

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY**

**October 29, 2023**

**10:00 AM**

\*Please stand if you are comfortable standing.

LITURGIST: Ivan Cobb

**PRELUDE** *Variations on Kum Ba Yah: 2 "Someone's Crying, Lord"* John Behnke\*

**WELCOME**

**PASSING the PEACE & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**INTROIT HYMN** *Come Inside* Sally Ann Morris

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (responsively) *Psalm 18:1-3*

One: We love you, O Lord, our strength

**All: The Lord is our rock, our fortress, and our deliverer**

One: The Lord is our God, our rock in whom we take refuge.

**All: The Lord is our shield, and the horn of our salvation, our stronghold.**

One: We call upon the Lord,

**All: The Lord who is worthy to be praised.**

**\*HYMN #754** *Help Us Accept Each Other* Baronita

**CALL TO CONFESSION** (One)

The psalmist foretells the coming grace of God in Jesus Christ when we read: Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name. When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble, I will rescue them and honor them. With long life I will satisfy them, and show them my salvation." Friends, we have already seen and received the salvation of God. Let us, then, be bold to confess our sins together.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (unison)

**Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not cast us from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.**

**KYRIE** *Here Am I* Hassler

**SILENT CONFESSION**

**DECLARATION OF PARDON** (responsively)

One: The Lord proclaims our forgiveness through the prophet Jeremiah, saying, "I will cleanse them from all the guilt of their sin against me, and I will forgive all the guilt of their sin and rebellion against me." Friends, believe in the Good News of the Gospel.

**All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Hymnal Page 584

*Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high!  
And on earth peace to all people in whom God is well pleased.*

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**MINUTE FOR MISSION**

Robin Guidera from the Cocoon

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

*Lord Save Us, We Perish*

Stephen Deeter/Christina Georgina Rossetti

*Lord, Save Us, We Perish*

*O Lord, seek us, O Lord, find us In Thy patient care;  
Be Thy Love before, behind us, Round us, everywhere:  
Lest the god of this world blind us,  
Lest he speak us fair, Lest he forge a chain to bind us,  
Lest he bait a snare. Turn not from us, call to mind us,  
Find, embrace us, bear;  
Be Thy Love before, behind us, Round us, everywhere.*

**SCRIPTURE**

Matthew 22:34-46

**SERMON**

*"Love Leads the Way"*

**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 *Variations on Kum Ba Yah: 1 "Someone's Praying, Lord"*

\*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.*



Venmo

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**\*HYMN #62**                      *Love the Lord Your God (3x's through)*                      Great Commandment

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE**                      *Rejoice in the Lord*                      K. Lee Scott

**POSTLUDE**                      *Variations on Kum Ba Yah: 3 "Someone's Singing, Lord"*

*John Behnke*\* was the composer for the Prelude, Offertory, and Postlude pieces today.

**TODAY'S SPECIAL MUSIC** is the world premiere of "*Lord, Save Us, We Perish*" by Stephen Deeter. Special thank you to Stephen for writing this beautiful piece of music, for preparing the choir, and for conducting today.

**In Our Prayers:** All those adversely affected by war and all acts of violence, all victims of hate crimes, Rev. Anne Marie Montgomery, Scarlet Gensler-Nic, Linda Myers, Ken Oman, 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)

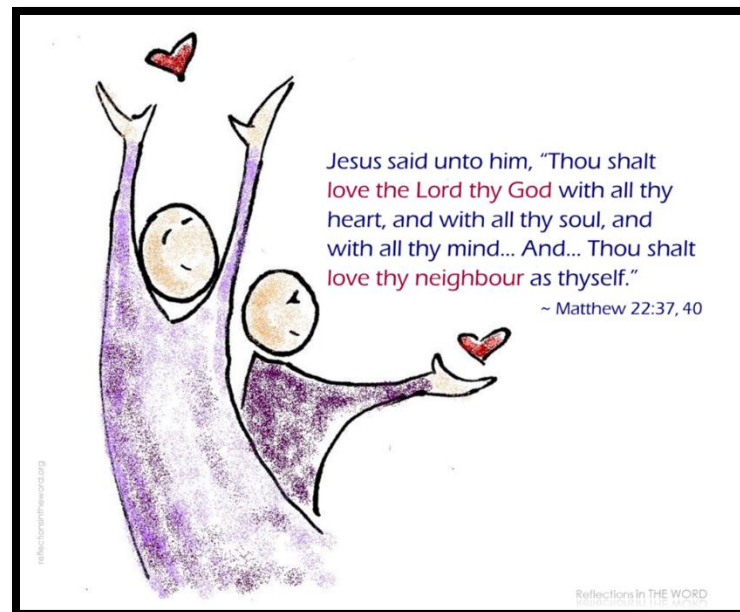


**STAFF MEMBERS**

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Rev. Dr. Jeff Schooley, Pastor [fpcbgjeff@gmail.com]                     | 330/931-9165 |
| Heather McEwen Goldman, Music Director [goldman.heather@gmail.com]       | 646/326-4058 |
| Amanda Ark, Family & Youth Ministries Specialist (FYMS) [akark@bgsu.edu] | 937/844-6787 |
| Tammy L. Schnitker Office Administrator [firstpresbyterianbg@gmail.com]  | 419/352-5176 |
| Gale Swanka, Treasurer [gswanka@bgsu.edu]                                | 419/575-1478 |
| Fernando Hernandez and Monica Garcia, Sextons                            |              |
| Araya Musselman, Nursery Worker  |              |

# First Presbyterian Church

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



***"Love Leads the Way"***

**October 29, 2023**

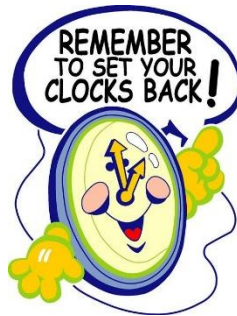
**Phone: 419-352-5176**  
**Email: [firstpresbyterianbg@gmail.com](mailto:firstpresbyterianbg@gmail.com)**  
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**Help Us Accept Each Other**

1. Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us; teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace. Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe we are ourselves accepted, and meant to love and live.
2. Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith. Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some, to love them as we find them, or as they may become.
3. Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved in living situations to do the truth in love; to practice your acceptance until we know by heart the table of forgiveness, and laughter's healing art.
4. Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need, who hunger for acceptance, for justice and for bread, we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on: renew us with your Spirit; Lord free us; make us one!

**Love the Lord Your God (sing 3x's)**

1. Love the Lord your God with all your heart. Love the Lord your God with all your soul. Love the Lord your God with all your mind. Love the Lord your God with all that you are.



**Remember** to set your clocks back one hour next Saturday evening before going to bed. Daylight Savings ends on Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Week of Oct. 29 thru Nov. 5**

|                  |                   |  |
|------------------|-------------------|--|
| <b>SUNDAY</b>    | <b>10:00 a.m.</b> | <b>Worship Service</b>                                 |
|                  | <b>11:00 a.m.</b> | <b>Refreshments and Fellowship in FH</b>               |
|                  | <b>11:30 a.m.</b> | <b>LGBT+ History in the Green Lounge</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 Green Lounge</b>            |
| <b>MONDAY</b>    |                   | <b>OFFICE IS CLOSED</b>                                |
|                  | <b>7:00 p.m.</b>  | <b>Green Team meeting</b>                              |
| <b>TUESDAY</b>   | <b>1:00 p.m.</b>  | <b>Book Group in the Green Lounge</b>                  |
|                  | <b>5:30 p.m.</b>  | <b>La Conexion ESL classes</b>                         |
|                  | <b>6:00 p.m.</b>  | <b>Overeaters Anonymous in the Green Lounge</b>        |
|                  | <b>8:00 p.m.</b>  | <b>A.A. in the Fellowship Hall</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>3:30 p.m.</b>  | <b>Trumpet lessons in the Choir room</b>               |
|                  | <b>5:30 p.m.</b>  | <b>WE MEET midweek dinner &amp; fellowship</b>         |
| <b>THURSDAY</b>  | <b>9:30 a.m.</b>  | <b>Deacons' Shop is open to the public</b>             |
|                  | <b>5:30 p.m.</b>  | <b>La Conexion ESL classes</b>                         |
|                  | <b>6:00 p.m.</b>  | <b>Bell rehearsal in the Bell Room</b>                 |
|                  | <b>7:00 p.m.</b>  | <b>Choir rehearsal</b>                                 |
|                  | <b>8:00 p.m.</b>  | <b>Meditation Group in the Green Lounge</b>            |
| <b>FRIDAY</b>    | <b>6:00 p.m.</b>  | <b>First Friday at TBD</b>                             |
| <b>SATURDAY</b>  |                   | <b>Set Your Clocks BACK 1 HOUR tonight before bed</b>  |
| <b>SUNDAY</b>    | <b>10:00 a.m.</b> | <b>Worship Service w/Communion - All Saints Sunday</b> |
|                  | <b>11:30 a.m.</b> | <b>LGBT+ History in the Green Lounge</b>               |

Wednesday night gatherings are here ☺ Come join us

on Wednesday evenings for a time of community, breaking bread, and learning something new! Each meeting will begin with a time of food and chatting and then transition into a lesson or activity. We Meet will start at **5:30pm** on Wednesdays. Is 5:30 too early? Don't worry! We are meeting until 7:00 and will gladly save food for until you arrive! This is a causal learning space where you can feel free to come and go as you need. (Contact Amanda if you need a ride!)





**The Deacons' Christmas Ministry is December 9<sup>th</sup>**

We have a long-standing tradition of helping those who are having a hard time around the Christmas season. The need for assistance is no different this year with the cost of everything rising. The dollar just doesn't stretch as far as it used to. The Deacons are asking the congregation to consider donating to help support this event. Participating families and individuals will receive Aldi gift cards for the adults and Walmart gift cards for the children. **To make a donation, please write a check payable to the First Presbyterian Church and note "Deacons' Xmas" on the memo line. Donations can also**

**be made through Venmo and PayPal.**

**Join the Deacons for a wonderful event that will fill your heart with the grace of the holiday season.** The Deacons are looking for volunteers to help with the event held at the Wood County Senior Center on Grove St. **A sign-up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall describing the various jobs and times when your help is needed, or you can volunteer using the form below and placing it in the donation plate.**

**December 8**

Set-Up at W.C. Senior Center (set-up time to be determined in November)

**December 9**

Kitchen Staff - 8:00 – 10:30 (Prepare breakfast with Denise Niese and her assistant)

Serve Breakfast – 9:30 – 11:30

Guest Check In - 9:00 – 11:30

Hosts – 9:00 – 11:30 (Direct people to the breakfast, help carry trays, answer questions)

Bus Tables – 10:00 – 12:00

Clean-up – 11:30 – 12:30 (Final wipe down of tables, remove decorations)



**In partnership with BGOPRIDE and Outreach** we will be offering a 3-week lesson series for LGBTQIA+ History Month. Meet in conversation led by Amanda and Different Members of BGOPRIDE's leadership each week to look at LGBT History, Intersectionality, and the lessons we can learn from it all. Lessons will be Sunday after worship in the Green Lounge. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> lesson is today about LGBT+ history from the Lavender Scare to the Ballrooms of the 80's and finish on **Nov 5th**.



**On All Saints Day We Remember.** On Sunday, November 5 we will observe All Saints Day in worship. The centerpiece of this annual worship service is the necrology reading wherein every church member who has left this life and entered life eternal is named and remembered. Of course, for many of us, our friends and family extend around the country and aren't necessarily members.

So, if you have had someone die since last November 1 and would like them to be named during the necrology, please email Pastor Jeff at [fpcbjeff@gmail.com](mailto:fpcbjeff@gmail.com). Include the first and last name of the person you want acknowledged during the service. If their name is difficult to say, please also send a pronunciation key too. **All names must be submitted to Pastor Jeff no later than Wednesday, November 1.**



**Help the Choral Scholars** raise money for their tour to Spain with the the BGSU Collegiate Chorale next Spring! They will be hosting a fundraiser on **Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm** in the Fellowship Hall. They will host a concert featuring art songs, musical theater and more sung by the Scholars and accompanied by Heather Goldman. The concert will be followed by a bake sale, with all proceeds going to help fund the Scholars' trip. Cash, check and Venmo donations will be accepted the night of the event. (see November newsletter for more details on giving)



The **Jingle Jumble Christmas** sale will be back again this year **9 am until 3 pm on Saturday, November 18th**. If you have items you would like to donate to the sale, we will accept donations of decorations/décor starting on **Tuesday, November 7th through Thursday November 16th**. Items should be taken down to the Fellowship Hall and placed in the designated drop off area. Please do not leave your donations in the office lobby.

Funds raised through this event help fund our Choral Scholars. If you would like to volunteer during the set-up or on the day of the sale, please contact Susan Dunn directly at ([sudunn@gmail.com](mailto:sudunn@gmail.com)) or Nancy Hess ([nhess1581@yahoo.com](mailto:nhess1581@yahoo.com)).