

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY**

September 3, 2017

10:00 AM

**ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME**

**PRELUDE** *Lift High the Cross* Nicholson/Smith

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS** Sign and Pass the Friendship Register

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

(Jesus told his followers "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you." We greet each other with, "The peace of the Lord be with you," and respond, "And also with you," or other variations).

**\*Hymn #306** *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* (the 1<sup>st</sup> verse only)

*Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love,  
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

People: **God's steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader: By the power of the Holy Spirit, we're drawn to this holy place.

People: **Our souls rejoice in the presence of God, and in this church family.  
Let us center our lives; let us raise our songs and prayers in  
worship.**

**\*HYMN #388** *Come All You People* Uyai Mose

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

Leader: We are God's people, bearing the very image of our Creator. Yet we have shadowed that image by how we have lived and thought. Let us speak honestly before God and before each other

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (unison)

**Holy God, you offer us in our Lord Jesus a clear pathway through the decisions and confusions of life. He has revealed to us, and still does, the things that are holy, that matter to You. Yet we turn our gaze in other directions – easier ones, self-satisfying ones. You know the details – they are written in our hearts. We bow before you to ask forgiveness. We rise before you to commit ourselves to you holy highway of love, sacrifice and generosity.**

**\*SILENCE FOR PERSONAL CONFESSION**

**\*WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Leader: Jesus came not to condemn but to save. Even as confessing words are on our tongues, a fresh breeze blows through our spirits and the door to God's good future swings open. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Glory be to God!**

**Week of September 3 thru September 10**

SUNDAY	10:00 a.m.	Worship w/communion
	11:15 a.m.	Refreshments and Fellowship [ <i>Fellowship Hall</i> ]
	7:00 p.m.	The LIGHT Group @BGSU Student Union A.A. [ <i>Fellowship Hall</i> ]
MONDAY		<b>Labor Day – Church Closed/Office Closed</b>
TUESDAY	7:00 a.m.	Worship Committee Meeting A.A. [ <i>Fellowship Hall</i> ]
WEDNESDAY	9:00 a.m.	<b>Deacons' Shop sorting and placing of clothes</b>
	7:00 p.m.	N.A. [ <i>Green Lounge</i> ]
THURSDAY	9:00 a.m.	<b>Deacons' Shop open to provide used clothing until 11 a.m.</b>
	6:00 p.m.	La Conexion Board Meeting in the Green Lounge
SUNDAY	10:00 a.m.	<b>Worship/More Light Sunday</b>

**Maumee Valley Presbytery Observes the  
500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation  
by offering a Town Hall Dialogue:  
*Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Inclusion/Exclusion in the Church***

We will hear personal stories, learn a little history, celebrate new opportunities and offer a safe place for open questions and conversation. Participants will include Rev. Nan Clancy, Elder Lance Weismann and Rev. Gary Saunders, along with others who have been personally involved in this historic issue of "re-forming" the church.

**Date: Tuesday September 12, 7:00 pm  
Location: The Green Lounge,  
First Presbyterian Church of Bowling Green**

**Kindred Spirits first meeting will be held Monday, September 11 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of hostess Lyn Long, 1005 Gustin Ave.** Lyn will also be the discussion leader as we begin the study "*Cloud of Witnesses, The Community of Christ in Hebrews*". This promises to be an interesting and challenging study. We invite all women of the church to join us. Lyn promises a great dessert as well as stimulating discussion.

**WWW** is a women's group that meets once a month to enjoy each other's company, share refreshments, and look for wisdom in our discussions—that's how it came to be **W**ine, **W**omen, and **W**isdom. In addition to our fellowship and learning times, we've sponsored a number of events and service projects around the church. We meet in someone's home on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month. **Our next gathering will actually be at church, so that interested persons can attend the LGBT Reformation Dialog event being held at our church on Tuesday, Sept. 12. Pastor Mary Jane will be offering refreshments at her home afterwards for WWW members and friends of all genders!**

**Fall Fair** – It's almost time to celebrate our program year kickoff with our Fall Fair! **This year we're celebrating the Power of One!** We'll have snacks, games, hands on mission work and take a peek at other ways to get involved in the upcoming year. This event is designed to be Cross-Gen (cross-generational) and everyone is invited to come and join together on **Sunday, September 17 following worship. We'll use our rear parking lot and our new property next to it – no streets to cross! Bring a dish to share if you can!**

**WE MEET**” - School is back in session and soon We Meet will return! Join us on **Wednesday September 20th** starting at 5:30 p.m. to help create cards for the card ministry and then stick around for dinner at 6:15 p.m. Once again this year we will have a **sign-up board** in the Fellowship Hall for those who like to attend the event to sign-up to cook one of the Wednesday evening meals. We gather, pray, eat and enjoy each other's company during this low key meal. Everyone is welcome!

## IMMIGRATION *Misunderstood*

### ILLEGAL OR UNDOCUMENTABLE?

Join us for the first in a series of panel discussions on the U.S. Immigration system

Learn how our immigration system works, how it doesn't, and how to make it work better for our community

Speakers:  
Eugenio Mollo Jr., Managing Attorney of Immigrant Rights at ABLE

Followed by local voices addressing how these policies impact our lives (even if we're not immigrants).

September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017

6:00 - 7:30 pm

The Atrium @  
The Wood County District  
Public Library  
251 North Main Street  
Bowling Green, OH

Learn the facts from the experts  
and ask them questions

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Opening remarks by  
Mayor Dick Edwards - *Bowling Green*

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Hosted by  
The Immigrant Solidarity Committee of La Conexion  
For additional information contact us at:  
419-308-2328 or laconexionwc@gmail.com

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Hymnal Page 582

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son,  
Whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

*World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen.  
World without end, without end. Amen.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

**PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**      **Isaiah 55:6-9**      Pew Bible pg. 635 & Hands On Bible pg. 713

**SPECIAL MUSIC**      **Sarabande**      P.M. Dubois  
Chris Williams, saxophone

**NEW TESTAMENT READING**      **Matthew 16:21–28**      Pew Bible pg.851 & Hands On Bible pg. 959

**CHILDREN'S TIME**  
(Children are dismissed to the Pray Ground in the Narthex)

**SERMON**      **What's On Your Mind?**

**PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**  
**Offertory**      **Take Up Thy Cross**      Webb  
**\*Doxology**      Hymnal Page 606

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**  
**\*HYMN #507**      **Come to the Table of Grace (vs.1-3)**      Table of Grace

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**The Invitation**  
One: This is the joyful feast of the people of God!  
**All:** ***People will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at the table in the kingdom of God.***  
One: This is the Lord's table. Our Savior invites all who trust in him to share in the feast which he has prepared. According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took the bread and blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognized him.

## The Thanksgiving

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: ***We lift them to the Lord.***

One: Give thanks to God for God is good.

All: ***God's love is everlasting.***

## The Sanctus Hymnal # 552

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.***

## Partaking of the Elements

*We will come forward to receive the elements individually. Children will come forward with their families, and may receive Communion or a personal blessing at the discretion of the parents. Elders will be available to bring the elements to those who prefer to remain seated.*

## Prayer (unison)

**God our help: We thank you for this supper shared in the Spirit with your Son Jesus, who makes us new and strong, who brings us life eternal. We praise you for giving us all good gifts in Him, and pledge ourselves to serve you, even as in Christ you have served us. Amen.**

## GO IN GOD'S NAME

\*HYMN #765

***May the God of Hope Go with Us***

Argentina

## \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

***Scherzetto***

W. Walton

**Worship Reader** is Robert Vincent.

**Today's Prayers:** Meryl DenBesten, Denise Gotich (Carol Lashuay's daughter, Ian Santino, Ron Schnitker (father-in-law of Tammy Schnitker).

**Nursery** - This Fall, we'll be trying a new model for our Nursery. Each week, we'll have two people "on call" to leave the sanctuary and staff the nursery if the need arises. This flexibility will help us to serve visiting families while still conserving our resources. Please contact Gale Swanka or Miss Adriane to reserve an "on-call" week. We appreciate your support of being a welcoming place for families with small children!

## Presbyterian Disaster Assistance



PDA is issuing an emergency appeal for Tropical Storm Harvey:

- Though downgraded now to tropical storm status, Harvey remains dangerous as it continues to churn inland into Texas.
- Damage in and near Rockport and Port Lavaca, where the storm made landfall, was catastrophic. At this time there is one reported death and extensive damage, and the flood event is continuing as the storm dumps heavy rains in South Texas. Harvey is forecast to continue to produce heavy rains, with serious flooding into the middle of the week.
- PDA has National Response Team members ready to deploy in the coming days when it is safe to do so.
- Please give generously to DR000169, and pray for those in the wake of Harvey. Join us in prayer: <http://pda.pcusa.org/pda/resource/prayer-hurricane-harvey/>  
Text "PDA" to 20222 to give \$10.

Donate through our church by designating your gift for PDA Hurricane Harvey #DR000169.

Donate — Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

The Presbyterian Mission Agency is the ministry and mission agency of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). View resources, donate and explore our ministries.

PMA.PCUSA.ORG

**Good Morning, & Welcome to First Presbyterian Church!**  
**We are glad you chose to worship with us today!**

**This is a MORE LIGHT Presbyterian Church!**

In 1620 Pastor John Robinson sent the Pilgrims off to America with a final sermon in which he talked about “more light.” He believed that God wants us to be continually open to hearing new things from God’s Word in the Bible. A “More Light” Presbyterian church welcomes lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons to full participation in the life, ministry and witness of the congregation. We work to expand the inclusiveness of the Presbyterian



Church (U.S.A.). ***There are no closed doors here.*** **Christ Welcomes All!**

First Presbyterian Church <http://www.bgpresb.org/>  
More Light Presbyterians [www.mlp.org](http://www.mlp.org) [www.mlp.org](http://www.mlp.org)

**To our Visitors:** We are so glad to have you join us for worship this morning! If you are brand-new here, please mention this to one of our greeters or ushers so we can show you around our buildings and make some introductions. To those who have visited with us often – we hope you’ll feel guided by the Lord to consider joining our church. Our church family is incomplete without you! You may put a note in the offering plate or speak with the pastors.

**ALL MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH** are encouraged to please wear your nametags. Thank you.

**The First Presbyterian Church of Bowling Green**  
is a Christian community focused on glorifying God by being  
welcoming in worship,  
inclusive by intention,  
joyful in doing justice,  
and steadfast in loving God and neighbor.



Our worship and our downtown facility are creatively traditional – our commitment to mission and service is innovative and relentless.

We strive, in all facets of our common life and mission, to be a church “where Christ welcomes all”.

**STAFF MEMBERS**

Rev. Mary Jane Saunders, Co-pastor [[pastormaryjane@bgpresb.org](mailto:pastormaryjane@bgpresb.org)]  
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# First Presbyterian Church

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

126 S. Church St., Bowling Green, OH 43402



***What's On Your Mind?***

**September 3, 2017**

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**Like us on Facebook**

**Webpage: [www.firstpresbyterianbg.org](http://www.firstpresbyterianbg.org)**