



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

We Celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion

CCLI License # 2839486

July 7, 2024

10:30am

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

You awaken the sun, O God, to guide us into the new day:

Your name, O God, like your praise, sings in every person.

You speak your Word, O God, to guide us into your kingdom:

Your hope, O God, like your joy, echoes in every soul.

You guide us to those who are looking for you:

Your love, O God, like your name, fills the emptiness of every heart.

GATHERING PRAYER

God the creator, God of the cross, you show your power in whirling galaxies and unseen forces. You show your love in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Drive out the evils that threaten to break our spirits and help us to rely on your all-sufficient grace, for we pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

***HYMN: "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" #377**

HOUSTON

CALL TO CONFESSION

When we look at the relationships we hope to have with one another, and with God, we must admit how broken we are. But, as we gather in the presence of God, we are promised forgiveness and healing, if we will confess our sins. Please join me, as we pray to the One who never ceases to love us,

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

You know how stubborn we can be, Holy God. You call us to serve others, and we stay in the coolness of our own homes. You would send us to where the hopeless live, but we are reluctant to leave the comfort of our complacency. You would feed us on the peace and joy of your word, but we pull our chairs up to the tables of those who serve false promises.

Forgive us, Guiding God. Transform our defiance into discipleship, and our rejection of others into the resurrection of welcoming all people as sisters and brothers in Christ. Help us to love as faithfully as you have always loved us, and send us forth to take the good news of Jesus Christ to everyone we meet.

Silence is kept

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

We open our lips and confess our hearts. God hears our words and make us new, sending us out to bring hope and joy to all the world.

We hear the good news, we believe the good news, we will live out the good news. Thanks be to God. Amen!

PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Savior God, you gave Zion as stronghold for David. By the power of the Holy Spirit, speak to us through Jesus Christ, your living Word, in whose name we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON: 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10

¹Then all the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron, and said, "Look, we are your bone and flesh. ²For some time, while Saul was king over us, it was you who led out Israel and brought it in. The

LORD said to you: It is you who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you who shall be ruler over Israel."

³So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron; and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the LORD, and they anointed David king over Israel. ⁴David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. ⁵At Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months; and at Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years.

⁹David occupied the stronghold, and named it the city of David. David built the city all around from the Millo inward. ¹⁰And David became greater and greater, for the LORD, the God of hosts, was with him.

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

ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

RESPONSIVE PSALM 48

¹Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised

in the city of our God. His holy mountain,

²beautiful in elevation, is the joy of all the earth, Mount Zion,

in the far north, the city of the great King.

³Within its citadels

God has shown himself a sure defense.

⁴Then the kings assembled,

they came on together.

⁵As soon as they saw it, they were astounded;

they were in panic, they took to flight;

⁶trembling took hold of them there, pains as of a woman in labor,

⁷**as when an east wind shatters the ships of Tarshish.**

⁸As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the LORD of hosts,

in the city of our God, which God establishes forever. Selah

⁹We ponder your steadfast love, O God,

in the midst of your temple.

¹⁰Your name, O God, like your praise, reaches to the ends of the earth.

Your right hand is filled with victory.

¹¹Let Mount Zion be glad,

let the towns of Judah rejoice because of your judgments.

¹²Walk about Zion,

go all around it, count its towers,

¹³consider well its ramparts;

go through its citadels, that you may tell the next generation

¹⁴that this is God, our God forever and ever.

He will be our guide forever.

GOSPEL READING: Mark 6:1-13

¹He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. ²On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are

being done by his hands! ³Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him.

⁴Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." ⁵And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. ⁶And he was amazed at their unbelief. Then he went about among the villages teaching.

⁷He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; ⁹but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics.

¹⁰He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them."

¹²So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

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

SERMON: "Expressing Commitment"

Rev. Dr. Rebecca Chaffee

SERMON HYMN: "O Lord My God" #625

Swedish folk Melody

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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

The Lord said to the apostle Paul, My grace is sufficient for you... Jesus also said to Peter, Every one to whom much is given, of him much will be required. Let us bear witness to the love of God by presenting our offerings of thanksgiving.

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

As we have heard, so we have seen God's compassion in our lives. As we have seen, so we will live, offering our gifts to God, so others might know God's steadfast love is present with them in every moment. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE (Please be seated.)

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

May the God of steadfast love be with you.

And also with you.

People of God, offer your hearts to God.

We open our hearts to the One who fills them with grace.

Children of God, sing your praises to the One who has gathered us here.

Our songs of joy travel to the very ends of creation.

It was you, Imaginative God ... singing your name to the edges of the universe:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of enduring love.

All the gifts of creation delight in you.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the One whose weakness is our hope.

Hosanna in the highest!

Holy are you, God of all goodness ... we proclaim that mystery we call faith:

Christ came, to shape our lives like his;

Christ came, to be our Guide forever;

Christ will come again, to gather us in glory.

So now, in this place ... singing our praise to you, God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION

Bless the Lord, O my soul!

And all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul!

And forget not all God's benefits.

***HYMN: "I, the Lord of Sea and Sky" #69**

HERE I AM (Schutte)

CHARGE

We will go to let the Joy of creation lead us into this new day.

We will sing glad choruses of hope to a world in despair.

We go to walk with our Heart's Love beside those whose hearts are broken.

We will touch boastful tongues with peace,

we will offer compassion to those frozen with fear.

We will go with your gentle wisdom, Spirit of grace,
to walk the streets of the kingdom.

**We will bring healing to grudges held far too long,
filling those who grieve with the laughter of hope.**

BENEDICTION

Volunteers This Week:

Liturgist: Janet Haacker
Tech: Betsy Crocker
Usher(s): Jessica Schurr & Billy Welch
Greeter(s): Ina Charsley & Terry DeLuca
Coffee Hour: Diane & Bob Eshelman

Volunteers Next Week 7/14:

Liturgist: Tom Dugan
Tech: Betsy Crocker
Usher(s): Leslie Dugan
Greeter(s): Janet Schurr
Coffee Hour: Tom & Leslie Dugan

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, July 7

10:30 am Sunday Worship for all ages (Sanctuary)
11:30am Coffee Fellowship for all ages (Parlor)

Monday, July 8

10:00 am Alcoholics Anonymous (Circle II Basement)

Tuesday, July 9

9:00am – 2:00pm Office Hours

Wednesday, July 10

9:00am – 2:00pm Office Hours

Thursday, July 11

10:00am Alcoholics Anonymous (Circle II Basement)

Saturday, July 13

10:00am Alcoholics Anonymous (Circle II Basement)

Sunday, July 14

10:30 am Sunday Worship for all ages (Sanctuary)
11:30am Coffee Fellowship for all ages (Parlor)

