



## **First Presbyterian Church**

149 Broad Street

Tonawanda, New York 14150 ~ 2111

Church: (716) 692-1319

Rev. Dr. Rebecca Chaffee

**Come, Worship the Lord, Our God**

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

CCLI License # 2839486

February 9, 2025

10:30am

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

It is by grace that we are who we are:

**people who are called by Jesus, yet fearful to follow.**

It is by God's grace that we can become followers:

**people who are fearful, yet gifted with courage beyond wonder.**

It is with God's grace that we become who we might be:

**people who step out in faith, sharing the good news generously.**

## **GATHERING PRAYER**

Holy One, earth and heaven reverberate with your glory, and humans and angels alike sing your praises. Open our minds to your breathtaking work in the world, even as you call us to spread the good news of Jesus Christ, our mentor and savior, in whose name we pray. Amen.

**\*HYMN: "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!" #1**

**NICAEA**

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

It is so simple to say, yet so difficult to live out - 'do not be afraid!' Yet, whatever fear burdens us, God will lift from our souls. Whatever foolishness we have uttered, God whispers mercy to us. Whatever wrong we have done, God's forgiveness is poured out upon us. I invite you to join with me as we pray to the One whose love is constant in every moment, in every place, of our lives.

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God of wonder and joy, we look in the mirror and do not see holiness reflected back. We long to be sisters and brothers with others, but don't want to be an intrusion in our friends' lives. We yearn to be more compassionate, yet it is often spite and malice we offer to someone else. We are so busy listening to those internal i-pods, that we have trouble hearing the cries of loneliness coming from those around us.**

**Forgive us, God who longs to be enthroned in our hearts. You call us to different lives, so we might make a difference for all who hurt. You invite us into your kingdom, so we might show the others the way. You challenge us to take a risk by following Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, so we might become your children once again.**

*Silence is kept*

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

The One who alone is Holy became wholly human so we might see the face of grace. The One who is seated in the heavens endured the cross so we might see the face of salvation. This is our good news: we are forgiven!

**By God's grace, with God's grace, we are who we are meant to be: forgiven, restored, called people. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

God of steadfast love and faithfulness, we are grateful for the gift of Scripture. By the power of the Holy Spirit, enliven your Word, that we might know the good news and share it with others. For the sake of Christ we ask it. Amen.

### **Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 6:1-8** Send me

<sup>1</sup>In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty, and the hem of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup>Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. <sup>3</sup>And one called to another and said, "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory."

<sup>4</sup>The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup>And I said, "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

<sup>6</sup>Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. <sup>7</sup>The seraph touched my mouth with it and said, "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out."

<sup>8</sup>Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### **ALL GOD'S CHILDREN: "Parable of the Leaven"**

#### **Responsive Psalm: Psalm 138** Your love endures forever

<sup>1</sup>I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;

**before the gods I sing your praise;**

<sup>2</sup>I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness,

**for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.**

<sup>3</sup>On the day I called, you answered me;

**you increased my strength of soul.**

<sup>4</sup>All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O LORD,

**for they have heard the words of your mouth.**

<sup>5</sup>They shall sing of the ways of the LORD,

**for great is the glory of the LORD.**

<sup>6</sup>For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly,

**but the haughty he perceives from far away.**

<sup>7</sup>Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;

**you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.**

<sup>8</sup>The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me;

**your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.**

#### **Gospel Reading: Luke 5:1-11** Jesus calls the disciples to fish for people

<sup>1</sup>Once while Jesus was standing beside the Lake of Gennesaret and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, <sup>2</sup>he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gotten out of them and were washing their nets. <sup>3</sup>He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.

<sup>4</sup>When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch."

<sup>5</sup>Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets."

<sup>6</sup>When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to burst. <sup>7</sup>So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both

boats, so that they began to sink. <sup>8</sup>But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus's knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!"

<sup>9</sup>For he and all who were with him were astounded at the catch of fish that they had taken, <sup>10</sup>and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who are partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people."

<sup>11</sup>When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON: "Let's Follow"**

**Rev. Dr. Rebecca Chaffee**

**SERMON HYMN: "Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore" #721**

**PESCADOR DE HOMBRES**

**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.**

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

Through Jesus Christ we have come to know the abundance of God. Let us then give generously, as has been given to us.

**THE OFFERTORY**

**DOXOLOGY: "In the Bleak Midwinter" #144 (vs 4)**

**CRANHAM**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**God who alone is holy, we offer our gifts, our lives, our compassion, our service to others, and to your creation. Bless all that we offer, so that we might be blessings of hope, peace, and grace. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN: "Will You Come and Follow Me" #726**

**KELVINGROVE**

**CHARGE**

Filled with God's grace, we will go,

**to share hope with those in despair, to befriend the lonely and afraid.**

Filled with God's grace, we will follow Jesus,

**to offer justice to those forgotten by the world, to embrace those filled with grief and loss.**

Filled with God's grace, we are empowered by the Spirit,

**to bring peace into all the brokenness around us, to walk in faith beside our sisters and brother.**

**BENEDICTION**

**Volunteers This Week:**

Liturgist: Pat Loeswick  
 Tech: Betsy Crocker  
 Usher(s): Jessica Schurr & Billy Welch  
 Greeter(s): Janet Schurr  
 Coffee Hour: Nancy Rolando & Pat Loeswick

**Volunteers Next Week 2/16/25**

Liturgist: Diane Charsley  
 Tech: Betsy Crocker  
 Usher(s): Randy Marohn  
 Greeter(s): Lynn Hyland  
 Coffee Hour: Theresa Rayner

**PRAYER CONCERNS**

The prayer concerns have recently been updated. If you have a prayer request, please contact **Pastor Rebecca at 315-317-6140 or the church office at 716-692-1319.**

**CALENDAR**

Sunday, Feb 9

9:30am All Age Faith Formation (Parlor)  
 10:30 am Sunday Worship for all ages (Sanctuary)  
 11:30am Coffee Fellowship for all ages (Parlor)

Monday, Feb 10

10:00 am Alcoholics Anonymous (Circle II Basement)  
 6:00pm Church Stretch  
 7:00pm CE Team

Tuesday, Feb 11

9:00am – 2:00pm Office Hours  
 10:00am-11:30am God Loves Me Storytime

Wednesday, Feb 12

9:00am – 2:00pm Office Hours  
 11:00am or 7:00pm The Pastor's Study: *Prayer in the Night: For Those Who Work, or Watch, or Weep*

Thursday, Feb 13

10:00am Alcoholics Anonymous (Circle II Basement)  
 6:00pm-8:00pm Choirs Practice

Saturday, Feb 15

10:00am Alcoholics Anonymous (Circle II Basement)

Sunday, Feb 16

9:30am All Age Faith Formation (Parlor)  
 10:30 am Sunday Worship for all ages (Sanctuary)  
 11:30am Coffee Fellowship for all ages (Parlor)

