



First Presbyterian Church

**149 Broad Street
Tonawanda, New York 14150 ~ 2111**

Church: (716) 692-1319

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Pastor Leslie E-mail: leslie@firstprestona.org

[Pastor Leslie Cell: \(716\) 490-0420](tel:(716)490-0420)

Web address: www.firstprestona.org

"CCLI" License # 2839486

Pastor: The Rev. Leslie Latham

Ministers:

All Members of the Church

Clerk of Session: Nancy Burns

Church Treasurer: Tom Dugan

Music Director: Marla Maertin

Administrative Assistant:

Judy Winters

Finance Secretary: Nancy Burns

Sexton: Michael Donovan

Office Director of Christian

Education: Shirley Hagle

Youth Director: William Welch IV

Come, Worship the Lord, Our God

November 19, 2017

11:00am

24th Sunday after Pentecost
Stewardship/\$5K for PDA!

DRAWN INTO GOD'S PRESENCE

Welcome and Greeting

(Please complete Prayer Concerns)

Gathering Prayer:

God of righteousness, you overcome those who abuse their power and lift up those who suffer. Even now, when evil seems to hold sway, we know that you will have the last word. Keep us faithful as we wait and watch for your coming realm, when you will welcome all your children into your kingdom of justice, peace, and love. Amen.

Prelude: "I Give You My Heart"

(Morgan)

Sung Call to Worship:

God is great, and greatly to be praised!

We thank you, God, for families and friends. We thank you for the warmth of kitchens, quilts, and good neighbors.

God, how great is your name throughout all the earth!

We thank you, God, for newborn kittens and faithful dogs, for pine trees and sunlight, and crisp, clear air.

Blessed be God, the rock of our salvation!

We thank you, God, for the sound of laughter and the touch of love, for brand new mornings and for dreams held close.

Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise with songs of praise.

Come, let us worship God!

***Opening Song of Praise:** "We Gather Together

#559

(Ushers receive prayer concern requests)

AWARE OF GOD'S PRESENCE

***Call to Confession:**

God has told us that the heavenly realm is near. God calls to each of us to listen and act. Let us place ourselves before God and open our minds and hearts to God's loving forgiveness.

***Prayer of Confession:**

Unison

God, who has promised eternal life to all, we come before you as humble people. You give us many opportunities to serve, but we turn away. Too often we think of ourselves before we think of others. We take paths that lead away from you, and not toward you. We need you, God! Be with us on our journey. Help us to grow closer to you and to reach out to those in need. Through God the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, we pray. Amen.

**Time of Silent Prayer*

***Declaration of Forgiveness:**

There is no greater joy in the heart of God than the moment when a daughter or son opens to the gift of forgiveness. God's Spirit reaches out to assure us of welcome in Christ Jesus.

In the name of Jesus Christ we are God's children by grace. With great joy we are made alive. Thanks be to God! Amen.

***Gloria Patri:** "Glory Be To The Father"

#579

***Our Faithful Response:** "Give Thanks. O Christian People"

#552

Time With Young Disciples

LISTENING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lessons:

1 Timothy 6:18-19

They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

2 Corinthians 8:9

For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.

Matthew 25:14-30

¹⁴“For [the Kingdom of Heaven] is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ ²¹His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²²And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ ²³His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²⁴Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ ²⁶But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

Sermon: “Well Done, Good And Faithful Servant”

The Rev. Leslie Latham

RESPONDING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

***Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

***Hymn of Response:** "Let All Things Now Living"

#554

Pastoral Prayer and 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.

We Dedicate Our Pledges and Gifts

Invitation to the Offering:

God has entrusted us with a variety of gifts; let us return to the Lord a generous measure of our bounty with thanksgiving and praise.

Offertory: "Thank You, Lord"

(Baloché/Moen)

***Praising God's Goodness:** "For the Fruit of All Creation"

#553

***Prayer of Dedication:**

Unison

For all that you are and all that you do, we give you thanks, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. We wait in hope for the coming of your realm and offer these gifts

to further your kingdom on earth; in Jesus' name. Amen.

ABIDING IN GOD'S PRESENCE IN THE WORLD

***Hymn of Sending:** "We Plow the Fields and Scatter" #560

***Benediction**

***Postlude:** "You're Worthy of My Praise" (Ruis)

* Those who are able, please stand

WORSHIP AIDS:

Large Print Bulletins, Hymnals & Hearing Devices – available from ushers.

Children's Sanctuary - at the rear of the church

Baby Changing Tables - in both rest rooms of Church School Building.

Deacon's Prayer Chain - To activate Prayer Chain call Judy in the church office @ 692-1319.

New Prayer Concerns or Joys

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Prayer Concerns or Joys Last Week:

Continuing Prayers: Father Michael Ubeler; Bill Carney; Scott Greenawalt; Sid Tyrrell; Irving & Alice Hils; Holly Mazurek; Marge Klinger; Betty Kolnacki; Ruth Gebera; Aron; Wilma Bender; Wally Frech; Rosemary Taber; Jack Greenawalt; Willie Day; Mike Crowell; Larry Rayner; Jackie Rexford; Gail Schurr; Michael Grant; Paul Rayner; Anthony Dragone; Adehlia Kowsky; Leola Mitchell; Peggy Hess; Russ McClure; Mike Klinger; Bob Erisman

Prayers and caring for our homebound: Lillian Manning; Marge Klinger; Georgia Anson; Fay Tag; Lee Mitchell; Doris Carlson; J. Robert Weber; Ann Thorpe; Ruth Weber

*Because God's love is for all - everyone is always welcome.
We pray that God may bless you with peace, inspiration, and strength. We are a community, seeking to learn what it means to follow Jesus. No matter what you may be going through, no matter where you may be on your faith journey – you are most welcome here! If you would like more information, please call Judy in the church office @ 692-1319*

LITURGIST: Nathan Harrington

GREETERS: Shirley Hagle & Bonnie Zimmer

STEPHEN MINISTERS: are always available to provide confidential support in times of need. Simply call Janet Haacker @ 694-4290.

REMINDER: Please call Pastor Leslie @ 490-0420 or Judy in the office @ 692-1319 if you or a loved one are ill, hospitalized or in need of a visit.

First Harmony Bells – rehearsal times have changed to **12:30pm**, right after the worship service!

Thanksgiving Day: November 23, the Youth Group will be delivering meals from the Salvation Army to residents of the City of Tonawanda and North Tonawanda who are unable to cook for themselves.

Annual Ecumenical Thanksgiving Day Worship and Community Dinner is coming! On November 23, Christians from the Kenmore-Tonawanda communities will gather together at 11am for worship, followed by a delicious, homemade Thanksgiving meal. This will be held at Kenmore United Methodist Church at 32 Landers Road, Kenmore. All are welcome.

Christmas Flowers: The Deacons will be selling Memorial Christmas flowers on November 26, December 3, and December 10 in the Narthex. More details to follow.

Circle II Classic Grocery Bag Sale: December 2 from 10am-12pm. Come and fill a bag for \$2.00.

Upcoming Events in December:

- Advent Communion Worship: 8:30am every Sunday before Christmas in the parlor.
- Charlie Brown Christmas Tree and Angel Tree Gifts – More details to come.
- Presbyterian Women's Tea: December 10 at 12:30pm in the parlor. All women are invited.
- VBS going on the road again – December 16 from 10am-12pm at VIVE.
- Presbytery Youth Christmas Party: December 15 at 7pm at Youngstown Presbyterian Church.
- Sunday School Pageant: December 17 at 11:00am
- "Blue Christmas" Worship: December 17 at 4:00pm
- Christmas Eve worship: December 24 Advent Worship at 8:30am in the parlor; 11:00am and Candlelight Communion Worship at 8:00pm

November 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
19 Sunday School 9:30a Worship 11a FHB 12:30p	20 A.A. 9a-11a Girl Scouts 6p TOPS 6:30p Session 7p	21 Adult Bible Class 7p	22 Circle II 9:30a	23 Thanksgiving Office Closed Youth Deliver Thanksgiving Dinners to Shut-ins 9am	24 Office Closed UFO 7p	25
26 Sunday School 9:30a Choir 10:30a Worship 11a FHB 12:30p	27 A.A. 9a-11a Girl Scouts 6p TOPS 6:30p	28	29 Circle II 9:30a	30 A.A. 9a-11a Yoga 6:30-7:30p H4W 6p Choir 7:30p	Notes:	
December 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Girl Scout Leadership Mtg/Party 6p UFO 7p	2 Circle II Classic Grocery Bag Sale 10a-12p
3 Advent Worship 8:30a in Parlor Sunday School 9:30a Choir 10:30a Worship/Communion 11a FHB 12:30p	4 A.A. 9a-11a Girl Scouts 6p TOPS 6:30p	5 Deacons 1p Adult Bible Study 7p	6	7 A.A. 9a-11a Yoga 6:30-7:30p H4W 6p Choir 7:30p	8 UFO 7p	9
10 Advent Worship 8:30a in Parlor H4W 9a Sunday School 9:30a Worship 11a Presbyterian Women Tea 12:15p	11 A.A. 9a-11a Girl Scouts 6p TOPS 6:30p	12 CE Mtg 7p Adult Bible Class 7p	13	14 A.A. 9a-11a Yoga 6:30-7:30p H4W 6p Choir 7:30p	15 UFO 7p Youth Christmas Party-7p-10p Youngstown Presbyterian Church	16 VBS AT VIVE 10AM-12PM
17 Advent Worship 8:30a in Parlor Sunday School 9:30a Worship/SS Christmas Program 11a FHB 12:30p Blue Christmas Service 4p	18 A.A. 9a-11a Girl Scouts 6p TOPS 6:30p Session 7p	19 Adult Bible Class 7p	20	21 A.A. 9a-11a Yoga 6:30-7:30p H4W 6p Choir 7:30p(Cake)	22 UFO 7p	23