



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

3rd Sunday After Pentecost

CCLI License # 2839486

June 9, 2024

10:30am

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

On an ordinary Sunday, we come to worship God.

We come, trusting God will speak to us;

we come, hoping God will surprise us.

On this day, like every other day,

we seek to follow Jesus:

We follow, believing Jesus will be with us;

we follow, hoping Jesus will work through us.

On this day, we lift our souls to God's Spirit:

We open our hearts, that the Spirit may fill us;

we open our hands, that we might be a gift to others.

GATHERING PRAYER

Holy God, Creator of Life, you call us out of our dark places, offering us the grace of new life. When we see nothing but hopelessness, you surprise us with the breath of your spirit. Call us out of our complacency and routines, set us free from our self-imposed bonds, and fill us with your spirit of life, compassion, and peace, In the name of Jesus, your anointed one, we pray. Amen.

***HYMN: "My Life Flows On" #821**

HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING

CALL TO CONFESSION

We live our lives, tiptoeing around the facts that we often say words we should never have uttered, we do those things we wish we could take back. Yet, you would reach out to take us by the hand, so we walk together in the garden of grace. Let us offer our hearts, and our brokenness, to our God, who offers us mercy in these moments. Join me as we use the words found below, praying,

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

From the basements of our lives, we lift our prayers to you, Parent of our hearts. We are convinced we know who our sisters and brothers are, and so ignore those you long for us to embrace. Someone told us once that we had faults, and so we try to live up to their expectations. We are so intent on watching for all that could go wrong, we miss your hope rising just over the horizon.

If you kept a spreadsheet of our foolishness, Creator of your family, we would be in big trouble. But you do not let our mistakes distract you from walking with us in every moment. And so, we hear you calling us by name, and welcoming us into your family of faith, as we seek to follow Jesus Christ, our Brother, into reaching out to all around us.

Silence is kept

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hope in God, dear friends. For the One who listens to our prayers is the God who loves us. The One who knows our foolish lives better than we do, is the God who forgives us.

This is indeed good news for us. No longer do we need to wait, but can rush into God's gracious embrace, knowing that God will walk with us even when we stumble, will continue to affirm us, when everyone else around us tears us down. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

We are waiting, O God, to hear your Word, for in your Word is our hope. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we hear your voice and be attentive to what you will say to us today. In the name of Christ, we ask this and all things. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Genesis 3:8-15

⁸They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?"

¹⁰He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself."

¹¹He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?"

¹²The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate."

¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate."

¹⁴The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.

¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

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

ALL GOD'S CHILDREN: What Makes You Cry? What Makes God Cry?

RESPONSIVE PSALM 130

¹Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.

²**Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!**

³If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?

⁴**But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.**

⁵I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,

and in his word I hope;

⁶my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning,

more than those who watch for the morning.

⁷O Israel, hope in the LORD!

For with the LORD there is steadfast love,

and with him is great power to redeem.

⁸**It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.**

GOSPEL READING: Mark 3:20-35

²⁰and the crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat. ²¹When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, "He has gone out of his mind." ²²And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons."

²³And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan?
²⁴If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵And if a house is divided against
itself, that house will not be able to stand. ²⁶And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided,
he cannot stand, but his end has come. ²⁷But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his
property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

²⁸"Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter;
²⁹but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an
eternal sin"--³⁰for they had said, "He has an unclean spirit."

³¹Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called
him. ³²A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers and
sisters are outside, asking for you."

³³And he replied, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" ³⁴And looking at those who sat
around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵Whoever does the will of God is my
brother and sister and mother."

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

SERMON: "Expressing Sorrow"

Rev. Dr. Rebecca Chaffee

SERMON HYMN: "Out of the Depths"

FENNVILLE

GRACE

2136

Out of the Depths



1. Out of the depths, O God, we call to you.
2. Out of the depths of fear, O God, we speak.
3. God of the lov - ing heart, we praise your name.



*Wounds of the past re - main, af - fect - ing all we do.
Break - ing the si - lenc - es, the sear - ing truth we seek.
Dance through our lives and loves; a - noint with Spir - it flame.



Fac - ing our lives, we need your love so much.
Safe a - mong friends, our grief and rage we share.
Your light il - lu - mines each fa - mil - iar face.



Here in this com - mu - ni - ty, heal us by your touch.
Here in this com - mu - ni - ty, hold us in your care.
Here in this com - mu - ni - ty, meet us with your grace.

**Ruth Duck has provided the following words that may be substituted for those who are seriously ill:*

Free us from fear of death, our faith and hope renew ...

or, for those who have been abused:

Wounds of abuse remain, affecting all we do ...

WORDS: Ruth Duck (Ps. 130:1)

MUSIC: Robert J. Batastini

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FENNVILLE

10.12.10.12

PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*ecumenical version*)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever, Amen.

MOMENT FOR MISSION: Installation of Officers

SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE

There are varieties of gifts,
but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

**There are different ways of serving God,
but it is the same Lord who is served.**

God works through each person in a unique way,
but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

**To each is given a gift of the Spirit
to be used for the common good.**

Together we are the body of Christ,
and individually members of it.

PROFESSION

With the whole church, let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed: **(Page 17 in the hymnal)**

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Elders

Diane Charsley

Sue Schurr

William Welch IV

Deacons

Betsy Crocker

Bonnie Sibley

Treasurer

Tom Dugan

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Who are Christ's brothers and sisters? Those who do the will of God. Loving God, loving neighbor, we share what we have as members of the household of Christ.

THE OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY: "With Grateful Joy"

Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

With grateful joy for You the Source of all life
We raise one voice to You from whom all blessings flow
You are the Giver of life
You are the Lover of life
The good Sustainer of life,
We live in You

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

May the gifts we offer be used, Loving God, to feed our sisters and brothers who hunger for companionship, as well as food; who look for a heart to welcome them, as much as a place to sleep; who long to be accepted for who they are, not seen as having no worth. This we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

***HYMN: "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" #834**

PRECIOUS LORD

CHARGE

Now, let us go into the world as God's children.

**We will go to walk beside all who are in the shadows,
for there, we will find God journeying with them.**

Now, let us go into our communities as the family of Jesus.

**We will walk with those who work multiple jobs;
we will walk with all who raise children on their own.**

Now, let us go into our neighborhoods as companions of the Spirit.

**We will walk in peace with those who are so angry,
we will walk with those who have been damaged by hate.**

BENEDICTION

Volunteers This Week:

Liturgist: Scott Chaffee
Tech: Betsy Crocker
Usher(s): Randy Marohn
Coffee Hour: CE Team
Greeter(s): Linda Barry

Volunteers Next Week 6/16:

Liturgist: Sue Schurr
Tech: Betsy Crocker
Usher(s): Linda Barry
Coffee Hour: Laura Marohn
Greeter(s): Janet Schurr

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, June 9

10:30 am Sunday Worship for all ages (Sanctuary)

11:30am Coffee Fellowship for all ages (Parlor)

Monday, June 10

10:00 am Alcoholics Anonymous (Circle II Basement)

Tuesday, June 11

9:00am – 2:00pm Office Hours

Wednesday, June 12

9:00am – 2:00pm Office Hours

Thursday, June 13

9:00am – 2:00pm Office Hours

10:00am Alcoholics Anonymous (Circle II Basement)

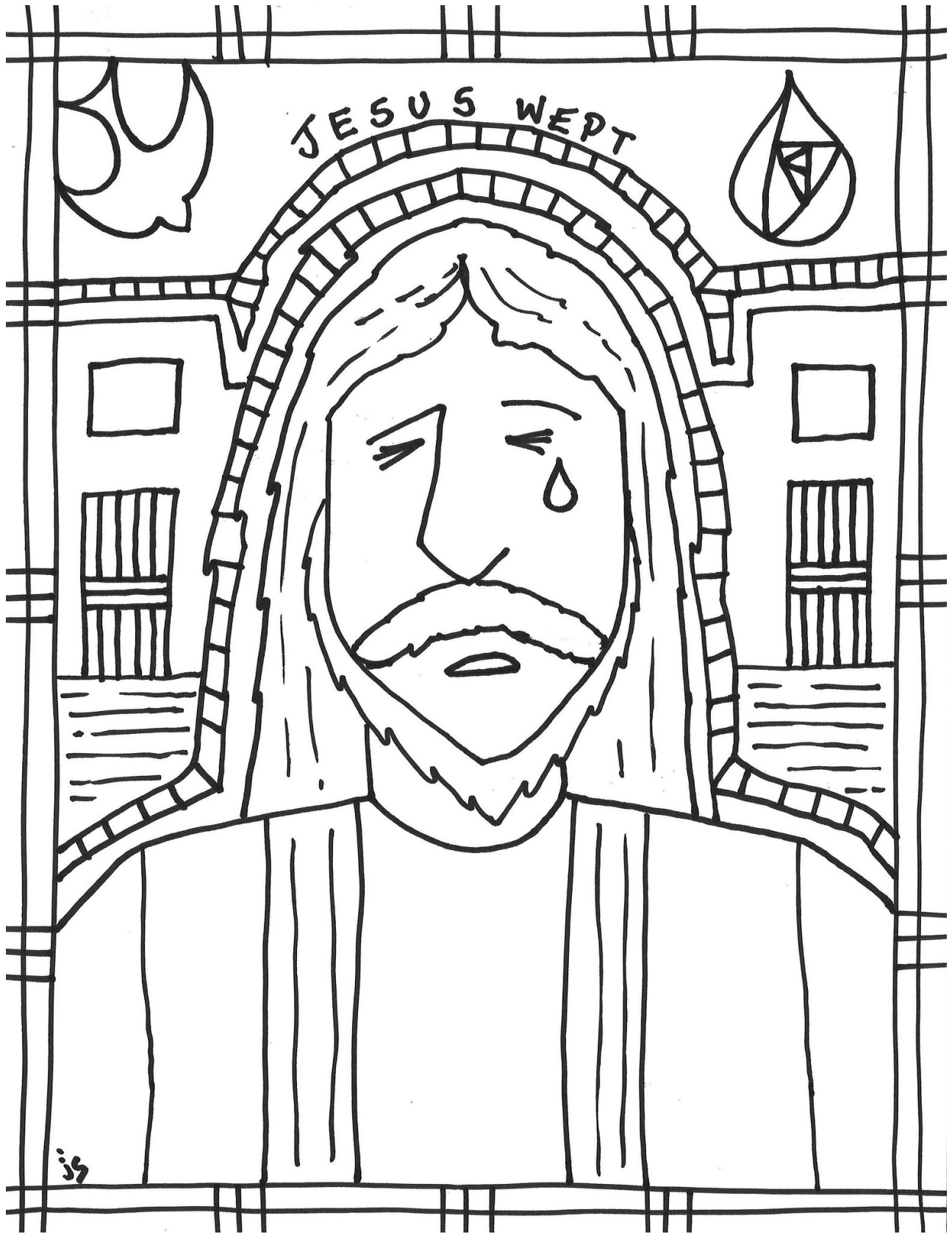
Saturday, June 15

10:00am Alcoholics Anonymous (Circle II Basement)

Sunday, June 16

10:30 am Sunday Worship for all ages (Sanctuary)

11:30am Coffee Fellowship for all ages (Parlor)



Portions of the liturgy by Thom M. Shuman, Rev. Nancy J, re:Worship and Feasting on the Word. Images by Rev. John Stuart, stushieart.com.