



**First Presbyterian Church**  
**149 Broad Street**  
**Tonawanda, New York 14150 ~ 2111**  
**Church: (716) 692-1319**  
**Rev. Pastor Leslie Latham**

**Come, Worship the Lord, Our God**  
**Fourth Sunday in Lent**

**March 14, 2021**

**10:00am**

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP:**

O give thanks to the Lord, who is good;  
**God's steadfast love endures forever.**

**GATHERING PRAYER**

Every day is a day of thanksgiving, every choice an opportunity for us to sing praise to you, God of all, because all these days, all of these moments, all of these possibilities, come from your love and our love— a blessing forever! Thank you, Creator. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**HYMN:** "There Is a Balm in Gilead"

#792

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

This is the judgment: that the light has come into the world, for people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. Let us uncover our sin before the liberating light of Christ.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Persistent God, we thank you that you come to us in a still, small voice to provide comfort and guidance. Other times you speak to us boldly and clearly through your Word, worship and other Christians. Help us to listen for your voice and to be willing to change our ways to be your faithful servants. Break into our stubborn resistance and self-protective patterns and call us back to you. In the name of Jesus Christ, prophet, priest and king, we pray, Amen.**

**SILENCE****DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

"Jesus, Remember Me"

#227

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**Psalm Reading** Psalm 27:1, 4-9

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

**The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**

One thing I have asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:

**that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,  
to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to seek God in the temple.**

For on the day of trouble the LORD shall shelter in safety,  
will hide me under in the secrecy of the holy place,  
and will set me high upon a rock.

**Even now the LORD lifts up my head above my enemies round about me;  
and I will offer sacrifices in the LORD's tent with shouts of joy;  
I will sing and make music to the LORD.**

Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud, have mercy on me and answer me!

**You speak in my heart and say, "seek my face."**

**Your face, O LORD, will I seek.**

Hide not your face from me, nor turn your servant away in displeasure,  
you have been my helper.

**Cast me not away; do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Almighty God, by the power of the Holy Spirit, open your Word and illumine our darkened world, that we may see clearly and live faithfully by the light of your truth in Jesus Christ.  
Amen.

**SCRIPTURE LESSON:**

Ephesians 2:1-10

**SILENCE**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON:**

John 3:14-21

**SILENCE**

**MEDITATION**

**The Rev. Leslie Latham**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** *ecumenical version*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and 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**

**DOXOLOGY**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Merciful God, we thank you for your wonderful works among humankind. Accept this offering with the dedication of our lives and help us be for the world an emblem of your steadfast love, in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**HYMN:** "In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful"  
#654

**CHARGE**

Church, we have received the immeasurable riches of God's grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. Go forth to share this gift with others.

**BENEDICTION**

May the love of God, the grace of Christ, and the light of the Spirit bless you and keep you in the way of truth.

**Hymns**

**"There Is a Balm in Gilead"**

**Refrain:**

**There is a balm in Gilead  
to make the wounded whole.**

**There is a balm in Gilead  
to heal the sin sick soul.**

1. Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain,  
but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. (Refrain)
2. Don't ever feel discouraged, for Jesus is your friend,  
but if you lack for knowledge, he'll not refuse to lend. (Refrain)
3. If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,  
you can tell the love of Jesus and say, "He died for all. (Refrain)

**"Jesus, Remember Me"**

1. Jesus remember me when you come into your kingdom.  
Jesus remember me when you come into your kingdom.

**"In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful"**

1. In the Lord I'll be ever thankful;  
In the Lord I will rejoice.  
Look to God, do not be afraid.

Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.

5

Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.