

# Clarence Presbyterian Church

9675 Main Street, Clarence, New York 14031  
(716)759-8396  
office@clarencepresby.org  
www.clarencepresby.org

**Growing, Serving, Celebrating**



**4th Sunday in Lent  
March 30, 2025  
10:00 am**



**Friends, at this stop on your life's pilgrimage  
we bid you welcome  
with the hope that here you will find  
the love of God, which He offers  
to all who seek to serve and follow Him!**

## RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"  
"Just a Closer Walk with Me"

Luke Story, piano & Kim Story, flute

## WELCOME & CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

## TIME FOR STILLNESS

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus, Light of the world,

**Give us eyes to see!**

Once we lived in darkness, but now -

**As children of light, we are called to what is good and right and true.**

Jesus, Light of the world,

**Give us eyes to see as you see!**

\*HYMN No. 310 "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord"

ST. THOMAS

## \*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of majesty and glory, we are thirsty for your grace. You made a way for us in the wilderness, and still, in our foolishness, we go astray. We hide our eyes from your presence. We do not listen to your word. We are lifeless when we ought to dance and speechless when we ought to sing. Forgive us, O Lord. Speak peace to our fearful hearts, strengthen our weak hands, and make firm our feeble knees as we seek to follow in your holy way. Amen.**

(moment of silent confession)

RESPONSE: Hymn No. 578 "Kyrie eleison"

***Ky-ri-e e-le-i-son*** (4x)

*Lord have mercy*

***Chri-ste e-le-i-son*** (4x)

*Christ have mercy*

## THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*RESPONSE: Hymn No. 447 "We Are Forgiven"

***We are forgiven. We are forgiven.***

***Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.***

## \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

(Please greet those near you with words such as "The Peace of Christ be with you.")

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

(Children PreK through 12th Grade will leave for Sunday School.)

ANTHEM: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"  
Chancel Choir

Gilbert M. Martin (b. 1941)

*When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died, My richest gain I count but loss, And pour contempt on all my pride.  
Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ, my God! All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.  
See, from his head, his hands, his feet, Sorrow and love flow mingled down! Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, Or thorns compose so rich a crown?  
Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a present far too small; Love, so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all! Amen!*

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING: Joshua 5:9-12

Pew Bible (OT) p.188

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 32:1-11

Pew Bible (OT) p. 479

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

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

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

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

Then 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.

**Therefore let all who are faithful  
offer prayer to you;**

**at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters  
shall not reach them.**

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

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

Do 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.

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

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

\*RESPONSE: Hymn No. 581 "Gloria Patri"

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it  
was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.***

SECOND READING: Luke 9:1-6

Pew Bible (NT) p. 64

SERMON: "Journey from Individuality to Community"

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

*from the PCUSA Book of Order*

**We confess that “the Church is the body of Christ. Christ gives to the Church all the gifts necessary to be his body. The Church strives to demonstrate these gifts in its life as a community in the world: The Church is to be a community of faith, entrusting itself to God alone, even at the risk of losing its life.**

**The Church is to be a community of hope, rejoicing in the sure and certain knowledge that, in Christ, God is making a new creation. This new creation is a new beginning for human life and for all things. The Church lives in the present on the strength of that promised new creation.**

**The Church is to be a community of love, where sin is forgiven, reconciliation is accomplished, and the dividing walls of hostility are torn down.**

**The Church is to be a community of witness, pointing beyond itself through word and work to the good news of God’s transforming grace in Christ Jesus its Lord.”**

**All this we believe and affirm. Amen.**

\*HYMN No. 643 “Now Thank We All Our God”

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Our church family members who are in care facilities or homebound: Allene Falk, Wayne Gardiner, Janet Hodges, Sue Kinnin, Renee Mavis, Jane Schutz.

Our

church family members in the hospital, receiving treatments and/or recovering at home: Bev Drake, Jared Grenzebach, Lisa Hawkes, Norm Kreib, Scott Kronmuller, Debbie Meinzer, Audrey Owen, Margaret Thayer, Bill Weikert, Paull Utter.

#### THE LORD’S PRAYER (debts/debtors)

**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.**

OFFERTORY: “Partita in F Minor from MASS I”

Oreste Ravanello (1871-1938)

\*DOXOLOGY: HYMN No. 609 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia! Praise God in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

\*HYMN No. 837 “What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine”

SHOWALTER

#### \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: “Maestoso”

Joseph Callaerts (1830-1901)



**Pantry Needs** this week are: Regular Coffee, Dish Soap, Egg Noodles. Thanks!

**Dear Clarence Presbyterian Church,**

Thank you for your incredible generosity at the March 2<sup>nd</sup> Evensong by Westminster Choir. We were honored to be the beneficiary organization in which we received \$601 from your congregation. Thank you for believing in our mission and students.

Sincerely,

Whitney Dann, Buffalo String Works Development Manager

**Theology on Tap** will meet on Monday, March 31, 6:30 pm, at The Angry Buffalo. We will continue discussion of the article begun at our previous meeting.

**Dear Ladies of Clarence Presbyterian**, the time has come to sign up for the anticipated Women's Retreat: Growing in Faith. Join in our journey to grow in faith, In order to get an initial headcount please let us know by April 9th that you will attend. To keep the count streamlined, please send Email to [Maryscalzi@gmail.com](mailto:Maryscalzi@gmail.com). Money will be due by May 1, 2025, and will be collected in the foyer after church

on the Sundays after Easter. The cost for the event is \$65.00 and includes three meals.

**Where:** Camp Pioneer Retreat Center on Lake Erie, Angola, NY **When:** May 9 and 10. Camp is the operative word! Spend time with your sisters in faith around a campfire and in beautiful nature. (Sponsorships are available.)

**Our annual spring clean-up** is scheduled for Saturday, April 12 from 9am-noon, with a rain date of April 19. We'll be removing sticks/leaves, weeding, mulching, and cleaning windows. Many hands make for light work, so please join the Trustees if you are able to. Layered clothing and work gloves are advised. Shovels, rakes, tarps, and wheelbarrows are welcome. Hope to see you there!

**Our church team the Clarence Christian Crusaders** will appreciate your support as we participate in the ride for Roswell 2025 to donate fundraising toward cancer research at Roswell. The usual donation envelopes will be placed in the pews soon. Julie Furminger 716-698-2914

**Wellspring Bible Study:** "Half Truths" by Rev. Adam Hamilton Tuesdays:30 am-11 am, April 1 and 8. Marilyn Koszarek, Guide

**My Easter Remembrance—**You have an opportunity to donate an Easter Remembrance towards Lilies or to the Easter gifts and memorials fund. If you wish to donate a Lily, you may pick it up after the 10 am Easter Service. Fill out the designated envelope found in the pew racks. You may also call (716-759-8396) or email the church and give the needed information: [office@clarencypresby.org](mailto:office@clarencypresby.org). The names of those being honored or remembered will be listed in the bulletins on Sunday, April 20th. Turn in your dedication no later than Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> for inclusion in the bulletin. If you have questions regarding this program, please call Barbara Utter at 716-741-3208.

**Minister:** Rev. Dr. Jason Cashing  
**Director of Music Ministry:** Kotoe Shimojo  
**Sunday School Superintendent:** Jenna Abel  
**Bell Ringer:** Hoy Family  
**Acolyte:**  
**Bible Carrier:** Madison Sciolino  
**Lay Reader:** Jon Hickey  
**Greeters:** Julie & Greg Wolfley  
**Ushers:** John Story & Maryalice Yaiko  
**Nursery:** Martha Anderson & Amanda Hoy  
**Live Stream:** Raymond Cich  
**Counters:** Jennifer Schroeder, Paul Hornbuckle, John Story  
**Christ Candle:** In memory of Gary Brauer on his birthday, March 27, Love & miss you, Marsha.

### CALENDAR FOR THE COMING WEEK

<b><u>Sunday, March 30th</u></b>	<b>4th Sunday in Lent</b>
8:30 am	<b>Worship/Communion</b> —Sanctuary Adult Education—Bodine Room
9:15 am	Coffee/Fellowship—Narthex
9:20 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary
10 am	<b>Worship</b> —Sanctuary & Online Nursery—Upper Hall Christian Education Wing
10:15 am	Sunday School/Youth Classes
11 am	Children's/Junior Choir
11:15 am	Coffee/Fellowship—Narthex Healing Service —Sanctuary
<b><u>Monday, March 31st</u></b>	
9 am—2:30 pm	Nursery School/UPK- Upper South End, Ed Wing
9 am—2 pm	Clarence Food Pantry—Bodine Room
6 pm	Gordon Highlanders Rehearsal—UFH/Parking Lot
6:30 pm	Theology on Tap—Angry Buffalo
<b><u>Tuesday, April 1st</u></b>	
9 am—2:30 pm	Nursery School/UPK- Upper South End, Ed Wing
9:30 am—11 am	Wellspring Bible Study LFH
<b><u>Wednesday, April 2nd</u></b>	
9 am—2:30 pm	Nursery School/UPK- Upper South End, Ed Wing
9 am	Loose Screws Social Club—Various
<b><u>Thursday, April 3rd</u></b>	
9 am—2:30 pm	Nursery School/UPK- Upper South End, Ed Wing
7:15 pm—8:45 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary & LFH
<b><u>Friday, April 4th</u></b>	
9 am—2:30 pm	Nursery School/UPK- Upper South End, Ed Wing
4:30 pm	Siegel / Sabia wedding rehearsal Sanctuary
<b><u>Saturday, April 5th</u></b>	
2 pm	Siegel / Sabia Wedding
<b><u>Sunday, April 6th</u></b>	<b>5th Sunday in Lent</b>
8:30 am	<b>Worship/Communion</b> —Sanctuary Adult Education—Bodine Room
9:15 am	Coffee/Fellowship—Narthex
9:20 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary
10 am	<b>Worship</b> —Sanctuary & Online Nursery—Upper Hall Christian Education Wing
10:15 am	Sunday School/Youth Classes
11 am	Children's/Junior Choir Bodine Room
11:15 am	Coffee/Fellowship—Narthex
1 pm—3 pm	Cub Scout Pack 568 Outside at Fire Pit