

Olean First Presbyterian Church
September 4, 2022 ~ 10am

Prelude ~ *Jesus Christ is Risen Today* ~ Flor Peeters

Welcome & Announcements

God is Good

Everyday

And Everyday

God is Good

Call to Worship & Opening Prayer (from 1993 *Book of Common Worship: Daily Prayer*)

Give thanks to the Lord, who is good.

God's love is everlasting.

Come, let us praise God joyfully.

Let us come to God with thanksgiving.

For the good world; for things great and small, beautiful and awesome;

For seen and unseen splendors;

Thank you, God.

For human life; for talking and moving and thinking together;

For common hopes and hardships shared from birth until our dying;

Thank you, God.

For work to do and strength to work; for the comradeship of labor;

For exchanges of good humor and encouragement;

Thank you, God.

For marriage; for the mystery and joy of flesh made one;

For mutual forgiveness and burdens shared; for secrets kept in love;

Thank you, God.

For family; for living together and eating together;

For family amusements and family pleasures.

Thank you, God.

For children; for their energy and curiosity; for their brave play and startling frankness;

For their sudden sympathies;

Thank you, God.

For the young; for their high hopes; for their irreverence toward worn-out values;

For their search for freedom; for their solemn vows;

Thank you, God.

For growing up and growing old; for wisdom deepened by experience;

For rest in leisure; and for time made precious by its passing;

Thank you, God.

For your help in times of doubt and sorrow; for healing our diseases;

For preserving us in temptation and danger;

Thank you, God.

For the church into which we have been called;

For the good news we receive by Word and Sacrament; for our life together in the Lord;

We praise you, God.

For your Holy Spirit, who guides our steps and brings us gifts of faith and love;
Who prays in us and prompts our grateful worship;

We praise you, God.

Above all, O God, for your Son Jesus Christ, who lived and died and lives again for our salvation;

For our hope in him; and for the joy of serving him;

We thank and praise you, Eternal God, for all your goodness to us.

Give thanks to the God, who is good.

God's love is everlasting.

Hymn ~ *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* ~ No. 611

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee;
earth and heaven reflect thy rays;
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain,
call us to rejoice in thee.

Mortals, join the happy chorus
which the morning stars began.
Love divine is reigning o'er us,
joining all in heaven's plan.
Ever singing, march we onward,
victors in the midst of strife.
Joyful music leads us sunward
in the triumph song of life.

*Prayer of Confession (written by Rev. Mindi)

Holy Jesus, You call us into a life that others have told us is easy, but it is not. You challenge us to forgive, to love our enemies, to bless those who curse us. We want the easy way, but You have given us the hard path. Grant us the patience and endurance to journey with You, to allow ourselves at times to stumble, to live into the hard way so that we might fully experience Your love, grace and peace in this world, by becom-

ing a people full of love and grace and forgiving others. In Your name we pray.
Amen.

Prayers of the People & 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.

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

Prayer for Illumination (written by Rachel Hackenberg)

Scripture Readings

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

¹O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

²You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

³You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.

⁴Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely.

⁵You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

¹³For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

¹⁴I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

¹⁵My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

¹⁶Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed.

¹⁷How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

¹⁸I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the end —I am still with you.

Philemon 1-21

¹Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker,

²to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God

⁵because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus.

⁶ I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ.

⁷ I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

⁸ For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty,

⁹ yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus.

¹⁰ I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment.

¹¹ Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me.

¹² I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you.

¹³ I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel;

¹⁴ but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced.

¹⁵ Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever,

¹⁶ no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷ So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me.

¹⁸ If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account.

¹⁹ I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self.

²⁰ Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ.

²¹ Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

Message ~ Rev. Aimee Goldmeyer

Music for Meditation ~ *Liebesträum* ~ Franz Liszt

Hymn ~ *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant* ~ No. 727

Will you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey;
we're together on the road.
We are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the nighttime of your fear.
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping;
 when you laugh I'll laugh with you.
 I will share your joy and sorrow
 till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven,
 we shall find such harmony,
 born of all we've known together
 of Christ's love and agony.

Will you let me be your servant,
 let me be as Christ to you?
 Pray that I may have the grace
 to let you be my servant too.

Benediction

Postlude ~ *Prelude & Fugue in A Minor* ~ J. S. Bach

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Celebration of Life for Christopher Gruver



Please join with family and friends on Saturday, September 10th at 11am for Christopher's Celebration of Life. The service will be at the Red House Lake Bee Hunter Pavilion at Allegany State Park (across from the boating/swimming area). Lunch will be provided. Please dress casually (shorts, t-shirts, hats, etc.). Wooden benches are available under the pavilion, but please consider bringing a chair.

Prayer List

Margaret Quigley	Emily Kennedy	Matt Isenberg
Amy Trass	Martin Hatch	Craig Polson
David Cross	Colt Matz	Chase Ewoldt
Michael Eade	Diane Trippany	Avrie Sinesiou
Joseph Kwiatkowski	Alyssa Daly and Family	Gretchen Randon
Dale Isenberg	Kaleb Green	Renee Ensell
Fred Eade	Stacey MacRae	Family Needing Prayers
Heidi Sayers	Andrea Oakley	

***Please let the office know who can be removed and who needs to be added.
 Thank you for your help! ***

Happy Birthday to:
7 ~ Sydney Evans
9 ~ Bruce Levine

Happy Anniversary to:
7 ~ Ken & Betsy Way

CHURCH CALENDAR WEEK OF 9/4/22

Sunday – Sept. 4	10am Worship ~ Rev. Aimee Goldmeyer , Guest Preacher
Thursday - Sept. 8	10am Bible Study 4pm 200th Anniversary Meeting 7pm Choir
Friday – Sept. 9	10am Coffee and Conversation at N. Union Tim Horton
Saturday – Sept. 10	11am Celebration of Life for Christopher Gruver (<i>see bulletin for info</i>)
Sunday – Sept. 11	11am Worship ~ Communion

Please note: Pastor Bruce will be out of the office from August 27th until September 7th.

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

Sunday, September 11th

As summer comes to an end,
Sunday Worship time returns to 11am.



Anyone interested in purchasing a fall Chrysanthemum from the Rotary Club may sign up on the sheet on the table in Fellowship Hall. Each plant is \$16 (you chose the color) and it will be delivered. Thanks! ~ Tony Evans

