

September 26, 2021, 11 am  
Olean First Presbyterian Church  
*Follow Jesus in Community*

Good Morning Saints

Announcements

***All unvaccinated people must wear a facemask*** covering mouth and nose.  
*The CDC, Cattaraugus County Health Department and Session are currently recommending everyone to wear a facemask while inside.*

God is Good

**Everyday**

And Everyday

**God is Good**

Call to Worship

**Come, let us worship our God, for there is one Lord,  
one faith, one baptism, one God and Parent of  
all, who is above all and through all and in all.  
We come with humility, gentleness, and  
patience, bearing with one another in love.**

Prayer of Confession

**Holy God, Creator of all that is, Donor of Grace, and  
Giver of Life: hear our prayer.**

**There are chasms in our lives, deep valleys  
that separate us from one another and from You.**

**We confess that we have allowed those rifts to grow,  
for fear of admitting our part in the separation,  
for fear of being rejected when we reach out.**

**You call us to a reconciled life, to healed  
relationships, to a wholeness with each other  
and with You.**

**Mend us, we pray, and make us new creations  
through the power and love of Christ, in whose  
name we pray. Amen.**

*—Beth Merrill Neel*

Assurance of Pardon

The good news in Christ is that when we face  
ourselves and God with the awareness of our  
need, we are given grace to grow, and courage to  
continue the journey.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

## Opening Prayer

**Lord Jesus, create in us a spirit of community, that we might love each other as you have loved us. Create in us a loving heart that we might love the world as you did. And Create in us the ability to see all people as brother, sister, and neighbor created in God's image. Amen**

## Childrens Time

\*Opening Hymn ~ *I Sing a Song of the Saints of God* ~ No. 730

I sing a song of the saints of God,  
patient and brave and true,  
who toiled and fought and lived and died  
for the Lord they loved and knew.  
And one was a doctor, and one was a queen,  
and one was a shepherdess on the green:  
they were all of them saints of God, and I mean,  
God helping, to be one too.

They loved their Lord so dear, so dear,  
and God's love made them strong;  
and they followed the right, for Jesus' sake,  
the whole of their good lives long.  
And one was a soldier, and one was a priest,  
and one was slain by a fierce wild beast:  
and there's not any reason, no, not the least,  
why I shouldn't be one too.

They lived not only in ages past;  
there are hundreds of thousands still;  
the world is bright with the joyous saints  
who love to do Jesus' will.  
You can meet them in school, or in lanes, or at sea,  
in church, or in trains, or in shops, or at tea;  
for the saints of God are just folk like me,  
and I mean to be one too.

## Prayers of the People

**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.**

## Presentation of the Offering

Doxology ~ No. 606

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him,  
all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of thanksgiving

Anthem

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

*Ephesians 4:1-16*

<sup>1</sup>I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, <sup>2</sup>with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup>making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup>There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, <sup>5</sup>one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup>one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

<sup>7</sup>But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. <sup>8</sup>Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people." <sup>9</sup>(When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? <sup>10</sup>He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) <sup>11</sup>The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup>to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup>until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. <sup>14</sup>We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. <sup>15</sup>But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, <sup>16</sup>from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Gospel Reading

*John 1:1-11*

<sup>1</sup>"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers;

such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. <sup>9</sup>As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

The Word of God  
**The Word of Life**

Message

\*Hymn ~ *We Are One in the Spirit* ~ No. 300

We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;  
we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,  
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:

*Refrain:*

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand;  
we will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,  
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land: (*Refrain*)

We will work with each other; we will work side by side;  
we will work with each other; we will work side by side,  
and we'll guard human dignity and save human pride: (*Refrain*)

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,  
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,  
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one: (*Refrain*)

Blessing

Postlude

(Music permission by One License: 734848-A)

Prayer List

Martin Hatch	Frank Jester	Kim Klein
Barb & Chuck Compher	Chris Gruver	Chase Ewoldt
John Depew	Matt Isenberg	Avrie Sinesiou
Lewis Christman	Amanda Waterman	Mary Daugherty
Michael Ahrens & Family	Abigail Craner	Gretchen Randon
Colt Matz	Craig Polson	Renee Ensell
Ted Norton		

*\*\*Please let the office know who can be removed and who needs to be added.*

*Thank you for your help! \*\**

Prayers of sympathy for the family of Edwin Mitchell, Ken Stebbins' brother-in-law who died recently.

Happy Birthday to:

27 ~ Sean Evans, Lanna Waterman

28 ~ Mark Bowersox, Barbara Busack

30 ~ Judy Patton

CHURCH CALENDAR WEEK OF 9/26/21

Sunday – Sept. 26	9:35am Discussion 11am Worship
Tuesday – Sept. 28	6:30pm Scouts in Basement
Wednesday – Sept. 29	5:30pm Burt Meeting
Thursday – Sept. 30	5pm Finance Meeting 6:30pm Vespers 7:15pm Choir Practice 7:15pm Bible Study
Friday – Oct. 1 <i>Andrea Off</i>	10am Coffee & Conversation at Tim Horton's on N. Union St.
Sunday – Oct. 3 <i>Peace &amp; Global Witness Offering</i>	9:35am Adult Discussion 11am Worship ~ Rev. Dr. Heather McDivitt

A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this Offering to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace. Mid councils retain an additional 25% for ministries of peace and reconciliation. The remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own, through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness.

*If you wish to speak with Pastor Bruce, please call 716-378-6773.*