

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY**

May 14, 2023

10:00 AM

\*Please stand if you are comfortable standing.

LITURGIST: Chloe Higgins

PRELUDE *Diapason Piece* Samuel Wesley

WELCOME

PASSING the PEACE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT HYMN *You Are Welcome Here*

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively) *Psalm 89:1-2, 15*

One: I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever;

All: **With my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.**

One: I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;

All: **Your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.**

One: Happy are the people who know the festal shout,

All: **Who walk, O Lord, in the light of your countenance**

\*HYMN #69 *Here I Am, Lord* Schutte

CALL TO CONFESSION (One)

Receive encouragement to approach this time of confession with confidence through these words from the Book of Hebrews: "Let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for the one who has promised is faithful."

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Set me free, O Lord, from faith and hope in lesser things.**

**Set me free from the illusion of happiness that enslaves me to sin.**

**Set me free with a heart that can be broken by the things that break thy heart.**

**Set me free with magnificent hope and sacred visions.**

**By thy mercy, O Lord, set me free.**

SILENT CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF PARDON (responsively)

One: Amen. The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. May the God of mercy, who forgives all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

All: **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

MOMENT FOR EDUCATION *Celebrating Our Graduates* Amanda Ark

SCRIPTURE READING *1 Peter 3:13-17*

ANTHEM *Hallelujah Round of Praise* Austin C. Lovelace

SCRIPTURE READING *Acts 17:22-34*

SERMON "The Relevancy of Goodness"

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; the life everlasting. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and Lord's Prayer ("debts")

OFFERING of OUR TITHES and GIFTS

Offertory *Finale* Johann Ernst Eberlin

\*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

\*HYMN #300 *They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love* Sholtes

## CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE HYMN # 80 *Trees of the Field*** (\*clap) The Trees of The Field

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;

the mountains and the hills will break forth before you; there'll be shouts of joy,  
and all the trees of the field will clap, will clap their hands.

And all the trees of the field will clap\* their hands\*\*; the trees of the field will clap\*  
their hands\*\*; the trees of the field will clap their hands\*\* while you go out with joy.

## POSTLUDE

***They'll Know We Are Christians***

Mark Hayes

**IN OUR PRAYERS:** All those adversely affected by war and all acts of violence, all victims of hate crimes, Linda Smith's sister, Carol; Linda Myers, Ken Oman, Mike Carver, Jan McLaughlin, Dean Clark (son of Mary Clarke), 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](http://www.mlp.org)



## STAFF MEMBERS

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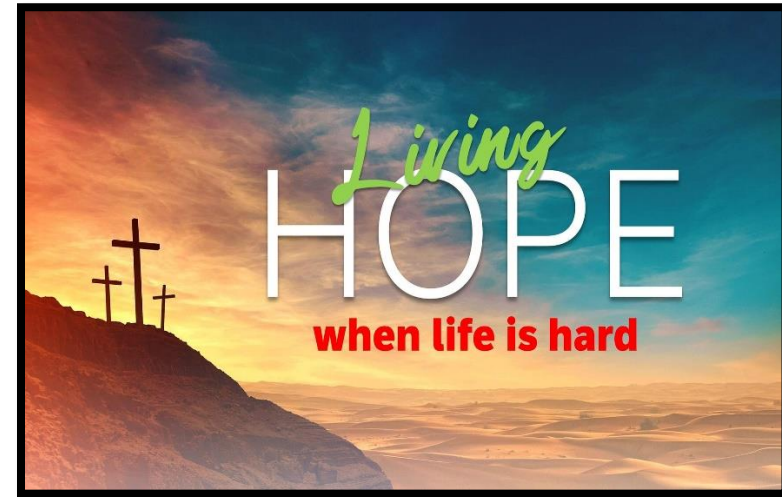
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# First Presbyterian Church

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



***"The Relevancy of Goodness"***

**May 14, 2023**

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**Like us on Facebook**

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

## Divine Doodle Page

## Week of May 14 thru May 21

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Worship</b>
	<b>11:15 a.m.</b>	<b>Refreshments &amp; Fellowship in Fellowship Hall</b>
	<b>11:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Mission meeting</b>
	<b>4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Girl Scouts in Green Lounge</b>
	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Meditation Group in the FH</b>
<b>MONDAY</b>		<b>OFFICE IS CLOSED</b>
	<b>4:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Kindred Spirits Circle in the Library</b>
<b>TUESDAY</b>		<b>JUNE NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>
	<b>1:30 p.m.</b>	<b>MVP Presbytery meeting at First Presbyterian</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Sorting Clothes in the Deacons' Shop</b>
	<b>12:00 p.m.</b>	<b>BULLETIN DEADLINE EVERY WEDS.</b>
	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Outreach meeting in the Gathering Place</b>
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Deacons' Shop is open to the public</b>
	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Staff Mtg. in Pastor Jeff's office (office will be closed)</b>
	<b>4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Trumpet Lessons</b>
	<b>8:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Meditation Group in the Green Lounge</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Worship Service w/Communion</b>
	<b>11:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Deacons meeting</b>

The Session has called a brief **Congregational Meeting for Sunday, May 21**, immediately following worship, with the lone agenda item of electing an additional Deacon (Libby Dachik) and Trustee (Michael Penrod) to open terms for each board. Congregants are encouraged to take the time to attend, vote, and show your support for the work of the Nominating Committee as well as your appreciation for these two incoming leaders. The meeting will likely take 10 minutes or less.

**Ushers are still needed** for most Sundays in May and June. If you would like to volunteer for a Sunday, either sign up on the sheet in Fellowship Hall or email Susan Dunn ([sudunn@gmail.com](mailto:sudunn@gmail.com))

**Church Directory** - Information updating for the new church directory has been going well. If you are a member and have not yet updated your information, you can find your preprinted form and update directions on the table in Fellowship Hall. Blank forms are also available for completion by friends of our church who would like to be included in our directory. A final photo session will be scheduled for a Sunday in August. Please let Susan Dunn know if you still need a photo (419-308-3491, [sudunn@gmail.com](mailto:sudunn@gmail.com)).

**Kindred Spirits Circle** - Sabbath and community is the final lesson in this series. Join us in the library on **May 15 at 4:30 pm**. Questions? Call or text Julie Smith Maekask (419-247-1794).



**Growing Green - Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Green Team's Growing Green campaign.** So far, we've received about \$1500! The donations will help the Green Team continue to maintain and improve the outdoor space on the west side of the church. This might include trees, flowers, shrubs, shade sails or other ideas. All of this will help make the space welcoming and a celebration of God's earth. We are very close to our goal of \$2000 - your support to reach this amount is so appreciated.

## Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering

Spring is finally here and it is time for PW's spring gathering! We have planned a morning program at Simpson Gardens on **Saturday, May 27, 10 am -12:00 pm**. The program features Phil Hollenbaugh our local expert on Hostas and the designer of the award winning Hosta garden at Simpson Gardens. Phil will share his knowledge of Hostas and how his development of the garden led to the American Hosta Society awarding it the designation of an American Hosta Display Garden. Coffee and sweets will be provided before the program. There will be a brief business meeting following the program. **Please RSVP to Nancy Hess at [nhess1581@yahoo.com](mailto:nhess1581@yahoo.com) or call 419-806-4788.**



– You may have noticed signs in front and back of our church which read “History Lives Here”. Since May is Historical Preservation Month, our church was selected by the city’s Historical Preservation Commission to be part of a self-guided walking tour of Bowling Green’s historic buildings. Each sign has a QR code which tells something about all the structures on the

tour along with a map. History really does live here at First Presbyterian. Our current church is 102 years old and we have been the only church on Church St. for 168 years. So sometime in May, we invite you to scan the QR code, take a leisurely walk, and learn a little more about Bowling Green’s history.

## \*HYMN #69

### *Here I Am Lord*

Schutte

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send? **Refrain.**

**Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.**

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people’s pain. I have wept for love of them. They turn away. I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone. I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? **Refrain.**
3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame. I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? **Refrain.**

## \*HYMN #300

### *They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love*

Scholtes

1. We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord; we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord, and we pray that all unity may one day be restored: **Refrain.**

**Refrain: And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love; yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.**

2. We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand; we will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand, and together we’ll spread the news that God is in our land: **Refrain.**
3. We will work with each other; we will work side by side; we will work with each other; we will work side by side, and we’ll guard human dignity and save human pride: **Refrain.**
4. All praise to the Father, from whom all things come, and all praise to Christ Jesus, God’s only Son, and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one: **Refrain.**