

March 23, 2025, 11am  
Olean First Presbyterian Church  
Third Sunday of Lent

Prelude ~ *Allegro* ~ L Boellmann

Good Morning Saints

Announcements

*Please sign the friendship pads and include your contact info, email, phone, and text.  
We want to make sure we can communicate better with you.*

Noisy Cans - *A collection of loose change and small bills for the Olean Food Pantry*

Choral Introit

God is Good

**Everyday**

And Everyday

**God is Good**

Call to Worship

Everyone who thirsts:

**Come to the waters, seek the Lord,  
repent and return so that you may live.**

All who are hungry for righteousness:

**Come to the waters, seek the Lord,  
repent and return so that you may live.**

All who need the help of God:

**Come to the waters, seek the Lord,  
repent and return so that you may live.**

Opening Prayer

Your glory and power, O God, surround us in the sanctuary. We lift up our hands and call on your name. We are your people, thirsty for the living water you alone can give. When we consider how you have helped us, giving us a spring that gushes up to eternal life, we cling to you, singing praises with joyful lips; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Children's Time

Call to Confession

The Lord is our light and our salvation; whom shall we fear? With humble hearts, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

## Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.**

## Declaration of Forgiveness

God, our light and our salvation, does not forsake us or leave us with our sin. In Christ we are forgiven and offered the gift of healing repentance. Thanks be to God!

## \*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

### 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

Anthem ~ *All Thing Bright and Beautiful* ~ Dave Dunbar

### 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

*Isaiah 55:1-13*

<sup>1</sup>Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. <sup>2</sup>Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. <sup>3</sup>Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. <sup>4</sup>See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. <sup>5</sup>See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

<sup>6</sup>Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; <sup>7</sup>let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. <sup>8</sup>For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. <sup>9</sup>For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. <sup>10</sup>For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower

and bread to the eater, <sup>11</sup>so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. <sup>12</sup>For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. <sup>13</sup>Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

*Luke 13:1-9*

<sup>1</sup>At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. <sup>2</sup>He asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? <sup>3</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. <sup>4</sup>Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

<sup>6</sup>Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup>So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ <sup>8</sup>He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. <sup>9</sup>If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

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

Message

Music for Meditation

\*Hymn ~ *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* ~ No. 435

There's a wideness in God's mercy,  
like the wideness of the sea.  
There's a kindness in God's justice,  
which is more than liberty.  
There is no place where earth's sorrows  
are more felt than up in heaven.  
There is no place where earth's failings  
have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader  
than the measures of the mind.  
And the heart of the Eternal

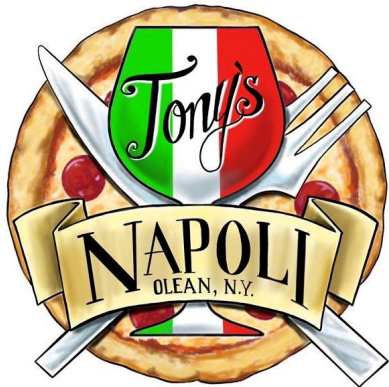
is most wonderfully kind.  
If our love were but more faithful,  
we would gladly trust God's Word,  
and our lives reflect thanksgiving  
for the goodness of our Lord.

\*Benediction

\*Choral Benediction

Postlude ~ *Postlude in E Minor* ~ J. S. Bach

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Dinner Out at Napoli's  
Wednesday, March 26th at 5pm  
Sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall  
Join us for food, fun and fellowship!

Easter Memorial order forms  
are available in Fellowship  
Hall.

Orders are due by  
Sunday, April 6th.



## Prayer List

Margaret Quigley	Emily Kennedy	Matt Isenberg
Judy Sanchez	Martin Hatch	Craig Polson
Joe Gullo	David	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	Barbara Compher	Carol Bess
Thomas Burian	Sylvia Lynch	Bruce Levine

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

Happy Birthday to:  
28 ~ Craig Sinesiou

Happy Anniversary to:  
28 ~ Rip & Sandi Smith

## CHURCH CALENDAR WEEK OF 3/23/25

Sunday – March 23	9:30am Bible Study <i>Noisy Cans</i> 11am Worship
Monday - March 24	4:45pm Book Club at Beef ‘n’ Barrel
Tuesday - March 25	6:30pm Scouts
Wednesday - March 26	5pm Dinner Out at Napoli’s
Thursday - March 27	4pm Worship Team Meeting 5:30pm BYO Dinner 6:30pm Vespers 6:30 Scouts 7pm Choir 7pm Bible Study
Friday - March 28	10am Coffee & Conversation at N Union Tim Hortons
Sunday – March 30	9:30am Bible Study 11am Worship ~ Rick Snyder Appreciation Day

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