



First Presbyterian Church

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Tonawanda, New York 14150 ~ 2111

Church: (716) 692-1319

Rev. Pastor Leslie Latham

CCLI License # 2839486

**Come, Worship the Lord, Our God
Ascension (Seventh Sunday of Easter)
We Celebrate our Christian Education Program**

May 16, 2021

10:00am

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP *(adapted from The Worship Sourcebook 1.4.66)*

God of the past, who has created and nurtured us,
we are here to give you thanks and praise.

God of the future, who is always ahead of us,
we are here to give you thanks and praise.

God of the present, who is here in the midst of us,
we are here to give you thanks and praise.

God of life, who is beyond us and within us,
we are here to rejoice in your glory and love!

GATHERING PRAYER

Living God, loving God,
You are the source of all that is,
and all that is, is holy
when it seeks itself in You.

You are the bond that unites us all
and erases all division.

May we be one as

You are one in us

and we in you. Amen.

~Miriam Therese Winter

HYMN: #260 *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus*

CALL TO CONFESSION *Ps. 139:23-24*

The Psalmist cries out: "Search me out, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my restless thoughts. Look well whether there be any wickedness in me and lead me in the way that is everlasting."

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, lover of humankind, you have asked us to proclaim your name to all people. We confess that we have held back from doing that, shy and self-conscious. Forgive us, we pray, and empower us in Jesus' name. Amen.

Time for Silent Confession

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

The promise of our faith is that we are already forgiven and, in Christ's name, given the power to rise up and subdue all that separates us from God and each other. Receive the Holy Spirit and be empowered to be witnesses of God's resurrection power in Jesus Christ. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Illuminating God, creator of light, shine in us and dispel all darkness. Illuminating God, creator of light, shine through us and draw others to your light. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Luke 24:44-53

Acts 1:1-14

SERMON

The Rev. Leslie Latham

THANKSGIVING FOR OUR EDUCATION PROGRAM & 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

Holy One, we clap our hands and shout for joy! We give you praise and these offerings, for, with Christ ascended by your side, you are God, awesome and Most High! Amen.

HYMN: #263 *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

CHARGE

"God authorized and commanded me to commission you: Go out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in this way of life, marking them by baptism in the threefold name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Then instruct them in the practice of all I have commanded you. I'll be with you as you do this, day after day after day, right up to the end of the age."

(Matt. 28:18-20, The Message)

BENEDICTION

(Words to hymns on back page)

Hymns

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

1 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus! His the scepter, His the throne.

Alleluia! His the triumph, his the victory alone.

Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood:

"Jesus out of every nation has redeemed us by His blood."

2 Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now;

Alleluia! He is near us; faith believes, nor questions how.

Though the cloud from sight received Him when the forty days were o'er,

Shall our hearts forget His promise: "I am with you evermore?"

3 Alleluia! Bread of angels, here on earth our food, our stay!

Alleluia! Here the sinful flee to you from day to day.

Intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's redeemer, hear our plea.

Where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.

4 Alleluia! King eternal, Lord omnipotent we own;

Alleluia! Born of Mary, earth your footstool, heaven your throne.

As within the veil you entered, robed in flesh, our great high priest;

Here on earth both priest and victim in the eucharistic feast.

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

1 All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall.

Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.

Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!

2 Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall,

hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.

Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!

3 Let every kindred, every tribe on this terrestrial ball

To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all.

To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!

4 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!

We'll join the everlasting song and crown him Lord of all.

We'll join the everlasting song and crown him Lord of all.