



*Niccolls Memorial
Presbyterian Church*

Sunday Morning Worship

4th Sunday in Lent

March 11th, 2018

10:00 am

Our Mission

*To live out Christ's love
by nurturing spiritual growth and fellowship,
and by reaching out in faith and love.*

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Faith is, above all, openness: an act of trust in the unknown.

-- Alan Watts

Hope is hearing the melody of the future; faith is dancing to it today.

-- Ruben Alvez

WELCOME & PRELUDE

INTROIT – “*The Servant Song*”

#727, vs. 2

We are pilgrims on a journey;
we’re together on the road.
We are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

CALL TO WORSHIP –

Liturgist: Star Livingstone

L: Creator of the world, eternal God,

All: We have come from many places for a little while.

L: Redeemer of humanity, God-with-us,

All: We have come with all our differences, seeking common ground.

L: Spirit of unity, go-between God

All: We have come on journeys of our own, to a place where journeys meet.

L: So here, in this shelter house, let us take time together.

**All: For when paths cross and pilgrims gather, there is much to share and celebrate.
In your name, three-in-one God, pattern of community. Amen**

*HYMN – “*Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*”

611

*CALL TO CONFESSION

One: By nature, we are impatient, irritated, grumbling, disobedient children, always demanding our way.

All: But God, who is good and kind and gentle, comes to transform us, by grace, into the people we are meant to be.

One: Let us open ourselves to the One who overflows with love for us, as we confess our sins to God.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: God of great mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you. We look at outward appearances and fail to see what pleases you.

We look with judgment on others and fail to see our own sin.

Forgive us, by your steadfast love.

Create a clean heart within us, teach us your holy way, and restore the joy of salvation; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

*MOMENT FOR PERSONAL CONFESSION

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

One: God rolls away everything that stands in our way - our past, our sin, our pain, our hesitation, and reshapes us into new people living in the new creation.

All: What wonderful grace. We are forgiven!

One: Broken, we are made whole;

All: lost, we are brought home;

One: empty, we are filled with songs of gladness.

All: We rejoice and give thanks to God who has graced us with mercy. Amen.

***THE PEACE**

One: As God in Christ has forgiven us, let us forgive one another and pass the peace of Christ to each other. The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

Greet those around you with: "*The peace of Christ be with you*".

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE –**

#468, vs. 3

In Your church Lord be glorified, be glorified.

In Your church Lord, be glorified today.

***ENGAGING THE WORD**

One: First Reading: *Ephesians 2:1-10*

pg.949

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen

TIME WITH CHILDREN & YOUTH

We invite all children & youth to come forward.

One: Second Reading: *John 3:14-21*

pg.864

One: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

RESPONSE –

#453

Open your ears, O faithful people, open your ears and hear God's word.

Open your hearts, O royal priesthood;

God has come to you.

God has spoken to the people, hallelujah!

God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah!

SERMON – “The Future of Faith”

By: Rev. Dr. John Wilde

***HYMN – “Faith Begins By Letting Go”**

#684

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostle’s Creed, pg.35 in Hymnal

OFFERING & OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY – “We Give thee but thine Own”**

#708

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

All: God of Compassion, we praise you that you look upon our frail lives with love and understanding, and that you desire for us all new life in Jesus Christ.

We are overwhelmed by your love, which goes to the cross for us, endures the grave, and leads us to new life. By your spirit, strengthen our souls to be brave and bold in Christ’s service. Take our offerings and use them and us for your purposes, in the name of Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Lord. Amen.

***HYMN – “Be Thou My Vision”**

#450

***CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

***EXTROIT – (all sing)**

#515 vs. 5

Together met, together bound by all that God has done,
we’ll go with joy to give the world
the love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

POSTLUDE

Notes and Announcements

Whatever your religious background and however you have come to be here, we welcome you to our fellowship in Niccolls Memorial Presbyterian Church. We hope you feel comfortable and will be strengthened in your walk with God. We invite you to join us for fellowship and sustenance in the Social Room following worship.

We begin our worship this day by remembering our baptism. Also, please notice the empty plate (paten) and cup (chalice) on the center of the Communion Table. These symbols speak to us of our hunger for Christ who feeds us at this table.

THE DEACON OF THE MONTH is Janice Park. If you or someone you know has a special need, please call her at 315-369-6889.

PRAYER CHAIN MINISTRY – Praying for others is a blessing and a privilege. If you know of someone who is in need of prayer, please ask if you may share his or her name and need with the prayer chain at Niccolls. If the response is yes, please call Sue Mahoney at 315-390-4025, and she will initiate the chain. All information is confidential and is not shared with anyone other than prayer chain members.

CHURCHES PRAYER CYCLE – The Presbyterian Church is connectional by design and practice. Every week we lift up in prayer a church or ministry within the Presbytery of Utica. This week we pray for: First Presbyterian Church, Holland Patent.

STAFF OPENING – Our church has a paid staff opening. We are looking for a part time Music Director who will lead our singing church. Must be able to play either organ and/or piano, direct our Sunday choir and be willing to work with our pastor and worship committee in creatively taking our church to wonderful places in worship through music. For inquiries into this position, please e-mail us at niccollschurch@gmail.org or call the church office at 315-369-3475.

BIBLE STUDY – We use the PW Horizons Bible study, Cloud of Witnesses; The Community of Christ in Hebrews. We are exploring and discussing the major themes in Hebrews and relating them to other parts of our faith and to community. The group meets on Tuesday mornings in Niccolls Social Room at 9:30 until 11:00. All are welcome!

COMMUNITY LUNCH – A Loaves and Fishes Cafe luncheon will be held at noon on Thursday, March 22 at Niccolls Memorial Church in Old Forge.

This free lunch will consist of assorted soups, sandwiches and desserts. Hot and cold beverages will also be provided. In addition one of the soups offered will be vegetarian and gluten free.

Transportation can be arranged by calling Beverly Meeker at (315) 369-2234.

The Loaves and Fishes community luncheons are co-hosted by Niccolls Memorial Presbyterian Church, St. Bartholomew's and St. Anthony's Catholic Churches as well as various community members. The next luncheon is scheduled for April 26 at St. Bartholomew's. All are welcome to attend.

NOTE: Please mail condolences cards to Louise Watson's son, Gary Watson at 136 South Ridge Rd. Williston, VT 05495

Calendar of Events Week of *March 12th - 18th*

Monday	10am-12pm	Mission Boutique Sorting
	5:30pm	Grief Support Group
Tuesday	9:30am	Midweek Faith and Fellowship (Bible Study)
Wednesday	10am-12pm	Mission Boutique Sorting
	10am-2pm	Senior Activity Program
	4:30pm-5:30pm	The Weaving Home
	7pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	8pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday	10am-12pm	Mission Boutique Open
	7pm-8:30pm	Mission Boutique Open
Saturday	10am-12pm	Mission Boutique Open
Sunday	7:30 am	Worship Service
	10:00 am	
	9am	Choir Rehearsal

Nicolls Memorial Presbyterian Church

PO Box 605, 228 Crosby Blvd. Old Forge, NY 13420

Office Hours: Monday Friday: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Phone: 369-3475; E-mail: nicollschurch@gmail.com

Website: www.nicolls.org www.Facebook.com/nicollschurch

Sunday Service Broadcast WBRV-900 AM, 101.3 FM, WLLG-FM 99.3

Listen live online from anywhere in the world at themoose.net

Guest Preacher – Rev. Dr. John Wilde

Pastor Emeritus – Rev. James L. Ulrich

Organists –Susann Rundell, Josef Kovalovsky

Ushers – Barb Proper, Leslie Bailey, Sue Norris

*For immediate Pastoral needs, please contact: Rev. Naomi Kelly
home:315-369-6614 or cell:315-369-8253*