



First Presbyterian Church

149 Broad Street

Tonawanda, New York 14150 ~ 2111

Church: (716) 692-1319

Rev. Leslie Latham

CCLI License # 2839486

Words to hymns are on the back of the bulletin

Welcome to the Great Banquet!

October 31, 2021

10:30am

We Celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP, AKA GRACE

Please repeat after the leader

God, our Host, we thank you /
For welcoming us to your table. /
We give thanks for this day /
And for this meal we share together. /
May we remember /
The many who are hungry /
Or who don't have tables /
Where they are welcome. /
May we be a welcoming presence to all. /

TOGETHER: Amen.

WE EAT PANCAKES

HYMN: #769 "For Everyone Born", verses 1, 3, 5

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *written by middle schooler Lynnae Keeley*

Dear God, you are a great and awesome God. Today we come to you in a prayer of confession. We are sorry for the many things that we have done that are wrong in your eyes. We are also sorry for all the things we should have done but we didn't do. We are asking now for forgiveness for these things, and for other things that we have done wrong and don't even know about. Please forgive us. In your name alone we pray, Amen.

Time for Silent Confession

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

God forgives us and does not even remember our sins. Thanks be to God!

SONG BEFORE COMMUNION 507 "Come to the Table"

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION *insert in the bulletin*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 14:15-24

STORY TIME: *The Greatest Table*, by Michael J. Rosen

Affirmation of Faith:

Liturgy for The Communion of Saints (*which includes the Necrology*)

Let us pray together. Lord God, by your grace we are running a race.

We are surrounded by a cloud of witnesses—

Patriarchs and matriarchs, prophets and psalmists, disciples and evangelists, martyrs and saints.

We thank you for their example. We praise you for their lives of faith. For all your saints, O Lord, who strove in you to live, who followed, obeyed, adored you - our grateful hymn we sing.

Family members and members of this congregation; fellow believers in every country, every denomination; friends who help, guide and uplift us—children of your family, sheep of your fold, saints of your redeeming.

We read the Necrology: the names of Saints who have died in the last year.

We thank you for their example. We praise you for their lives of faith. For all your saints, O Lord, who strove in you to die, who counted you their great reward - accept our thankful cry.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely,

and run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Christ, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. 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.

OFFERING

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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Gracious and generous God, please accept these gifts that we have brought. May these offerings serve to draw others to love, honor, and serve you. Multiply these tithes and offerings, Holy One, and use them for the edification of your people all around the world. All for love's sake, Amen.

HYMN: #730 "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God"

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

Hymns

“For Everyone Born”

Refrain:

And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!

1 For everyone born, a place at the table, for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing, for everyone born, a star overhead, (Refrain)

3 For young and for old, a place at the table, a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled, for young and for old, the right to belong,
(Refrain)

5 For everyone born, a place at the table, to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship, for everyone born, the right to be free,
(Refrain)

“Come to the Table of Grace”

1 Come to the table of grace (2x)
This is God’s table, it’s not yours or mine,
Come to the table of grace.

2 Come to the table of love (2x)
This is God’s table, it’s not yours or mine,
Come to the table of love.

3 Come to the table of joy (2)
This is God’s table, it’s not yours or mine,
Come to the table of joy.

“I Sing a Song of the Saints of God”

1 I sing a song of the saints of God, patient and brave and true,
who toiled and fought and lived and died for the Lord they loved and knew.
And one was a doctor, and one was a queen, and one was a shepherdess on the green:
they were all of them saints of God, and I mean, God helping, to be one too.

2 They loved their Lord so dear, so dear, and God’s love made them strong;
and they followed the right, for Jesus’ sake, the whole of their good lives long.
And one was a soldier, and one was a priest, and one was slain by a fierce wild beast:
and there’s not any reason, no, not the least, why I shouldn’t be one too.

3 They lived not only in ages past; there are hundreds of thousands still;
the world is bright with the joyous saints who love to do Jesus’ will.
You can meet them in school, or in lanes, or at sea, in church, or in trains, or in shops,
or at tea; for the saints of God are just folk like me, and I mean to be one too.

The Lord's Supper as We Remember the Saints

Jesus said: Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if those who hear my voice open the door, I will come in to them and eat with them, and they with me. O taste and see that the Lord is good! Happy are all who find refuge in God!

This is the joyful feast of the people of God.

We have come from east and west.

We have come from north and south

To feast at our Lord's table.

When our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took bread and blessed it and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him.

Who can come to this table?

Jesus invites those who trust, those who want to trust him more, to come to this table.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Why do we give thanks at this table?

God, we praise you for saints, and for the faithful in every age who have followed your Son and witnessed to his resurrection. From every race and tongue, from every people and nation, you have gathered them into your kingdom. You have shown them the path of life and filled them with the joy of your presence. How glorious is your heavenly realm where the multitude of your saints rejoices with Christ!

How do we praise God for all this?

With the faithful of every time and place, we forever sing to God's glory:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

What do we remember at this table?

We remember God's Son, Jesus;

He healed the sick and restored sight to the blind; he welcomed strangers and ate with outcasts.

Dying on the cross, he saved us from our sin; risen from the dead, he gives us new life.

Why do we eat bread at this table?

Jesus took bread, blessed it, and gave it to his friends.

Why do we drink from the cup at this table?

Jesus gave them the cup as the promise that our sins are forgiven.

But this is just everyday bread and juice.

Let us pray that the everyday bread and juice will become holy:

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.

By your Spirit unite us with the living Christ, and with all who are baptized in Christ's name, that we may be one in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

As Christ's body sent to serve the world you so love, O God, we lift before you our prayers for the church, the world, and all in need, saying, "God in your mercy," and responding with, "Hear our prayer."

Gracious God, grant that when we are called, we may faithfully serve, strengthened and renewed at this table.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, O God, now and forever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Communion of the People

Please take a piece of pancake, and dip it in your cup.

Prayer after Communion

Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this Sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet in your eternal kingdom. Send us out in the power of your Spirit, to live and work to your praise and glory, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.