

First Presbyterian Church

A More Light Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
126 S. Church St., Bowling Green, OH 43402

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

October 3, 2021 World Communion Sunday 10:00 AM

PRELUDE *Be Thou My Vision* Trad. Tune/M. Hays

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*PASSING the PEACE

INTROIT *You Are Welcome Here* M. Burrows

*You are welcome here. You are safe to sing and laugh or shed a tear.
We love you just the way you are so have no fear. You are welcome here.
You are welcome here. This is a place of peace and grace
where all God's children have a home. God's reign will come,
God's will be done when all are loved and no one stands alone.*

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively) Liturgist: Joan Callecod

Leader: All within the sound of my voice, come to worship!

People: **We come that we may know God's love.**

Leader: All outside our physical reach, come to worship!

People: **We come that we may celebrate God's love.**

Leader: All children of God, come to worship!

People: **We come that we may share God's love.**

*HYMN #409 *God Is Here! (vs. 1 & 3)* Abbot's Leigh

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: There is no denying that God is here. God knows us better than we know ourselves. So, friends, let's come clean. Let's be honest before God and honest beside our neighbors as to how we have broken relationships and harmed others. In confidence of God's grace, let us pray.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Creative and loving God, You have created us in Your image and have placed us in communities to live in peace and harmony, but we have chosen our own lonely way. You have called us to make commitments to others and to live by them, but we have violated our promises and make excuses for ourselves. You have created us to reflect Your glory, but we have turned away from the example and sacrifice of Christ to seek our own truth. Turn us from destructive ways and move us to become more fully the people You call us to be.

*SILENT CONFESSION

*DECLARATION OF PARDON (responsively)

Leader: It is through Jesus Christ that we pray. Amen.

People: **So, what have we just done?**

Leader: We have admitted our failures and open ourselves up to God's grace.

People: **That is so wonderful and life-giving!**

Leader: Hear it now and believe it. Through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

ALL: **Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Amen.**

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Hymnal Page 591

Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah! Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah!

Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah! halle-lu-jah! halle-lu-jah!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

MOMENT OF EDUCATION Confirmation Class 2021

ANTHEM *Let Us Break Bread Together* Anne Larson

NEW TESTAMENT READING Mark 10:1-16

SERMON *Living In Grace*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison) [from: A Brief Statement of Faith]

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

JOYS AND CONCERNS & PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING of OUR TITHES and GIFTS

Offertory *Prelude in G Minor* Cesar Cui

*Doxology (Unison)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving with Lord's Prayer (debts)

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer after Communion

*HYMN #81 *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken (vs. 1 & 3)* Austrian Hymn

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Let There Be Peace On Earth (music in insert)*

*POSTLUDE *Pastorale* Philip Hayes

Ushers: Doretta Schmidt, Debbie Zapitelli, Joyce Kepke.

2021 Confirmands: Daisy Boyer, Calla Higgins, and Jackson LaPointe and Daniel Weisert.

Brie Bradshaw is joining us as an "Affiliate Member." Welcome one and all!

IN OUR PRAYERS, Stewart & Pam Orr, Michelle McDonald, Don Ferguson, Mike Shaner, the PNC, Judy Noll, Mary Wharram, Mary Frances Moss, Jason Sybert, the LGBTQIA+ Community, all victims of abuse, racial inequalities, all those adversely affected by the Covid-19 and its various strains, Afghanistan, Haiti, and those picking up and trying to recover from tragedy or loss

STAFF MEMBERS

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God Is Here! (vs. 1 & 3)

1. God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer, may we find in fuller measure what it is In Christ we share. Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.
3. Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold; here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old. Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken (vs. 1 & 3)

1. Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion city of our God. God, whose word cannot be broken, formed thee for a blest abode. On the rock of ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose? With salvation's walls surrounded, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.
3. See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love, well supply thy sons and daughters and all fear of want remove. Who can faint while such a river ever flows, their thirst to assuage? Grace, so like the Lord the giver, never fails from age to age.

Let There Be Peace on Earth

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me; Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be. With God as Creator, siblings all are we, Let me walk with my sibling in perfect harmony. Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now; With every step I take let this be my solemn vow: To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally. Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

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Week of October 3 thru October 10

- SUNDAY** 10:00 a.m. **Worship Service/Communion/Confirmation and the receiving of Peace & Global Witness Offering**
11:15 a.m. **Reception for the Confirmands in the FH**
11:30 a.m. **Mission Meeting in the Green Lounge**
- MONDAY** **OFFICE IS CLOSED EVERY MONDAY**
- TUESDAY** 8:00 p.m. **A.A. in the Fellowship Hall**
- WEDNESDAY** 12:00 p.m. **BULLETIN DEADLINE EVERY WEDS.**
5:30 p.m. **Lectionary Bible Study via Zoom**
- THURSDAY** 9:30 a.m. **Deacons' Shop open to the public – Covid protocols**
- SUNDAY** 10:00 a.m. **Worship Service w/Larry Clark guest pastor**
3:00 p.m. **Youth Group meeting**

LGBTQIA+ History Month - Did You Know? The Stonewall Riots were not the first documented instances of uprising in US history? In 1924, German immigrant Henry Gerber founded the Society of Human Rights in Chicago Illinois. This was the first group to campaign for gay rights in the United States. In 1955, the Daughters of Bilitis was announce in San Francisco and was the first lesbian rights group in the U.S. In the 1960s, the Mattachine Society would hold "Annual Reminders" at Philadelphia's Independence Hall every 4th of July, where they'd advocate for lesbian and gay equality.



Join Michelle McDonald on Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. for the Bible Lectionary Series on the scripture that the sermon will be based on the following Sunday. **THIS WEEK THERE** will be on **Mark 12:35a, 38b – 13:3**. **Our guest pastor next week will be Larry Clark who is the Pastor of Monroe Street United Methodist Church and currently the Project Manager for Bluff Street Village.** (see the article in this month's newsletter)

COVID-19 HOME TEST - O'Leo Lokai, one of our college students, graciously donated six Covid-19 Home Test packets for our congregation. They are available in the Christian Education Office. Please contact Michelle McDonald at michelle.mcdonald@my.lpts.edu if you would like to take one of these tests home with you or contact the church office at (419)352-5176. Pastor David knows where they are located in my office. The office is open Tuesday through Friday. Michelle's office hour is every Tuesday from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m.



2021 Spiritual Formation Retreats - Fall Retreat, Blessing of Time: Making Connections Between Seasons of Life and Nature, Sun. Oct 10 @ 6pm (eat before you arrive) to Tue. Oct 12 @ 1 pm.

Leader: Rev. Dr. Ann Marie Montgomery; **Meals:** Mon. breakfast—Tue lunch; During this retreat we will explore the relationship between the external and internal seasons in our lives.

You'll be invited to reflect on and celebrate the turning patterns of the earth and the human spirit. Each season ushers in change and growth; each step we take through the journey of life is an invitation to grow. Through worship and prayer, silence and sharing, music, art and poetry we'll have time to reflect on the blessings of time. **Cost: \$25 (+ \$25 per night /per person lodging w/ shared bathroom, or \$30 per night/per person for private bath)* *Scholarships available. Contact Matt Meinke at matt@maumeevp.org.**



Eucharistic Theology and Practice for Ruling Elders

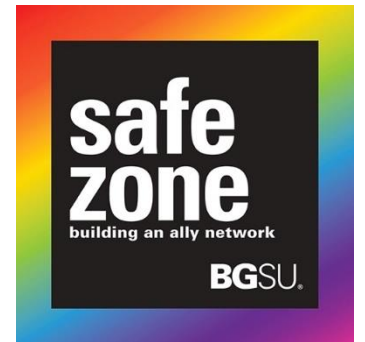
- Rev. Bob Butcher is offering Communion Training for any Ruling Elders who would like to be authorized for the Sacrament in their home church. October 16 at the Bluffton Presbyterian Church, beginning at 9:00 am and concluding somewhere around 4:00 pm. \$10

Registration, includes Lunch (orders will be taken upon arrival). Call the presbytery office to register - 419-423-9073. Hint: Elders & Deacons this is an important outreach tool.

The PW Fall luncheon has been scheduled for Sunday, November 7 at 11:15 a.m. following church. We are hopeful that we will finally be able to sit down with friends and share a meal together. All women and those who identify as female who attend our church are invited to attend. Safety will be our prime concern however, so we will take special precautions, such as seating fewer people at each table. We are prepared, however, to cancel the luncheon if warranted by a rise in



Covid numbers. Please mark your calendars and watch your emails for more information to come!



Join us for a Safe Zone Workshop 2.0

Saturday, November 6 at 1 p.m.

Safe Zone Trainers: Shayauna Newsome & Shevonne

FPC-Bowling Green is a More Light Presbyterian Church: We are a community of believers who worship and serve God in a changing world. Our congregation fosters relationships with Bowling Green University faculty, students and staff. We welcome and affirm persons of every race, gender, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, nationality, ethnicity, family status, economic status, and physical, mental, or emotional ability into full participation in our faith community.

The Safe Zone Project at BGSU strives:

- ◆ To promote awareness of LGBTQ+ people and issues;
- ◆ To improve the climate for LGBTQ+ people in our community through increased active allyship

Please contact Christina Guenther cguenth@bgsu.edu if you have any questions or would like to register for the two-hour workshop.



The **Peace and Global Witness offering is being taken TODAY!** This offering is being directed towards activities that encourage peacemaking and reconciliation and supports

social justice. **First Presbyterian Church is able to direct 25% of the funds collected to a local organization working toward these goals. We have chosen Bluff Street Village as the recipient. Dr. Larry Clark is the Project Director, and will be our guest preacher on Sunday, October 10th.**