



First Presbyterian Church

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The mission of historic First Church is to bring diverse people of metropolitan Buffalo together to follow Jesus Christ through worshipping God, fostering spiritual growth, and serving the community.

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT MARCH 17, 2019

*Wherever ♦ appears, you are asked to stand if you are able to do so.
Text in **bold print** indicates congregational responses.*

PRELUDE

Variations on St. Flavian

Healey Willan

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE COMMUNITY

CHORAL INTROIT

*The Lord hath visited and redeemed us.
O come, O come, let us adore him. Let us adore him.*

♦CALL TO WORSHIP

The psalmist sings, one thing I asked of the Lord, that I will seek after:

To live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,

To behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in God's temple.

Sisters and brothers, God is good, and in love and mercy greets us here.

Let us worship the Lord!

♦HYMN 488

“The God of Abraham Praise”

Leoni

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Dr. Kenneth E. Hughes

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray:

Loving God, you save all who seek refuge in you. Grant that we who know your salvation may walk always in your light, take courage in your faithfulness, and rejoice in your astounding goodness to us. Through Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND PARDON

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:

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Let us pray:

Lord, you know who we are. You know everything we have done. We thirst for things that will never satisfy us. We commit ourselves to things that will never last. We worship things that will never bring salvation. By the power of the Holy Spirit , conform our sin-weakened bodies to the glory of Christ, that we may be the body of Christ for the world. Amen.

Christ the Lord speaks to us words of grace. Your sins are forgiven, washed away and forgotten. **Thanks be to God!**

◇CANTICLE

“Glory to the Father”

Richard Wetzel

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
as in the beginning, so now, and forever. Amen.**

◇PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

In Jesus Christ we know God's forgiveness and peace! Let us share that peace with one another. The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

ANTHEM

Hear the Voice and Prayer

Thomas Tallis

Hear the voice and prayer of Thy servants which they make before Thee this day: That Thine eyes may be open toward this house day and night, even toward the place of which Thou hast said, My Name shall be there. And when Thou hear'st, have mercy upon them.
— 1 Kings 8:28-30

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Psalm 38

OT pages 512

SERMON

“Surprised by Sin”

Dr. Hughes

◇HYMN 394

“There Is a Balm in Gilead”

Balm in Gilead

◇AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Christ has given his life for us. Let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God

OFFERTORY

Adagio

Felix Mendelssohn

◇DOXOLOGY 591

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Old Hundredth

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

◇PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

O God, we have beheld your goodness to us. Accept the offering of the work of our hands,
and use us for the sake of Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

◇HYMN: 303

“Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

Aberystwyth

(Verses 1 & 4)

◇CHARGE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Fantasy in C minor

J. S. Bach



Household Prayer: Morning

Dear God, I do not know all of the challenges that face me this day, but still I pray: if I should be tempted by desire for earthly gain, remind me of my citizenship in heaven. If I should be distracted by hunger, satisfy me with your Holy Spirit until I hunger no more. Let me walk in the way of Christ so that my life testifies in deed and word, “Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.” Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Dear God, great is your mercy to me, even when I have not remembered you. Where I have strayed from your path, forgive my sins and show me the way to salvation. Grant me rest this night that I may rise refreshed in my commitment to the way of my Lord, Jesus Christ, in whose name I pray. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2019

Today's liturgist is Mark Armesto.

ADULT FORUM

Today, March 17 from 12:15 to 1:15 PM
in the Houghton Library

Andrew Darby will speak about Wells for Tanzania, a collective effort among 8 WNY schools that has raised over \$20,000 to construct deep-water wells in Tanzania.

Adult Forums are monthly educational opportunities for church members and friends and are presented by the Christian Education Committee.

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT

Rev. Ken is assigning all First Church members and friends homework for the week. If you are a user of Facebook, Instagram, and/or Twitter, be sure to "like" or follow the church's pages.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/1stChurchBuffalo

Instagram: @1stchurchbfo

Twitter: @1stchurchbfo

You'll want to get an A on this assignment when you see what's in store on our social media pages coming up.

NEW CLASS: "THE HOW, WHAT, & WHY OF PRESBYTERIANISM

The unofficial motto of First Church is "Historic & Alive!" That would work as a slogan for the Presbyterian denomination as well.

We are indeed a historic faith tradition, with our roots in the early stages of the Protestant Reformation. "Alive" applies as well— whether you're talking about the Presbyterian shaping of the birth of our nation, its profound influence on the

development of the country in ensuing centuries, or its "thought leadership" among American Christians today.

That is the backdrop to the five-week course led by Rev. Dr. Ken Hughes that will be offered on Mondays at 6:30 PM, beginning **Monday, March 11**. The class will cover a good share of history and denominational structure and practice, but the emphasis will be on what Presbyterians believe, and why.

MID-WEEK LENT SERVICES

Wednesdays, March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17
12:00 PM - Dr. Hughes will conduct a brief worship and prayer service in the Chapel

12:30 PM - Elder Maria Oakley will offer a quiet space for prayer and contemplation.*

A light meal will be available.

**Several days will include an opportunity to walk the labyrinth. A labyrinth is a patterned path, often circular in form, used as a walking meditation or spiritual practice. It is an ancient symbol that relates to wholeness. It represents a journey to the center where we draw closer to God and back again out into the world. Labyrinth dates will be announced at a later date.*

FRONT PAGE NEWS:

BUILDING THE BUZZ ABOUT BUFFALO

An interactive presentation and discussion with Brian Hayden, Communications Manager with Visit Buffalo Niagara

Wednesday, March 27 at 7:00 PM in the Chapel

Word is finally getting out about America's best kept secret—Buffalo—but the media coverage that has appeared nationally and internationally over

the last few years hasn't just occurred by happenstance. Visit Buffalo Niagara's Communications Manager, Brian Hayden, will share the behind-the-scenes role Erie County's tourism promotion agency plays in pitching and hosting media and generating positive coverage about Buffalo far beyond the Queen City.

This event is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be available; beer and wine for a nominal charge. All attendees will automatically be entered into a raffle drawing for enticing items such as a year membership to the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, a \$100 gift certificate for fine dining at Mother's, two overnight stays at the luxury boutique hotel InnBuffalo (a childhood home of Roch Harmon), Explore Buffalo tour passes, a framed poster of the church tower, and stereoviews of historic Buffalo. Join us for this exciting evening, and bring a friend!

EXPLORE BUFFALO HISTORY SERIES

7:00-9:00 PM

Thursday, March 21

in the sanctuary

Uncovering Terra Cotta

Buffalo: An Early Modern Powerhouse

General admission \$10

Free for Explorer Pass holders

BOOK GROUP

Thursday, March 28 at 6:00 PM

at Ilsa Cooper's home

Book to discuss: "The Hidden Life of Trees" by

Peter Wohlleben & Tim Flannery

Please bring a dish to share for a potluck meal.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl ministry group meets Mondays at 6:30 PM at the Eggertsville-Snyder Library (4622 Main St. in Snyder just past Harlem Rd.) Anyone is welcome, and yarn can be provided.

JOYS & CONCERNS

- Victims of the New Zealand mosque shootings
- Kyle Bradford recovering from back surgery
- Sharon B. recovering from a hip replacement
- The Galeota family grieving
- Ellen S. in declining health
- A young woman who needs deliverance from a very bad situation.
- Dale B., recovering from a traumatic brain injury.
- José Gomez
- Roch Harmon at Autumn View in Hamburg
- Pat Harmon
- Susan Cummings
- Alan McCausland
- Jeff Wichtowski
- John Burgess at HighPointe on Michigan
- Bob Kerwin at home
- Elaine Tinch
- Ramona Brown
- Asylum seekers at the Mexican border, especially those families who are separated.

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, March 17	Second Sunday of Lent
11:00 a.m.	Worship, Rev. Dr. Ken Hughes preaching — Sanctuary
11:15 a.m.	Sunday school — Classrooms
12:00 p.m.	Fellowship time — Narthex
12:15 p.m.	March Adult Forum with Andrew Darby — Houghton Library
Monday, March 18	
6:30 p.m.	Presbyterian Beliefs Class 2 — Pastor's Study
6:30 p.m.	Prayer Shawl Group at Eggertsville-Snyder Library
Tuesday, March 19	
12:30 p.m.	Food Bag Assistance — Historical Hall
7:30 p.m.	Friends of Harmony rehearsal — Sanctuary
Wednesday, March 20	
10:00 a.m.	Staff meeting — Pastor's Study
12:00 p.m.	Mid-Week Lent Service — Chapel
4:30 p.m.	Literacy tutoring — Chapel
6:30 p.m.	Kleinhans Community Association meeting — Chapel
7:00 p.m.	Session meeting — Houghton Library
Thursday, March 21	
7:00 p.m.	Explore Buffalo speaker series — Sanctuary
Friday, March 22	No events
Saturday, March 23	
6:00 - 10:00 p.m.	Parking lot in use for Kleinhans event
Sunday, March 24	Third Sunday of Lent
11:00 a.m.	Worship, Rev. Dr. Ken Hughes preaching — Sanctuary
11:15 a.m.	Sunday school — Classrooms
12:00 p.m.	Fellowship time — Narthex
1:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Parking lot in use for Kleinhans event

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OFFICERS



SESSION BY CLASS AND TERM

Class of 2019

Mark Armesto (1)
Don Houck (1)
Liz Kamke (1)
Maria Oakley (2)

Class of 2020

Lucas Lloyd (2)
Janet Hill (1) *Clerk*
Henry Porter (2)
Sue Snyder (2)

Class of 2021

John Darby (2)
Jose Gomez (1)
Jean Hess (1)
Tina Osei (1)



BOARD OF DEACONS BY CLASS AND TERM

Class of 2019

Gifty Koramoah (2)
June McGrath (1)
Denis Wettlaufer (1)

Class of 2020

India Asplundh (1)
Barry Farmer (1)
Madeline Mason-Brandon (2)
Suzanne Pilon (1)
Lou Ann Luther Riegle (2)

Class of 2021

Mary Field (2)
Jim McKeel (1)
Sheila Miller (2)
Shannon Rogers (1)

Officers of the Corporation

Michael Henry, President
Rebecca Whipple, Vice President
Mark Armesto, Treasurer
Janet Hill, Secretary

FIRST CHURCH STAFF LIST

Rev. Dr. Kenneth E. Hughes, Pastor

RevKen@firstchurchbuffalo.org
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The Reverend John Long, D.D.,

Parish Associate for Community Outreach
johnrlong17@verizon.net

Dr. David Bond, Organist/Choirmaster, Bookkeeper

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Christina Banas, Business Manager

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Rama Salim, Security & Maintenance Coordinator

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EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

Order deadline
Palm Sunday,
April 14

Help decorate the sanctuary with flowers on Easter,
and take the opportunity to honor a loved one.

NAME _____

PHONE OR EMAIL _____

NUMBER OF PLANTS _____ @ \$8.00 EACH TOTAL \$ _____

DEDICATION

Dedications will be printed in the bulletin on Easter Sunday.

Flowers will be a variety of lilies, tulips, daffodils and other spring plants.

- I will take my flower(s) on Easter Sunday.
- Please use my flower(s) for the church gardens.
- Please donate my plant to our homebound members.
 - I volunteer to deliver my flower to a homebound member.

Please make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church and
indicate "Easter flowers" in the memo.