



First Presbyterian Church

149 Broad Street

Tonawanda, New York 14150 ~ 2111

Church: (716) 692-1319

Rev. Leslie Latham

Come, Worship the Lord, Our God

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

CCLI License # 2839486

Words to hymns are on the back of the bulletin

JULY 18, 2021

10:00am

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

(#288)

CALL TO WORSHIP

God embraces us with mercy and love, calling us to life and faith.

We are new people in God's love.

God invites us out of sin and darkness, and into the light.

We are new people in God's love.

God tears down the old divisions between us and joins us in faith.

We are new people in God's love.

God is our peace—we have nothing to fear.

We are new people in God's love.

God welcomes our trust and blesses us with grace.

We are new people in God's love! Amen!

GATHERING PRAYER

O Trinity, fill our weakness with your strength; bind up our brokenness with your unity; calm our fears and our dread of dying with your peace. Let us be about the tasks of your love. Use us to build a holy place where healing and caring and joy blend in the tones of worship to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

HYMN: #35 *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

CALL TO CONFESSION

It is only by the power of God that we are able to stand against evil.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gentle God, we bring before you our burdens, our long-standing misgivings about ourselves, and our need for reconciliation when we are isolated from others. You know how we have failed to live up to our own expectations, and walk in your path. Our thoughts, words and deeds have been barriers to your love, and we have not been willing to reach across them. Help us to look honestly at ourselves, experience true repentance, touch your healing, and repair damaged relationships with others. Amen.

Time for Silent Confession

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn?

Only Christ and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

Hallelujah!

PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Ephesians 2:11-22

Luke 19:1-10

SERMON

“Climb That Tree!”

Elder Mark Aquino

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

Generous God, we give you thanks for all your blessings to us. Use these gifts we offer as a sign of your great love for the world, so that all may know and share the abundance of your grace; in your holy name we pray. Amen.

HYMN: #432 *How Clear is our Vocation, Lord*

CHARGE

May the blessing of the Trinity—holy, holy, holy Lord—be with you now and always. **Alleluia!**

BENEDICTION

Hymns

“Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty”

1. Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near, join me in glad adoration!
2. Praise ye the Lord, who o’er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings, yea so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen thy desires e’er have been granted in what he ordaineth?
3. Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen sound from his people again; gladly for aye we adore him.

“How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord”

1. How clear is our vocation, Lord, when once we heed your call.
To live according to your word, and daily learn, refreshed, restored,
That you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.
2. But if, forgetful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;
if worldly pressures fray the mind, and love itself cannot unwind
its tangled skein of care: Our inward life repair.
3. We marvel how your saints become in hindrances more sure:
Whose joyful virtues put to shame the casual way we wear your name,
and by our faults obscure your power to cleanse and cure.
4. In what you give us, Lord, to do, together or alone,
in old routines or ventures new, may we not cease to look to you:
The cross you hung upon, all you endeavored done.