

March 1, 2026, 11am  
Olean First Presbyterian Church

Prelude ~ *Abide, Dearest Jesus* ~ S. Karg-Elert

Good Morning Saints

Announcements

Choral Introit

God is Good

**Everyday**

And Everyday

**God is Good**

Call to Worship

Tell me something good!

**God loves you more than you could imagine.**

Tell me something good!

**God loves all of creation more than you could imagine.**

Tell me something good!

**God's love meets us in this service of worship. We are not alone.**

This is good news indeed!

**Let us worship our compassionate God!**

Opening Prayer

O Lord, as we gather here to worship in this place, assure us of your presence through the Holy Spirit, that we may be led to follow you this day and always. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen

\*Hymn ~ *Hear the Good News of Salvation* ~ No. 441

Hear the good news of salvation:

Jesus died to show God's love.

Such great kindness! Such great mercy!

Come to us from heaven above.

Jesus Christ, how much I love you!

Jesus Christ, you save from sin!

How I love you! Look upon me.

Love me still and cleanse within.

All the sins I have committed,

to my Savior now I bring.

I bow down with tears of anguish;

Christ forgives and so I sing:

Jesus Christ, how much I love you!  
Jesus Christ, you save from sin!  
How I love you! Look upon me.  
Love me still and cleanse within.

#### Call to Confession

Family of faith, we long to love others as God loves us, but that work is easier said than done. We lose our way. We become distracted. We grow fearful. We need God's grace. Fortunately for us, God's grace is freely and abundantly given. So join me in the Prayer of Confession. Join me in being transformed.

#### Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God, did we see you hungry and give you something to eat? Did we see you thirsty and give you something to drink? Did we see you alone and offer you compassion? Or did we cross the street? Did we avert our eyes? Did we come up with every excuse in the book? God, we long to be people who love our neighbors with the same overwhelming love that you have for them. But we must admit, we have a long way to go. Forgive us for the times when we let bias, scarcity, or fear get in the way of love. Wash us clean and give us the courage to try again. With hope for a better tomorrow we pray. Amen.**

#### Declaration of Forgiveness

Faith family, even when we act with judgment, even when we are guided by fear, even when we turn our back on a neighbor in need, God does not turn God's back on us. So join me in this good-news declaration:

**We are seen. We are forgiven. We are invited to try again. Thanks be to God for this unending love. Amen.**

#### *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!

#### Children's Time

#### Prayer's of the People

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

Prayer for Illumination

**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.**

Scripture Readings ~

*Psalms 121*

1I lift up my eyes to the hills— from where will my help come?

2My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

3He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

4He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

5The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

6The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

7The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

8The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

*John 3:1-17*

3Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. 2He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” 3Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” 4Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” 5Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. 6What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ 8The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” 9Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” 10Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? 11“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. 12If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? 13No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. 14And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. 16“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. 17“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

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 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 ~ *My Faith Looks Up to Thee* ~ No. 829

My faith looks up to thee,  
thou Lamb of Calvary,  
Savior divine!

Now hear me while I pray;  
take all my guilt away;  
O let me from this day  
be wholly thine!

May thy rich grace impart  
strength to my fainting heart,  
my zeal inspire;  
as thou hast died for me,  
O may my love to thee  
pure, warm, and changeless be,  
a living fire!

While life's dark maze I tread  
and griefs around me spread,  
be thou my guide;  
bid darkness turn to day;  
wipe sorrow's tears away;  
nor let me ever stray  
from thee aside.

When ends life's transient dream,  
when death's cold, sullen stream  
shall o'er me roll;  
blest Savior, then, in love,  
fear and distrust remove;  
O bear me safe above,  
a ransomed soul!

\*Benediction

\*Choral Benediction

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

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Next Sunday, March 8th, is our 2nd Sunday Luncheon. If you are able to, please bring a dish to pass. If not, plan to attend anyway!

**Dinner Out at The Wing  
Monday, March 16th at 5pm**

**Join us for food, fun and  
fellowship!**

**Sign up in Fellowship Hall.**



Prayer List

Joe Hovey	Emily Kennedy	Matt Isenberg
Judy Sanchez	Martin Hatch	Craig Polson
Joe Gullo	Mark Newcomb	Chase Ewoldt
Sally Belloli	Diane Trippany	Avrie Sinesiou
Joseph Kwiatkowski	Alyssa Daly and Family	Renee Ensell
Ken Stebbins	Punkie & Craig Sinesiou	Kim Whitney
Judi Blair	John & Rachel Wheaton	Carol Bess
Thomas Burian	Sylvia Lynch	Bruce Levine
Cataleya Casas	Ron Register	Dennis Whittaker

*\*\*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, Janie Pitcher

CHURCH CALENDAR WEEK OF 2/22/26

Sunday - Mar. 1	9:30am Bible Study 11am Worship 2:30pm Eden Heights Service
<i>Communion</i>	
Monday - Mar. 2	4pm Session Meeting
Tuesday - Mar. 3	6:30pm Scouts
Wednesday - Mar. 4	6:30pm Scouts
Thursday - Mar. 5	5:30pm BYO Dinner 6pm Scouts 6:30pm Vespers 7pm Choir 7pm Bible Study
Friday - Mar. 6	10am Coffee & Conversation at Tim Hortons
Saturday - Mar. 7	Change your clocks ahead before bed
Sunday - March 8	9:30am Bible Study 11am Worship Noon Potluck Lunch

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



There is a dated sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall for those willing to help (particularly with music) Pastor Bruce provide worship services to the residents at Eden Heights. The services are on the 1st Sunday of the month.

Please note: There are 3 Sundays Pastor Bruce is not available. Talk with him if you are willing lead the service any of those dates.



**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!**



Easter Memorial order forms are available in Fellowship Hall.

Orders are due by Sunday, March 15th.

