

March 3, 2024, 11 am
Third Sunday of Lent
Olean First Presbyterian Church

Prelude ~ *Prelude and Fugue in A Minor* ~ J. S. Bach

Good Morning Saints

Announcements

Choral Introit

God is Good

Everyday

And Everyday

God is Good

Call to Worship ~

We are here with a vision of what can be
as God calls us to worship.

**We have journeyed this far,
and we pause in gratitude.**

Our endurance builds a spirit of understanding and,
even in our weariness, joyful praise.

**Hear our thanks as our hearts dance
and voices sing.**

Opening Prayer

Gracious God, whose power is made perfect in weakness, whose wisdom appears as foolishness in this world, we thank you for the scandal of the cross. In Jesus Christ, you overturn all our usual ways of behaving and believing. You scatter our false notions of discipleship as easily as coins are spilled from a box. You correct our notions of piety and order with fierce passion. Do not let your church become content or contained as an institution. Raze to ruins what is distorted in us, and raise us to new life as a community so that we may be the body of Christ in and for the world. With fear and joy we ask this in Christ's name. Amen.

Children's Time

*Hymn ~ *God of Grace and God of Glory* ~ No. 307

God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.

Cure thy children's warring madness;
bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore.
Let the gift of thy salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.

Prayers of the People

Presentation of 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 ~ *Lord, I Stretch My Hands to Thee* ~ Jay Althouse

Passing of the Peace

Prayer for Illumination ~ No. 455

Listen to the word that God has spoken;
listen to the One who is close at hand;
listen to the voice that began creation;
listen even if you don't understand

Readings ~

Exodus 20:1-20

¹Then God spoke all these words: ²I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me. ⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. ⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. ⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. ¹³You shall not murder. ¹⁴You shall not commit adultery. ¹⁵You shall not steal. ¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. ¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

¹⁸When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, ¹⁹and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." ²⁰Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin."

John 2:13-25

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

²³When he was in Jerusalem during the Passover festival, many believed in his name because they saw the signs that he was doing. ²⁴But Jesus on his part would not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people ²⁵and needed no one to testify about anyone; for he himself knew what was in everyone.

The Word of God
The Word of Life

Message

Music for meditation

The Lord's Table

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy
to give you thanks and praise,
O God of mercy and might.
In your wisdom, you made all things
and sustain them by your power.
You have called forth people in every age
to be your servants and speak your word.
When we rebelled against your call
and turned from your ways,
in your love you called us back to you.
You delivered us from captivity,
and made covenant to be our sovereign God.
You sent prophets to call us to justice and compassion.
Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices with the choirs of heaven
and with all the faithful of every time and place,
who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

You are holy, O God of majesty,
and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord,
in whom you have revealed yourself,
our light and our salvation.
Baptized in Jordan's waters,
Jesus took his place with sinners
and your voice proclaimed him your beloved.

Your Spirit anointed him
to bring good news to the poor,
to proclaim release to the captives,
to restore sight to the blind,
to free the oppressed.
He lived among us in power and grace,
touching broken lives with your healing peace.
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your church,
and made with us a new covenant
by water and the Spirit.
O God, as you once claimed us in the Spirit's waters
and number us among your own beloved,
give us power to do your work, to show your love,
and to live holy and joyful lives.
Keep us faithful in your service
until Christ comes in final victory
and we shall feast with all your saints
in the joy of your eternal realm.
Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
We pray the prayer he taught.

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.

The Communion of the People

Closing Hymn ~ *For the Beauty of the Earth* ~ No. 14

For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies:

Refrain:

Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon, and stars of light: (*Refrain*)

For the joy of ear and eye,
for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony
linking sense to sound and sight: (*Refrain*)

For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild: *(Refrain)*

For thyself, best gift divine
to the world so freely given;
for that great, great love of thine,
peace on earth and joy in heaven: *(Refrain)*

Benediction

Choral Benediction

Postlude ~ *Toccata in E Minor* ~ J. Pachelbel

(Music permission by One License: 734848-A)

Today's Greeters are Betsy Price and Wendy Brand.
Today's Ushers are Martha Nenno and Chris Burton.



Next Sunday, March 10th, is our
2nd Sunday Luncheon. If you
are able to, please bring a dish
to pass. If not, plan to attend
anyway!

**Looking for Greeters. Please signup when list
is passed or in Fellowship Hall.**

Prayer List

Margaret Quigley	Emily Kennedy	Matt Isenberg
Judy Sanchez	Martin Hatch	Craig Polson
Joe Gullo	Colt Matz	Chase Ewoldt
Dale Isenberg	Diane Trippany	Avrie Sinesiou
Joseph Kwiatkowski	Alyssa Daly and Family	Renee Ensell
Ken Stebbins	Punkie & Craig Sinesiou	Kim Whitney
Judi Blair	Judi Mitchell	Carol Bess
Doris Coral	Barbara Compher	Kay Allin
Thomas Burian		

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

Happy Birthday to:

4 ~ Chris Burton, Linda Kelly, Jane Pitcher

8 ~ Ryan Evans

CHURCH CALENDAR WEEK OF 3/3/24

Sunday – March 3	9:30am Bible Study 11am Worship
Monday - March 4	4pm Session
Tuesday - March 5	6:30pm Scouts 7pm Interfaith Community ~ Role of Music in Our Faith
Wednesday - March 6	3:15pm Interfaith Caregiver meeting in Fellowship Hall
Thursday - March 7	5:30pm Bring Your Own Dinner 6:30pm Vespers 6:45pm Scouts 7pm Bible Study 7pm Choir
Friday - March 8	10am Coffee and Conversation at N. Union Tim Hortons 7:30pm Fish Club
Sunday – March 10	9:30am Bible Study 11am Worship Noon Potluck Lunch

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

We are going to try to boost our Easter attendance by following a program recommended by our Presbytery Consultant. The first step is for you to think of someone to invite to church for Easter. We, the church, will try to send each of them a postcard before Easter to reinforce your invitation. There are sheets in Fellowship Hall for you to give us the address for the postcards. I know many of us are not comfortable with this, but I hope you will try it. May God bless you during this Lenten-Easter Season. ~ Pastor Bruce



Easter Sunday
March 31st, 9:30am

*Join us for a special Easter
morning coffee hour!*

Easter Memorial order forms are
available in Fellowship Hall.

Orders are due by
Sunday, March 24th.

