

TOWNLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Fourth Sunday of



March 31, 2019

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LAY LEADER

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Responsively*)

LAY LEADER

To those who eagerly came to worship God,
 you are welcome here.
To those who grumbled about coming,
 you are welcome here.
To those who are not sure why they are here,
 you are welcome here.
In the name the One who loves and forgives us,
 you are welcome in this place.
Thanks be to God!

OPENING PRAYER

LAY LEADER

Almighty, creating God,
 you have called us to this place.
You breathe life into us each day.
You welcome us just as we are,
 with all of our hopes and fears,
 all of our faults and talents.
As we worship, may we rest in your Spirit,
 and may we remember that you alone renew our lives.
Help us shake off all that weighs down,
 that we may be free to hold fast to you,
 the One who fills our lives with unmerited grace and abounding love.
In the name of Christ, your Son, we pray. **Amen.**

***HYMN:** #231 Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers

CALL TO CONFESSION

LAY LEADER

The Scriptures call us to turn from sinful ways
 and return to God, who offers mercy and pardon.
Trusting in that mercy, let us call upon God who is near.

***Please stand if you are able**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

ALL

Loving God, we come before you
knowing that you love us completely.
With this knowledge,
we confess to you our wrongdoings.
Forgive us, Holy One,
when we stray from your ways;
when we hurt one another;
when we ignore the needs of others;
when we resist your guidance in our lives.
Gracious God, accept our prayers
and hold us in your love,
that we may be the people you call us to be.
In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

LAY LEADER

The Lord forgives our sins and washes away our guilt.
Brothers and sisters, “be glad in the Lord and rejoice,”
for our hearts have been made right with God!

***GLORIA PATRI**

ALL

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.

***THE PEACE**

LAY LEADER

In Christ, everything is made new;
we become a new creation.
In this Spirit, I invite you to greet one another, *from where you stand*,
with the peace of Christ and see Christ’s presence in each other.
The Peace of Christ be with you.
And also, with you.

ANTHEM: “Just As I Am, Lord” by Nancy Price & Don Besig

***Please stand if you are able**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Nancy J. Nalepa-Skibo

Almighty God, you have welcomed us here today.
Open our ears to your word.
Open our hearts to the movement of your Spirit.
Open our hands to receive your grace and to serve your people. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE:

Nancy J. Nalepa-Skibo

Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

SERMON “Ambassador’s for Christ” - “A Change in Citizenship”

Nancy J. Nalepa-Skibo

***HYMN:** #649 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

A TIME OF SHARING – JOYS AND CONCERNS

LAY LEADER

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
AND THE LORD’S PRAYER**

LAY LEADER

(Responsively)

In peace let us pray to the Lord saying,
Lord have mercy.

For the church throughout the world,
that all Christians may embody the reconciling love of Christ,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the nations of the world and its leaders,
that all may dwell in peace and that justice may be tempered by mercy,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the planet Earth, God’s gift to humankind,
that all may share wisely its resources
and conserve its riches for our children’s children,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For our enemies,

***Please stand if you are able**

that we may regard them with the reconciling love made manifest in Christ,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who are sick or in trouble,
for the defenseless, the weak, and the poor,
that they may be restored to wholeness of life and livelihood,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the lost, for those who have abandoned God, friends, or family,
and for those who have never known such love,
that they may come to know the joy of love's embrace,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

As we pray in the name of the One who taught us to pray, saying...**Our Father...**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

LAY LEADER

Our God provides for our bodies, our souls, and our minds.
In thanksgiving and praise, let us bring our gifts to God.

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE: HYMN #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.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

LAY LEADER

Holy One, you provide for us in all ways and at all times.
We offer these gifts to you,
 asking for your blessing upon them,
 that they bring comfort and healing to your children around the globe.
We offer our lives to you,
 asking for your blessing upon us,
 that we might be faithful to you, and to one another.
In your precious and holy name, we pray. **Amen.**

***HYMN: #634 To God Be the Glory**

***Please stand if you are able**

CHARGE and BLESSING

Nancy J. Nalepa-Skibo

Go in peace to be ambassadors for Christ.
Go in forgiveness to be instruments of the love of Christ,
and the comfort of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

POSTLUDE

WORSHIPPERS AND GUESTS ARE INVITED:

Join us downstairs in the Fellowship Hall following the worship service for refreshments and a time of fellowship.



“Tithing is for everyone, not just for those rolling in the dough.”

***Please stand if you are able**

One Great Hour of Sharing:

Townley Church will once again be participating in *One Great Hour of Sharing* on Palm Sunday, April 14th. Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through *One Great Hour of Sharing* to share God's love with people experiencing need. Your contributions to this special offering support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, food for the hungry, and community development that helps people find safe refuge, start new lives, and work together to strengthen their families and communities. Please plan to contribute to *One Great Hour of Sharing* on Palm Sunday. A special envelope will be provided on April 7th for this special offering. No gift is too small. Thank you! Mission Division

Spring Rummage Sale

Please mark your calendars! Townley Church's Spring Rummage Sale will be Friday, May 10, 2019 and Saturday May 11, 2019. Please plan to help with set-up, clean-up and on days of the sale. It is a lot of work and everyone's help is always appreciated. More info to follow. If you have any questions, please see Linda or Janet.

Reflections on the Lord's Prayer

A Lenten Study

- The goal of this study is for all of us to deepen our understanding of the Lord's Prayer and pray it with new energy. Lent is a period of fasting, moderation, and self-denial. During Lent, some eat sparingly or give up a particular food or habit. Why not take time this season to get closer to God through His Word? **Join us on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 PM.**

To learn more about Townley Presbyterian Church:

- Email us at: townleychurch@yahoo.com
- Call the office: (908) 686-1028
- Visit our website: Townleychurch.org
- Like Us on Facebook: Townley Church

Ron Thompson, Pastor

"A Time for Prayer"

Mondays at 4:00 PM

If you can't make it to the church, take some "Time to Pray".

Nursing Home Visitation

Second Sunday of the month:

Join us at 2:00 PM at the Delaire Convalescent Center 400 W Stimpson Ave, Linden, NJ to share the Good News in word, song and presence.

Book Club

Meets on the 3rd Sunday of each month right after service. We are currently reading "A Year of Living Biblically". Join us!

A Note from Our Treasurer

3/24/2019

We received \$40.50 Per Capita.
Janet Sangekar

FOOD BANK SUNDAY

- Townley's Program Task Force is spearheading a *Food Bank Sunday*, where on each 4th Sunday they will receive donations of non-perishable food items to contribute to the Connecticut Farms Food Pantry. We are asking our members to support this initiative by giving one non-perishable food item (or \$1) per week. Kindly drop off your items in the **Food Box** in Fellowship Hall. Thank you!

*Please stand if you are able

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Lois Tangowski	3
Carole Gordon	9
Don Smith	12
Linda Catalano	16
Mario Rubulotta	23
Irene Schoenwalder	28

Women's Retreat , hosted by
Presbyterian Women of the First
Presbyterian Church of Woodbridge
Saturday April 13, 2019, 9:30 am- 4:00
pm
Camp Kiddle Keepwell
35 Roosevelt Dr, Edison, NJ 08837

\$25 per person includes continental
breakfast and lunch
Please RSVP by April 1st to Janet
Sangekar - 908-868-0939,
janet.sangekar@gmail.com