



**First Presbyterian Church**  
149 Broad Street  
Tonawanda, New York 14150 ~ 2111  
Church: (716) 692-1319  
Rev. Leslie Latham

**Come, Worship the Lord, Our God**  
**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany**

CCLI License # 2839486      *Words to hymns are in the insert*

**February 13, 2022**

**10:30 am**

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

With songs of praise, let us worship God.

**Blessed are those who trust in the Lord.**

They shall be like a tree planted by water,  
**sending out its roots by the stream.**

Baptized and freed, grounded in love,  
**let us worship God.**

## **GATHERING PRAYER**

God of life, in Christ you resurrect all things. Raise us from death to life, that our transformation may bear witness to the power of your grace in our lives through Jesus Christ, the firstborn from the dead. Amen.

**HYMN:** #418 *Softly and Tenderly, Jesus Is Calling*

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. So let us be honest and confess what separates us from God and our neighbors, trusting in God's constant desire to forgive and renew.

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God of our Restoration, whenever we come home to you, we realize how far we have strayed and how much we have forgotten of your law and your love. We have not loved you with our whole hearts or loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us, heal us, and restore us to our relationship with you; through Jesus Christ, in whom we trust. Amen.**

*Time for Silent Confession*

## **DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

**Because Christ has been raised from the dead, sin and death do not have the last word! Our faith is not in vain! Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, we are forgiven and set free to live for God and neighbor. Thanks be to God.**

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

## **SCRIPTURE LESSONS:**

### ***Psalm 51***

<sup>1</sup> Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness;  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

<sup>2</sup> **Wash me through and through from my wickedness  
and cleanse me from my sin.**

<sup>3</sup> For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.  
<sup>4</sup> **Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight.**  
And so you are justified when you speak and upright in your judgment.  
<sup>5</sup> **Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth,**  
**a sinner from my mother's womb.**  
<sup>6</sup> For behold, you look for truth deep within me,  
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.  
<sup>7</sup> **Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure;**  
**wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.**  
<sup>8</sup> Make me hear of joy and gladness,  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.  
<sup>9</sup> **Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquities.**  
<sup>10</sup> Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
<sup>11</sup> **Cast me not away from your presence**  
**and take not your holy Spirit from me.**  
<sup>12</sup> Give me the joy of your saving help again  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.  
<sup>13</sup> **I shall teach your ways to the wicked, and sinners shall return to you.**  
<sup>14</sup> Deliver me from death, O God,  
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness,  
O God of my salvation.  
<sup>15</sup> **Open my lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.**  
<sup>16</sup> Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice,  
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.  
<sup>17</sup> **The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; a broken and contrite heart,**  
**O God, you will not despise.**

### **Luke 15:11-32**

<sup>11</sup> Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup> A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup> When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup> He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup> But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup> I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" <sup>20</sup> So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup> Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' <sup>22</sup> But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup> And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup> for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate. <sup>25</sup> "Now his elder son was in the field; and

when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup> He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' <sup>28</sup> Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. <sup>29</sup> But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' <sup>31</sup> Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup> But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'" ([Read full chapter](#))

## **SERMON**

**Repent!**

**The Rev. Leslie Latham**

## **PASTORAL PRAYER**

### **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**

**Holy One, bless and multiply these gifts we give  
as tokens of our trust in you.  
Use them to bless the poor,  
feed the hungry, and comfort those who weep;  
in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**HYMN:**      #423 *Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God*

### **CHARGE**

Consider this day the ways in which you are falsely consoled and uncomfortably full.  
Consider today how casual attitudes turn us aside from tears too deep for words.  
Consider this day the kingdom and the strange blessing it promises.

### **BENEDICTION**

## HYMNS

“Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling” #418

1 Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, calling for you and for me;  
see, on the portals he's waiting and watching, watching for you and for me.

### **Refrain:**

Come home, come home;  
you who are weary come home;  
earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,  
calling, O sinner, come home!

2 Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading, pleading for you and for me?  
Why should we linger and heed not his mercies, mercies for you and for me? **[Refrain]**

3 O for the wonderful love he has promised, promised for you and for me!  
Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon, pardon for you and for me. **[Refrain]**

“Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God” #423

1 Create in me a clean heart, O God (3x)  
And renew a right spirit within me.

2 Cast me not away from your presence (3x)  
And take not your Holy Spirit from me.

3 Restore to me the joy of your salvation (3x)  
And uphold me with your free Spirit.