



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
Third Sunday after Pentecost**

CCLI License # 2839486

Words to hymns are on the back of the bulletin

JUNE 13, 2021

10:00am

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

The children of God portray the wonder and beauty of your Spirit.

They are like springs of water in a parched world.

They flourish even amid the distortions.

Their lives are rich and productive in a barren and desolate society.

Help us, those of us who love you, O God,

to prove to our disjointed world that you are in our midst.

GATHERING PRAYER

I find you, Lord, in all Things and in all my fellow creatures, pulsing with your life;

as a tiny seed you sleep in what is small and in the vast you vastly yield yourself.

The wondrous game that power plays with Things

is to move in such submission through the world:

groping in roots and growing thick in trunks and in treetops like a rising from the dead.

-Rainer Maria Rilke, trans. Stephen Mitchell

HYMN: #321 *The Church's One Foundation*

CALL TO CONFESSION

When we gather to worship God, we remember that we are God's people, but we have often preferred our way instead of God's. Trusting God's power to make us new persons in Christ, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, the parable of the mustard seed teaches us that a little faith can produce great work in your kingdom. Yet we are too timid to bear the fruit of your righteousness, for we walk by sight and not by faith. Forgive us, Lord; we do not uphold the poor or the oppressed. We do not advocate for the powerless or the voiceless. We do not sacrifice ourselves for the needs of our neighbors. Renew us with the love of Christ so that we live no longer for ourselves, but for Christ who became the seed of your righteousness in us. Amen.

Time for Silent Confession

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

We who walk by faith and not by sight believe the good news—If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! Praise be to God for the mercy and grace that forgives our sins. Alleluia. Amen!

PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy Spirit, by your mysterious power speak to us your truth and show us your wisdom, that we may know you more deeply and serve you more faithfully, for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

1 Samuel 15:34-16:13

Mark 4:26-34

SERMON: "Invasions"

The Rev. Leslie Latham

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

Bless, O God, the gifts that we bring this day, that they may be a sign of our commitment to your kingdom and a pledge of our love for you and your world. Multiply the work done by our time, treasures, and talents, that your presence and compassion may be known in all the earth. Amen.

HYMN: #772 *Live into Hope*

CHARGE

No longer regard yourselves or others from a human point of view but from God's view: Everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! Go forth from this place knowing that you are a new creation in Christ Jesus.

BENEDICTION

Hymns

“The Church’s One Foundation” - #321

1. The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord.
She is His new creation by water and the word.
From heaven he came and sought her to be His holy bride.
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
2. Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.
3. Though with a scornful wonder, this world sees her oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping, their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.
4. Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation of peace for evermore:
till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.
5. Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly, may live eternally.

“Live into Hope” - #772

1. Live into hope of captives freed, of sight regained, the end of greed.
The oppressed shall be the first to see the year of God's own jubilee!
2. Live into hope! The blind shall see with insight and with clarity,
removing shades of pride and fear, a vision of our God brought near.
3. Live into hope of liberty, the right to speak, the right to be,
The right to have one's daily bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.
4. Live into hope of captives freed from chains of fear or want or greed.
God now proclaims our full release to faith and hope and joy and peace.