

September 21, 2025, 11 am  
Olean First Presbyterian Church

Prelude ~ *Communion with God* ~ Franklin Ritter

Good Morning Saints

Announcements

Choral Introit

God is Good

**Everyday**

And Everyday

**God is Good**

Call to Worship

Beloved children of God,  
in supplication and prayer,  
with intercessions and with thanksgiving,  
**we come to worship God.**

In hope and in humility,  
with joy and with concerns,  
**we come to worship God.**

In faith and in uncertainty,  
with questions and with conviction,  
**let us worship God.**

Call to Confession

Through faith in Jesus Christ, we are given access to the grace of God. Standing in that grace, we now confess our sins before God, seeking forgiveness and peace.

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

Friends, we are still standing in the grace of Christ. Because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the holy spirit, we are set free to love God and neighbor, and to work for the reconciliation of the world. We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Thanks be to God.

*Our God Is an Awesome God* ~ No. 616

Our God is an awesome God  
who reigns from heaven above  
with wisdom, power, and love;  
our God is an awesome God!

Prayer of the Day

Faithful God, we give you thanks that in Jesus Christ you have entrusted us with the richness of your glory and the treasure of your grace. Make us faithful stewards of your good gifts, that we may show your love to this generation and welcome us into your eternal home, where we will worship and serve you forever; through Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Children's Time

Hymn ~ *Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness* ~ No. 291

*Refrain:*

Spirit, spirit of gentleness,  
blow through the wilderness, calling and free.  
Spirit, spirit of restlessness,  
stir me from placidness,  
wind, wind on the sea.

You moved on the waters;  
you called to the deep;  
then you coaxed up the mountains  
from the valleys of sleep;  
and over the eons  
you called to each thing,  
"Awake from your slumbers  
and rise on your wings." (*Refrain*)

You swept through the desert;  
you stung with the sand;  
and you goaded your people  
with a law and a land.  
When they were confounded  
with idols and lies,  
then you spoke through your prophets  
to open their eyes. (*Refrain*)

You sang in a stable;  
you cried from a hill;  
then you whispered in silence  
when the whole world was still.  
And down in the city,  
you called once again  
when you blew through your people  
on the rush of the wind. (*Refrain*)

You call from tomorrow;  
you break ancient schemes;  
from the bondage of sorrow  
the captives dream dreams.  
Our women see visions;  
our men clear their eyes.  
With bold new decisions  
your people arise. (*Refrain*)

## Prayers of the People

Minute for Mission ~ Peacemaking and Global Witness Offering, Chris Norton

## 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 ~ *I Will Keep My Eyes on You* ~ Cindy Berry

## 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

*Matthew 6:16-24*

<sup>16</sup> “And whenever you fast, do not look somber, like the hypocrites, for they mark their faces to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>17</sup> But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, <sup>18</sup> so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>19</sup> “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, <sup>20</sup> but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

<sup>22</sup> “The eye is the lamp of the body. So if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, <sup>23</sup> but if your eye is unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If, then, the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

24 “No one can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

*Deuteronomy 5:6-10*

6I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; 7you shall have no other gods before me. 8You 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. 9You 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 fourth generation of those who reject me, 10but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

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

Message

*I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery;  
7you shall have no other gods before me. 8You shall not make for yourself an idol,*

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 men and women 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**

Thank you for your faithfulness from generation to generation and especially for the gift of your son, Jesus Christ. He walks with us along the way and fills our hearts with love. He breaks bread with us and opens our lives to experience grace. He covers us with healing and pours out love with abandon.

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

Prayer after Communion

Hymn ~ *This Is My Father's World* ~ No. 370

This is my Father's world,  
and to my listening ears  
all nature sings, and round me rings  
the music of the spheres.  
This is my Father's world;  
I rest me in the thought  
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas,  
his hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world.  
O, let me ne'er forget  
that though the wrong seems oft so strong,  
God is the ruler yet.  
This is my Father's world.  
The battle is not done:  
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,  
and earth and heaven be one.

Benediction

Choral Benediction

Postlude ~ *At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing* ~ William Barnett

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Today's flowers are given in loving memory of Chester Cashing by Doug and Betsy Cashing.

**Dinner Out at Genesee Pizzeria**  
**46 Genesee St., Cuba**  
**Wednesday, Sept. 24th at 5pm**

**Join us for food, fun and  
fellowship!**  
**Sign up in Fellowship Hall.**



**Book Club**  
**Monday, September 22nd, 4:45pm**  
**Beef 'n' Barrel**

**All are welcome to attend.**  
**Organizational meeting for  
the new year.**

**For seating purposes, please let  
Chris Norton or Pastor Bruce know  
if you are new to the group  
and plan to attend.**



## Prayer List

Joe Hovey	Emily Kennedy	Matt Isenberg
Judy Sanchez	Martin Hatch	Craig Polson
Joe Gullo	Mark Newcomb	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
Alexus Fisk	Ron Register	

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

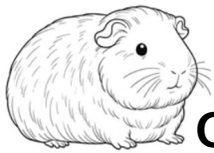
Happy Birthday to:

27 ~ Lanna Waterman. Sean Evans

## CHURCH CALENDAR WEEK OF 9/21/25

Sunday - Sept. 21	9:30am Bible Study
<i>Communion</i>	11am Worship
Monday - Sept. 22	4:45pm Book Club at Beef'n'Barrel
	7pm Interfaith Community Meeting
Tuesday - Sept. 23	6:30pm Scouts
Wednesday - Sept. 24	5pm Dinner Out at Genesee Pizzeria in Cuba
	6:30pm Scout Leader Meeting
Thursday - Sept. 25	4pm Worship Team
	5:30pm BYO Dinner
	6pm Scouts
	6:30pm Vespers
	7pm Choir
	7pm Bible Study
Friday - Sept. 26	NO Coffee & Conversation
Sunday - Sept. 28	9:30am Bible Study
	11am Worship ~ Noisy Cans

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



## **GUINEA PIGS WANTED**

**The Challenger Learning Center in Allegany was revamped this summer.**

**We are learning a new mission:  
Lunar Quest.**

**We need 20-30 family and friends to be our  
Guinea pigs as we practice.**

**The dates are: Monday, October 6 @ 6 PM  
and Sunday, October 19 @ 4 PM**

**(no Bills game that day, we checked).**

**It should take between 2-3 hours. If you  
would like to be part of the fun, tell Chris  
Norton or call (716)379-8686, M-F, 9-3.**



**There is a sign up sheet in  
Fellowship Hall if you would  
like to bring in a snack for  
Coffee Hour.**



**Any help is greatly  
appreciated!**

