



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 Second Sunday in Lent

February 28 , 2021

10:00am

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP:

We are met in the presence of God,

And we do not meet alone.

With the angels in the highest heaven, with the saints in every age, with the Church throughout the world,

We gather to worship the Lord.

Here with our hearts and our voices,

God's holy name be praised.

We are met in the presence of God,

And we do not meet alone.

GATHERING PRAYER

God, your Son Jesus Christ bore the cross for our salvation and was raised from the dead for the redemption of the world. Give us the courage to take up our cross and follow him, that through his grace we may accept the cost of faithful discipleship and receive the joy of everlasting life with Christ, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

HYMN: "The God of Abraham Praise"

CALL TO CONFESSION

Trusting in God's promise of salvation, let us confess our sin and repent.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God of life, eternity cannot hold you, nor can our little words catch the magnificence of your kindness. Yet in the space of our small hearts and in silence you can come close and repair us.

(Silence)

O God of life, grant us your forgiveness

For our careless thoughts, for our thoughtless deeds, for our empty speech and the words with which we wound.

(Silence)

O God of life, grant us your forgiveness

For our false desires, for our hateful actions, for our wastefulness and for all we have left unattended.

(Silence)

O loving Christ, hanged on a tree yet risen in the morning, scatter the sin from our souls as the mist from the hills; begin what we do; inform what we say; redeem who we are.

In you we place our hope, our great hope, our living hope, this day and forevermore. Amen.

Time for Silent Confession

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news: God deems as righteous all who trust that Jesus has been raised from the dead for our salvation. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

PASSING OF THE PEACE**GLORIA PATRI****PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Holy Spirit, open our hearts to receive your Word, reveal to us the good news, and enable us to trust in the promise of salvation in Jesus Christ. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Genesis 17:1–7, 15–16

Mark 8:31-38

SERMON:

The Rev. Leslie Latham

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**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**

Almighty God, we thank you for the covenant you established with Abraham and Sarah, which you have opened to us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Accept these offerings with the dedication of our lives, that we may be for the world a sign of your abiding love and a testament to your enduring promise. In Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN: "Great is Thy Faithfulness"

CHARGE

Disciples of Jesus, do not shun the way of the cross, but follow wherever our Lord may lead.

BENEDICTION

May the blessing of God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
uphold you on the way.

POSTLUDE

Hymns

The God of Abraham Praise

1. The God of Abraham praise, who reigns enthroned above;
The Ancient of eternal days the God of love.
The Lord, the great I Am! By earth and heav'n confessed;
We bow before your holy name forever blest.

2. Your spirit still flows free, high surging where it will.
In prophet's word you spoke of old and you speak still.
Established is your law, and changeless it shall stand,
deep writ upon the human heart by your strong hand.

3. Your goodly land we seek, with peace and plenty blest;
a land of sacred liberty and Sabbath rest.
There milk and honey flow, and oil and wine abound,
the trees of life forever grow with mercy crowned.

4. You have eternal life implanted in the soul,
your love shall be our strength and stay, while ages roll.
We praise you, living God! We praise your holy name;
The first, the last, beyond all thought, and still the same!

Great is Thy Faithfulness

1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be. (Refrain)

2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. (Refrain)

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (Refrain)

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness!

Great is thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see:

all I have needed thy hand hath provided--

Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!