver;
I will protect those who know my name.

¹⁵When they call to me, I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble,
I will rescue them and honor them.

¹⁶With long life I will satisfy them,
and show them my salvation.

Matthew 4:1-4

¹Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

²He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished.

³The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread."

⁴But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

HYMNS

Let Us Break Bread Together #525

1 Let us break bread together on our knees.

Let us break bread together on our knees.

Refrain:

When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,

O Lord have mercy on me.

2 Let us drink wine together on our knees.

Let us drink wine together on our knees. **[Refrain]**

3 Let us praise God together on our knees.

Let us praise God together on our knees. **[Refrain]**

You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord (On Eagle's Wings) #43

1 You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in His shadow for life,

Say to the Lord, "My Refuge, My Rock in Whom I trust."

Refrain

And He will raise you up on eagle's wings, Bear you on the breath of dawn,

Make you to shine like the sun, And hold you in the palm of His Hand.

2 The snare of the fowler will never capture you, and famine will bring you no fear;

Under His Wings your refuge, His faithfulness your shield. **[Refrain]**

3 You need not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day,

Though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come. **[Refrain]**

4 For to his angels he's given a command to guard you in all of your ways'

Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone. **[Refrain]**