

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 29, 2024 **1st Sunday of Christmas** **10:00 AM**

*Please stand if you are comfortable standing. **LITURGIST: Christopher Williams**

PRELUDE *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* Arr. John Innes

WELCOME

PASSING the PEACE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

One: Wonder is a force of liberation. Awe can be found in the celestial and the mundane.

All: Every moment matters. There is beauty in chaos, in stillness, in our successes and our failures.

One: God of creation, we stand in awe of you.

All: All of the Earth is under your authority.

One: Eternal God, you are no respecter of persons, yet you treat us with respect.

All: Butterflies, beetles, birds, babies; all of creation you clothe in dignity.

One: You alone deserve our loyalty and allegiance. You are a perfect parent, a perfect sibling and a perfect example.

All: When we grow up, we want to be just like you.

One: But for now, we are happy just to be with you, and to have you be with us.

All: Come, let us worship God.

*HYMN #740 *"Lead Me, Guide Me"* Lead Me, Guide Me

CALL TO CONFESSION (Liturgist)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (responsively)

One: God who calls us to courage,

All: Forgive us for choosing fear over faith.

One: God who suffers with us,

All: Forgive us for letting others suffer for us.

One: God who gave us authority to tread on snakes and scorpions,

All: Forgive us our complacency in the face of venomous hatred

One: All knowing, all-seeing God, you who knew us first,

All: Forgive us for thinking we know better than you. For choosing independence over depending on you. For disrespecting you in a million tiny ways each day, including our private shortcomings, which we confess to you now in silence.

SILENT CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF PARDON (responsively)

One: Eternal One, God of Grace and fount of every blessing, you look at us and you see Jesus. Your sacrifice has freed us from shame and lifted the burden of guilt from our shoulders so we can stand before you with our heads held high, assured of your unending mercy.

All: Give a shout of praise--Hosanna in the highest! For the God who heals us reveals in us the glorious reflection of Christ himself. Amen.

*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. (3X)
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SPECIAL MUSIC

English Carol Medley

Arr. Mark Hayes

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 148

SERMON

"Put Some Respect on My Name"

Elder Ajah Hales

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Apostles Creed.*

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Creator of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He arose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and Lord's Prayer "using 'shortcomings' in place of 'debts'"
OFFERING of OUR TITHES and GIFTS

Offertory *Prelude from Fitzwilliam Virginal Book* Anon. (Early 17th Century)

*Doxology (Unison) Hymn #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



Venmo

*HYMN #119

“Hark the Herald Angel Sing”

Mendelssohn

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Go Tell It On the Mountain

Arr. John Innes

We thank Elder Ajah Hales for being our guest preacher today.

PRAYERS: All those adversely affected by war and all acts of violence, all victims of hate crimes, Phyllis Hartwell, Pat Cochrane, Miranda Douglas, Joan Callecod, Kat Nic, Scarlet Gensler-Nic, Lyn Long, Marcy St. John, Linda Myers, Ken Oman, David & Minday Shaner, Scott Muellich (relatives of Scotty Huntington), Anna Beeker’s parents, Jenny Breyer (niece of Mary Clarke), Mahmoud & family, the LGBTQIA+ Community, all victims of abuse, racial inequalities, those picking up and trying to recover from surgery and loss.

This is a MORE LIGHT Presbyterian Church!

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 Here!

First Presbyterian Church [http:// firstpresbyterianbg.org](http://firstpresbyterianbg.org)

More Light Presbyterians www.mlp.org



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Araya Musselman, Nursery Worker	

Helping Hands is an ecumenical project supporting the BG community with food and hygiene items on the second Friday of the month. Our church supports the program with donations of hygiene and cleaning products. For January, we are in need of **laundry detergent, dryer sheets, dish soap, sponges, shampoo and cream rinse, body wash, toothbrushes, toothpaste, baby diapers (sizes 2-6), wet wipes.** Your donations are greatly appreciated and will be picked up from the bin located in the church lobby on Sunday, January 5th for the next distribution date of Friday, January 10th.

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



1st Sunday of Christmas

December 29, 2024

Phone: 419-352-5176

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Like us on Facebook

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Lead Me, Guide Me

1. Lead me, guide me, along the way, for if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, Lead me.
I am weak and I need your strength and power to help me over my weakest hour.
Help me through the darkness your face to see. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Hark! The Herald – Angels Sing

1. Hark! The herald-angels sing: "Glory to the newborn king; Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled." Joyful all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies. With the angelic host proclaim "Christ is born in Bethlehem." Hark! The herald-angels sing: "Glory to the new-born king"
2. Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, Late in time behold Him come, offspring of a Virgin's womb: Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate Deity. Pleased as man with all to dwell--Jesus, our Emmanuel. Hark! The herald-angels sing: "Glory to the newborn King!"
3. Hail the Heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness! Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings; Mild He lays His glory by, born that all no more may die. Born to raise the youth of earth. Born to give them second birth. Hark! The herald angels sing: "Glory to the new-born king!"

Week of Dec 29 thru Jan 5

SUNDAY	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	11:15 a.m.	Refreshments & Fellowship in FH
	7:00 p.m.	Meditation/Recovery Group (Green Lounge)
MONDAY		Office Closed
TUESDAY		Office Closed
	8:00 p.m.	A.A. (FH)
WEDNESDAY		Office Closed
THURSDAY		Office Closed
FRIDAY		Office Closed
SUNDAY	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service/Communion

ATTENTION ALL 2024 CHAIRPEOPLE your yearly **Annual Reports for 2024** are due to the church office on or before **Friday, January 17th**. All reports must be typed and copy ready and emailed to firstpresbyterianbg@gmail.com. No extensions will be given except for Finance.

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