



First Presbyterian Church

149 Broad Street

Tonawanda, New York 14150 ~ 2111

Church: (716) 692-1319

Rev. Pastor Leslie Latham

Come, Worship the Lord, Our God

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 9, 2021

10:00am

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP*An Improbable Gift of Blessing*

O God, our God, we seek you—our souls thirst for you.

Dry and weary, we faint for your presence.

We come to the sanctuary to praise you.

We lift up our hands and call on your name.

Our souls are satisfied in you.

Our mouths praise you as a rich feast.

We meditate on you in the watches of the night.

On our beds we remember your constant help.

In the shadow of your wings we sing for joy.

And our souls cling to the hand of your love.

GATHERING PRAYER*An Improbable Gift of Blessing*

Thirsty, we come to you. Faint, we lean on you.

Meditating, we dwell in you. Wing-shadowed, we sing to you.

Turn to us in our need with your abundant grace.

Gift us as we worship with a fragrant blessing of Spirit. Amen.

HYMN: #15 *All Creatures of Our God and King*

CALL TO CONFESSION

We have been called to follow Christ by obeying his one commandment: that we love one another as he has loved us. Let us confess how we have fallen short of that love.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, we have not loved you or each other with our whole hearts. Forgive us, we pray, and lead us toward wholeness, that we may be filled with your joy. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Time for Silent Confession

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Christ loves us so much that he laid down his life for us and calls us his friends. If we can forgive our friends, how much more does Christ forgive us!

PASSING OF THE PEACE**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Come, Holy Spirit, that through your word we may be guided into the love of God for all the world. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Acts 10:44-48

John 15:9-17

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 God, in Christ you have chosen us to be your friends and to know your will in the world. Therefore, we pray in Jesus' name that these tithes and offerings spread your love near and far. Amen.

HYMN: #836 *Abide with Me*

CHARGE

Live in the joy of Christ's love and in all the marvelous things that God is doing!

BENEDICTION

Hymns

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

1. All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother sun with golden beam, O sister moon with silver gleam,
Sing praises. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

2. O brother wind with clouds and rain, you nurture gifts of fruit and grain.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O sister water, flowing clear, make music for your Lord to hear.
Sing praises. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

3. O brother fire, so warm and bright, chase off the shadows of the night.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Dear mother earth, who day by day unfolds such blessings on our way,
Sing praises. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

4. All who for love of God forgive, all who in pain or sorrow grieve,

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Christ bears your burdens and your fears; so, even in the midst of tears,
Sing praises. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

5. And you, most gentle sister death, waiting to hush our final breath:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom, fair is the night that leads us home.
Sing praises. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

6. O Sisters, brothers, take your part, and worship God with humble heart.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

All creatures, bless the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One!
Sing praises. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

“Abide with Me”

1. Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide;
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me.

2. Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see.
O Thou who changest not, abide with me.

3. I need Thy presence every passing hour;
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

4. I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness;
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.

5. Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies;
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.