



# *First Presbyterian Church*

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

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**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:**

Kathleen Nolan

**Finance Secretary:** Nancy Burns

**Sexton:** Zachary Nolan

**Office Director of Christian**

**Education:** Shirley Hagle

**Youth Director:** William Welch IV

# Come, Worship the Lord, Our God

February 26, 2017

11:00am

Transfiguration Sunday

## DRAWN INTO GOD'S PRESENCE

**Welcome and Greeting**

*(Please complete Prayer Concerns)*

**Gathering Prayer:**

God our light, make us attentive to your Word as to a lamp shining in a dark place, that seeing your truth we may live faithful lives until that great day dawns and the morning star rises in our hearts. Amen.

*As the acolyte lights the Christ Candle, take a moment to pray for people or groups who stand in special need of God's love.*

**Prelude:** "Blessed Be Your Name"

(Redman/Holden)

**Call to Worship:**

The glory of God transfigures the mundane.

**The light of God transfigures familiar faces.**

At the heights of our worship, may God's presence shine through the commonplace.

**At the depths of our pain, may God's presence give us courage and peace.**

**May God's light, shining in the face of the Christ, light up all our days!**

**\*Opening Hymn of Praise:** "Shine, Jesus Shine"

(Kendrick)

***Hearts 4 Worship***

*(Ushers receive prayer concern slips)*

## AWARE OF GOD'S PRESENCE

**\*Call to Confession:**

Trusting in God's steadfast love, let us confess our sin.

**\*Prayer of Confession:**

Unison

**Glorious God, you are all wisdom and a lamp to our feet, yet we fail to listen to you and neglect to follow your guidance. Forgive us, heal us, and lead us on,**

that we may walk in your ways and be happy in your refuge; in Jesus our Christ we pray. Amen.

***\*Time of Silent Prayer***

**\*Declaration of Forgiveness:**

Unison

The good news of our faith is this: if we call upon God we will be answered and forgiven. That promise gives us peace and joy; let us share that peace and joy with one another.

**\*Passing of the Peace:**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**\*Gloria Patri: "Glory Be to the Father"**

# 579

**\*Our Faithful Response: "Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory"**

# 73

**Time with Young Disciples**

**Anthem: "Crown Him (Majesty)"**

(Tomlin)

***The Choir & Hearts 4 Worship***

**LISTENING IN GOD'S PRESENCE**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture Lessons:**

***Exodus 24:12-18***

12 The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." 13 So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. 14 To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them." 15 Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. 16 The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. 17 Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. 18 Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

### **Matthew 17:1-9**

17 Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup>And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. <sup>3</sup>Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup>Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I<sup>[a]</sup> will make three dwellings<sup>[b]</sup> here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." <sup>5</sup>While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved;<sup>[c]</sup> with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" <sup>6</sup>When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup>But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." <sup>8</sup>And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. <sup>9</sup>As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

**Sermon:**

Rev. Leslie Latham

### **RESPONDING IN GOD'S PRESENCE**

**\*Affirmation of Faith:** The 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.**

**\*Hymn of Response:** "Creator of Mountains"

STF # 2061

**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.**

**Invitation to the Offering:**

With what shall we come before the Lord this day? We come with a love of justice and a passion for sharing Christ's love. Let us walk in humble gratitude, offering to God a portion of the gifts that God freely shares with us, gifts for the healing of the world.

**Offertory:** "Jesus, We Crown You with Praise" (Wolfe)

**\*Praising God's Goodness:** Doxology # 592

**\*Prayer of Dedication:** Unison

**We thank you, God, that you have blessed us with an abundance of gifts for the flourishing of your world. May this offering of our life and labor reveal your love as we seek to share your promised reign with all creation. Amen.**

### **ABIDING IN GOD'S PRESENCE IN THE WORLD**

**\*Hymn of Sending:** "Lord of All Hopefulness" STF # 2197

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude:** "Sing to the King!" (Foote/Watts)

\* 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 Kathy in the church office @ 692-1319.**

**New Prayer Concerns or Joys**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Prayer Concerns or Joys Last Week:** Scott Greenawalt; Melissa Haacker, Jack’s niece – many health issues especially back problems; Paul Stuermer – brain cancer

**Continuing Prayers:** Rev. Scott Hauser; Rev. Hal Tyson; Diane Eshelman; Sid Tyrrell; Irving & Alice Hils; Holly Mazurek; Marge Klinger; Betty Kolnacki; Judy Geerkin; Ruth Gebera; Aron; Wilma Bender; Wally Frech; Rosemary Taber; Jack Greenawalt; Willie Day; Sue Klein; Mike Crowell; Larry Rayner; Jackie Rexford; Gail Schurr; Michael Grant; Paul Rayner; Sid Tyrrell; 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; Joan Loeswick;

*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 Kathy in the church office @ 692-1319*

**LITURGIST:** Janet Haacker

**GREETERS:** Jane Crossan and Ruth Gebera

**USHERS:** Mary Ferro, Tom Dugan, Leslie Dugan, John Faux

**COFFEE HOUR:** Bonnie Sibley

**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 Kathy in the office @ 692-1319 if you or a loved one are ill, hospitalized or in need of a visit.

**IT'S HYMN AUCTION TIME....And this year, we have 2 AUCTIONS!!** The first one is to "retire" a hymn for the rest of 2017. The second one is to sing a hymn more frequently - once a month. The bid amount is starting at \$1.00 for each auction, going up in \$1 increments until we reach...MORE! The auctions will be held on February 26th after the worship service. Please come and save our handbells - they need repair work done and the auction money will help defray the expense.

**Mardi Gras, also known as Fat Tuesday or Shrove Tuesday Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>** is the day before Ash Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup> this year. On Tuesday, it's traditional to eat pancakes as a final treat before the fasting of Lent. A lesser known tradition, at least in Protestant circles, is the burning of last year's palms (from Palm Sunday), to create ashes for the next day. We're gathering to burn ashes on Tuesday at 6:00 pm--OUTSIDE, so dress warmly and in clothes that are okay to get smoky. If you have palms from last year, bring them! Then we'll gather inside and pig out on pancakes. Bring friends and family. Questions? Please call Leslie at 692-1319.

**Ash Wednesday – Wed, March 1st:** Pot Luck dinner at 6p ~ bring a dish to pass and your own place setting; Worship at 7:15p

**Church Women United of the Tonawandas** World Day of Prayer; March 3, 2017 at 1:00-3:00p.m. in the First Presbyterian Church Sanctuary, 149 Broad Street, Tonawanda, New York; Program: The Philippines, "Am I Being Unfair to You?"

**Morning Prayers and Communion** will be each Sunday during Lent beginning March 5<sup>th</sup> in the parlor at 8:30am. Hope to see you there!

**Annual Congregational Meeting** will be in the Sanctuary, after worship March 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Wednesday Soup Suppers:** It's long been a "church tradition" for folks to gather around a table on Wednesdays during Lent, to share food and fellowship. We'd like to revive that tradition, so starting on March 8 at 6:00, we'll gather in the parlor for homemade soup and bread. Pastor Leslie will offer a devotional or exercise, and we'll be done in time for Peggy Brown's Old Testament scholars to buckle down to their tasks. On March 15, our devotion time will be the Healing and Blessing Service at 6:30, so if you've meant to come, now is your chance! The remaining dates are March 22, 29 and April 5, all at 6:00 pm. There will be a signup sheet in the narthex for those who would like to provide soup and bread each week. We hope you'll enjoy this new/old Lenten practice.

**Attention High School Seniors:** The Jack Haacker Memorial Scholarship Applications are available in the church office. The completed application should be returned to the office by April 9<sup>th</sup>.

## February 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>26</b> H4W 9a Choir & H4W 9:15a Sunday school 9:30a Worship 11a Hymn Auction 12:30p	<b>27</b> A.A. 9a-11a TOPS 6:30p Girl scouts 6-7:30p Session 6:30p	<b>28</b> Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p Burning of the palms 6p Pancake supper	<b>Notes:</b>			

## March 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p  Circle II 9:30a Potluck supper 6p Worship 7:15p	<b>2</b> A.A. 9a-11a Yoga 6:30-7:30p Worship mtg. 6p H4W planning 6:30p Bell ensemble 7p Choir 7:30p	<b>3</b>  CWU 1p World Day of Prayer First Pres. Tona  UFO 7p	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> Morning prayers 8:30a Sunday school 9:30a Choir 10:30a Worship / Communion 11a Congregational meeting	<b>6</b> A.A. 9a-11a TOPS 6:30p Girl scouts 6-7:30p	<b>7</b> Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p Deacons 7p	<b>8</b> Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p Circle II 9:30a Soup supper 6p Hebrew scripture class 7-8:15p	<b>9</b> A.A. 9a-11a Yoga 6:30-7:30p H4W 6:30p Bell ensemble 7p Choir 7:30p	<b>10</b> UFO 7p	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> Morning prayers 8:30a H4W 9a Sunday school 9:30a Worship 11a FHBells 6:30p	<b>13</b> A.A. 9a-11a TOPS 6:30p Girl scouts 6-7:30p	<b>14</b> Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p CE 7p	<b>15</b> Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p Circle II 9:30a Soup supper 6p Healing service 6:30p Hebrew scripture class 7-8:15p	<b>16</b> A.A. 9a-11a Yoga 6:30-7:30p H4W 6:30p Bell ensemble 7p Choir 7:30p	<b>17</b> UFO 7p	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> Morning prayers 8:30a H4W 9a Sunday school 9:30a Worship 11a Deacons sell flowers	<b>20</b> A.A. 9a-11a TOPS 6:30p Girl scouts 6-7:30p	<b>21</b> Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p	<b>22</b> Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p Circle II 9:30a Soup supper 6p  Hebrew scripture class 7-8:15p	<b>23</b> A.A. 9a-11a Yoga 6:30-7:30p H4W 6:30p Bell ensemble 7p Choir 7:30p	<b>24</b> UFO 7p	<b>25</b>