



First Presbyterian Church

**149 Broad Street
Tonawanda, New York 14150 ~ 2111
Church: (716) 692-1319
Rev. Justin L. Marple**

**Come, Worship the Lord, Our God
Second Sunday of Easter**

CCLI License # 2839486 *Words to hymns are on the back of the bulletin*

April 24, 2022

10:30 am

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David. A Song. (Psalm 65:1-8a)

Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion, **and to you shall vows be performed.**

² O you who hear prayer, **to you shall all flesh come.**

³ When iniquities prevail against me, **you atone for our transgressions.**

⁴ Blessed is the one you choose and bring near, **to dwell in your courts!** We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, **the holiness of your temple!**

⁵ By awesome deeds you answer us with righteousness, O God of our salvation, **the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas;**

⁶ the one who by his strength established the mountains, **being girded with might;**

⁷ who stills the roaring of the seas, **the roaring of their waves,** the tumult of the peoples,

⁸ **so that those who dwell at the ends of the earth are in awe at your signs. (ESV)**

GATHERING PRAYER

Almighty Father, from whom comes every good and perfect gift, and who pours out upon all who desire it the gift of grace and prayer, deliver us, when we draw near to You, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind, that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may worship You in Spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***HYMN:** #12 *Immortal, Invisible*

CALL TO CONFESSION

 Matthew 18:3, 10; Luke 15:10

Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you be turned around and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven." He warned us, "See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven." But He also said, "There is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents." So let's confess our sin to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Most holy and merciful Father; We acknowledge and confess before You; Our sinful nature prone to evil and slothful in good; And all our shortcomings and offenses. You alone know how often we have sinned; In wandering from Your ways; In wasting Your gifts; In forgetting Your love. But You, O Lord, have mercy upon us; Who are ashamed and sorry for all wherein we have displeased You. Teach us to hate our errors; Cleanse us from our secret faults; And forgive our sins; For the sake of Your dear Son. And O most holy and loving Father; Help us, we ask You; To live in Your light and walk in Your ways; According to the commandments of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Time for Silent Confession

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS 1 Tim 1:15, 17

The saying is trustworthy and deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the **world** to save sinners. **To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Genesis 28:10-22

John 1:35-51

SERMON

“Jacob’s Ladder is Jesus”

The Rev. Justin L. Marple

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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Blessed are You, God of all creation; through Your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for Your glory and for the service of Your kingdom. **Blessed be God forever. Amen.**

***HYMN:** #370 This Is My Father’s World

CHARGE cf. Genesis 28:17, 20-21

How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven. The Lord will be with you and will keep you, He will give you bread to eat and clothing to wear, so that you will come again to your Father’s house in peace. **The Lord is my God. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

Hymns

Immortal, Invisible #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 as 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!

This Is My Father's World #370

1 This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears
All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas--His hand the wonders wrought.

2 This is my Father's world: O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet.
This is my Father's world. The battle is not done:
Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and earth and heaven be one.

Scripture Lessons

Genesis 28:10-22

¹⁰Jacob left Beersheba and went toward Haran. ¹¹ And he came to a certain place and stayed there that night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place to sleep. ¹² And he dreamed, and behold, there was a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven. And behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it! ¹³ And behold, the LORD stood above it and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring. ¹⁴ Your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed. ¹⁵ Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land. For I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." ¹⁶ Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know it." ¹⁷ And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven." ¹⁸ So early in the morning Jacob took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. ¹⁹ He called the name of that place Bethel [Hebrew meaning "house of God"], but the name of the city was Luz at the first. ²⁰ Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear, ²¹ so that I come again to my father's house in peace, then the LORD shall be my God, ²² and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God's house. And of all that you give me I will give a full tenth to you."

John 1:35-51

³⁵The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶ and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" ³⁷ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸ Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, "What are you seeking?" And they said to him, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?" ³⁹ He said to them, "Come and you will see." So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. ⁴⁰ One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹ He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ). ⁴² He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon the son of John. You shall be called Cephas" (which means Peter). ⁴³ The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴ Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵ Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." ⁴⁶ Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷ Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸ Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." ⁴⁹ Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰ Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹ And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."