



*Lamp of Wisdom* [flickr.com/photos/rowanbank/5815103193/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/rowanbank/5815103193/)

## **First Presbyterian Church**

**149 Broad Street**

**Tonawanda, New York 14150 ~ 2111**

**Church: (716) 692-1319**

**Rev. Leslie Latham**

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

**12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**CCLI License # 2839486**

**AUGUST 15, 2021**

**10:00am**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Let us rejoice, for morning has dawned. A new day has been born, and we are newly alive to enjoy it.

**We know the beauty of God's creation and the wonder of the human family. We remember those whose love has shaped our lives and those whose struggle for justice has been unsleeping through night times of loneliness.**

We gather in the great outdoors to worship God, to share prayers and gifts, and to pledge ourselves to God's work in the world.

**May God bless us, so that what we do in this time together may be honest, sacred and filled with hope.**

## **GATHERING PRAYER**

Living God, we give you thanks for sending our Lord Jesus Christ to give his life as bread for the world. Fill us now with your Spirit that we may make the most of the time, understanding your will and expressing your wisdom in the midst of the people you have chosen. Amen.

**HYMN:**      #687 *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

Let us confess our sins to the all-wise God who is gracious and merciful and keeps covenant with us.

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**All-knowing God, we are your children, but we have turned away from your wisdom and walked in our own ways. We have lived carelessly and squandered time. We have been foolish and failed to understand your will. We have been drunk with the wine of this world and debauched in our own desires. Purge us from evil and fill us with your Spirit. Clear our minds from clutter that we may discern what is right and walk in your ways. Amen.**

*Time for Silent Confession*

## **DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

**Hear the good news: Christ offers himself as bread of life to all who would receive him. This proves his love for us. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Great God of steadfast love, we study your works and delight in your ways. Illumine our understanding by your Holy Spirit, that we may reverence your name, grow in your wisdom, and discern between good and evil. **Amen.**

## **SCRIPTURE LESSONS:**

1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14

<sup>10</sup> Then David slept with his ancestors, and was buried in the city of David. <sup>11</sup> The time that David reigned over Israel was forty years; he reigned seven years in Hebron, and thirty-three years in Jerusalem. <sup>12</sup> So Solomon sat on the throne of his father David; and his kingdom was firmly established.

<sup>3</sup> Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of his father David; only, he sacrificed and offered incense at the high places. <sup>4</sup> The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the principal high place; Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. <sup>5</sup> At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." <sup>6</sup> And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. <sup>7</sup> And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. <sup>8</sup> And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. <sup>9</sup> Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

<sup>10</sup> It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. <sup>11</sup> God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, <sup>12</sup> I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you. <sup>13</sup> I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor all your life; no other king shall compare with you. <sup>14</sup> If you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your life."

Ephesians 5:15-20

<sup>15</sup> Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, <sup>16</sup> making the most of the time, because the days are evil. <sup>17</sup> So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. <sup>18</sup> Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, <sup>19</sup> as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, <sup>20</sup> giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**SERMON**

**Elder Mark Aquino**

## **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**

**We give thanks to you, God, for sending your Son Jesus to be living bread for the world. Breathe on these gifts we bring, that through them your life may feed, strengthen, and bless this world, through Christ, our bread of life. Amen.**

**HYMN:**        #450        *Be Thou My Vision*

### **CHARGE**

Be filled with the Spirit and make the most of the time.  
Walk in wisdom and grow in understanding of God's will,  
feeding on the flesh and blood of Jesus Christ, our living bread.

### **BENEDICTION**

*Household Prayer: Morning*

I praise you, Lord, and give you thanks for the gift of this new day. Fill me with your Holy Spirit. Let your songs fill my heart. Give me a wise and discerning mind to walk in your way, making the most of the time as I go out among your people. Amen.

*Household Prayer: Evening*

Gracious and merciful God, I have gone out and come in today seeking to do your will, yet there is so much that I do not understand or discern. I commit to you my questions, concerns, and anxieties. Grant me peaceful sleep as I rest in your wisdom and steadfast love. Amen.