

March 30, 2025, 11am
Olean First Presbyterian Church
Fourth Sunday of Lent

Prelude ~ *Allegro* ~ F. Mendelssohn

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.*

Choral Introit

God is Good

Everyday

And Everyday

God is Good

Call to Worship

We are ambassadors for Christ.

God has entrusted to us the message of reconciliation.

We gather as God's beloved family
to worship God and offer our praise.

Let us join our hearts in song and in prayer.

Opening Prayer

Gracious God, seeker of the lost: draw your children back to your loving embrace, restore us to our inheritance as daughters and sons, and reconcile our hearts to you, that we may become ambassadors of your reconciling love to all the world. Through Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit we pray. 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 ~ *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound* ~ No. 649

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,

that saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found,

was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,

and grace my fears relieved.

How precious did that grace appear

the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,

I have already come.

'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,

and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me;

his word my hope secures.

He will my shield and portion be

as long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years,

bright shining as the sun,

we've no less days to sing God's praise

than when we'd first begun.

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

Celebration of Rick Snyder

Anthem ~ *Let Us Sing the Songs* ~ David 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

Psalms 32

¹Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

²Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

³While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.

⁴For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. Selah

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the guilt of my sin. Selah

⁶Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.

⁷You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance. Selah

⁸I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

⁹Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.

¹⁰Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.

¹¹Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

Luke 15:11-32

¹¹Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. ¹³A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that

the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' ²⁰So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²²But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate. ²⁵"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

The Word of God

The Word of Life

Music for Meditation

*Hymn ~ *There is Now a New Creation* ~ 774

There is now a new creation
through the grace of Jesus Christ,
peace and reconciliation
with the God of endless life.

Call the lost and found together;
tell the news to everyone:
now the past is gone forever
and a new life has begun.

Wrap the prodigal in welcome;
run to greet the wayward child.
All is finished and forgiven;
let us now be reconciled.

Come and join the celebration;
come and join this happy feast;
Jesus makes an invitation
to the greatest and the least.

There is now a new creation
through the grace of Jesus Christ.
Sing, with thanks and adoration,
to the God of endless life!

*Benediction

*Choral Benediction

Postlude ~ *Sortie* ~ Cesar Franck

If you are interested, you may gather around the organ to watch Rick play the postlude.

(Music permission by One License: 734848-A)



Today's flowers are given in loving memory of August Klein, Jr., father of Karen, by Karen and Tom Bowersox.

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:
30 ~ William Burton, Sr

Happy Anniversary to:
5 ~ Rick & Brenda Synder

CHURCH CALENDAR WEEK OF 3/30/25

Sunday – March 30	9:30am Bible Study 11am Worship ~ Rick Snyder Appreciation Day
Tuesday - April 1	6:30pm Scouts
Thursday - April 3	5pm Finance Meeting 5:30pm BYO Dinner 6:30pm Vespers 6:30 Scouts 7pm Choir 7pm Bible Study
Friday - April 4	10am Coffee & Conversation at N Union Tim Hortons
Sunday – April 6	9:30am Bible Study 11am Worship

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