

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

November 19, 2023

10:00 AM

*Please stand if you are comfortable standing.

LITURGIST: Mike Evans

PRELUDE

Fairest Lord Jesus

Anna Laura Page

Presby Bell Choir

WELCOME

PASSING the PEACE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT HYMN

In Paradisum

Gregorian Chant

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

adapted from Matthew 5:3-9

One: "Blessed are the poor in spirit,

All: Lord, grant us your kingdom of heaven.

One: "Blessed are those who mourn,

All: Lord, comfort us.

One: "Blessed are the meek,

All: Lord, let us inherit the earth.

One: "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,

All: Lord, fill our lives with your glory.

One: "Blessed are the merciful,

All: Lord, be merciful to us.

One: "Blessed are the pure in heart,

All: Lord, let us see you.

One: "Blessed are the peacemakers,

All: Lord, adopt us as your children.

***HYMN #785**

"In Deepest Night"

Rose Mary

CALL TO CONFESSION (One)

Christ calls us to share the heavenly banquet of his love with all the saints in earth and heaven. Knowing our unworthiness and sin, let us ask from God both mercy and forgiveness.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Though you, dear Lord, have conquered death and are, already, the first fruits of life eternal, still we seek to hoard our lives as if we could garner even an extra second beyond your will. Forgive us. As you grant us your grace, so we pray for your mercy as well – the mercy of peace in the face of death, the mercy of comfort in the face of dying, the mercy of tears in the face of grief. May your grace and mercy mark all our days until we are united with you and with all the saints of every time and place.

KYRIE

Here Am I

Hassler

SILENT CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF PARDON (responsively)

One: You are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God,

All: We are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone.

One: In Christ the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord;

All: In whom we also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

One: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Hymnal Page 583

*"Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!"*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

MOMENT FOR EDUCATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 46

ANTHEM

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Hymn Tune by George N. Allen, Text by Joyce Merman, Arr. Roy Rinwald

*Precious Lord, take my hand, Bring me home through the night,
Through the dark, through the storm, to Thy light.
I have been to the mount, I have seen the Promised Land.
Precious Lord, precious Lord, take my hand.*

*Precious Lord, take my hand, bring Thy child home at last, Where the strife and the pain all are past;
I have dreamed a great dream that Thy love shall rule our land:
Precious Lord, precious Lord, take my hand.*

*Precious Lord, take my hand, take Thy child unto Thee,
with my dream of a world that is free
For that day when all flesh joins the glory Thou has planned,
Precious Lord, precious Lord, take my hand, take my hand.*

SCRIPTURES

Romans 8:31-39; Matthew 4:19

SERMON

"On Grief"

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Heidelberg Catechism, Question #1

One: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

All: That I am not my own but belong – body and soul, in life and in death – to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my

Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.
Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life
and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

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

OFFERING of OUR TITHES and GIFTS

Offertory *Interlude* Henry Smart

*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 #787 *"God Weeps with Us Who Weep and Mourn"* Moshier

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Send Me* Rachel Aarons

POSTLUDE *Fugue in G Minor* Jean-Jacques Beauvarlet-Charpentier

Special Thank You to Stephen Deeter for choosing today's music, preparing the choir, and directing 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.



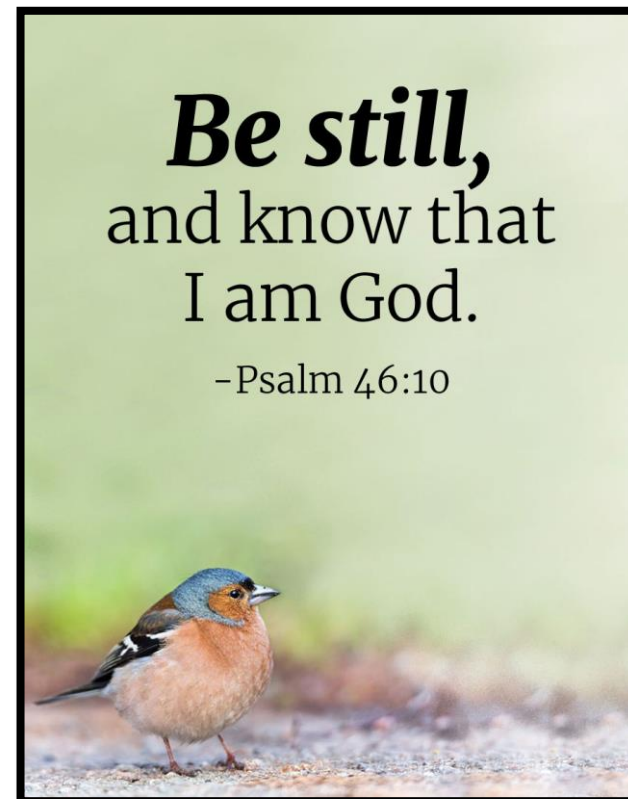
Venmo

First Presbyterian Church

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

Be still,
and know that
I am God.

- Psalm 46:10



"On Grief"

November 19, 2023

Phone: 419-352-5176

Email: firstpresbyterianbg@gmail.com

Like us on Facebook

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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Fernando Hernandez and Monica Garcia, Sextons

Araya Musselman, Nursery Worker

In Deepest Night

1. In deepest night, in darkest days, when harps are hung, no songs we raise, when silence must suffice as praise, yet sounding in us quietly there is the song of God.
2. When friend was lost, when love deceived, dear Jesus wept, God was bereaved; so with us in our grief God grieves, and round about us mournfully there are the tears of God.
3. When through the waters winds our path, around us pain, around us death, deep calls to deep, a saving breath, and found beside us faithfully there is the love of God.

God Weeps with Us Who Weep & Mourn

1. God weeps with us who weep and mourn; God's tears flow down with ours, and God's own heart is bruised and worn from all the heavy hours of watching while the soul's bright fire burned lower day by day, and pulse and breath and love's desire dimmed down to ash and clay.
2. Through tears and sorrow, God, we share a sense of your vast grief: the weight of bearing every prayer for healing and relief, the burden of our questions why, the doubts that they engage, and as our friends and loved ones die, our hopelessness and rage.
3. And yet because, like us, you weep, we trust you will receive and in your tender heart will keep the ones for whom we grieve, while with your tears our hearts will taste the deep, dear core of things from which both life and death are graced by love's renewing springs.

Week of Nov. 19 thru Nov. 26

- SUNDAY** 10:00 a.m. **Worship Service**
11:00 a.m. **Refreshments and Fellowship in FH**
4:00 p.m. Girl Scouts in Green Lounge
7:00 p.m. Meditation Group in the Green Lounge
- MONDAY**
OFFICE IS CLOSED
Amanda is on vacation
- TUESDAY** 12:00 p.m. **BULLETIN DEADLINE**
1:00 p.m. **Book Group in the Green Lounge**
5:30 p.m. La Conexion ESL classes
6:00 p.m. Overeaters Anonymous in the Green Lounge
8:00 p.m. A.A. in the Fellowship Hall
- THURSDAY** **OFFICE IS CLOSED – THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**
FRIDAY **OFFICE IS CLOSED – THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**
SUNDAY 10:00 a.m. **Worship Service w/Communion**



Presbyterian Women are pleased to offer red poinsettias for sale from Bench's Greenhouse to decorate the church sanctuary for Christmas and to commemorate and honor the memory of loved ones. The price is \$13.00 per plant. Checks should be made payable to **Presbyterian Women with the word "poinsettia" on the memo line.** Money may be placed in the church offering plate or mailed to the church office. **The deadline to request and turn in money is Wednesday, December 13.** Due to short supply, orders will be taken until the 18 plants are sold. Those who purchase poinsettia plants may pick up their flowers after the church service on December 24th, or after the service on December 25.

Please fill out your poinsettia order with the following information:

Name _____

Phone # _____

In Memory or Honor of: _____

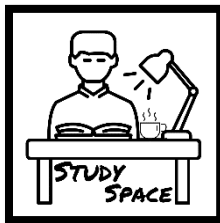
Number of poinsettias plants ordered: _____



Trans Day of Remembrance - Join BGO Pride and the community in a time of remembering those trans lives lost. **Monday, November 20th** here at **First Presbyterian starting at 6pm with a community potluck dinner** in the fellowship hall. If you can bring a dish to share great, if not, please come anyway. There will then be a **service & candlelight vigil at**

7:15pm in the park next door with the reading of names. In case of rain/cold the location will be moved to inside the church building.

Help needed on Nov. 26 - In order to be ready for the "hanging of the greens", we need help moving the boxes of decorations and greens down from the 3rd floor storage area to the Sanctuary on November 26 after church. It will go quickly with lots of help!



FPCBG is hosting a **Late Night Study Café** starting **November 30 – December 6 from 5pm to 12am** here in the Green Lounge and Library.

This space is a free, off campus, study space to prep for finals that is open when the cafes close. Coffee, tea, and snacks will be provided. *Please note the church will lock the doors at 11pm if there is no-one studying at that time. Email FYMS Amanda Ark at akark@bgsu.edu with questions. Donations of snacks would also be welcomed.

Hanging of the Greens - Thanksgiving is approaching fast and Advent is just around the corner! It's time to plan for the "hanging of the greens". **Join us in decorating the church sanctuary on November 29th following the We Meet dinner (a home cooked meal, yum!). The meal will be served at 5:30 and we plan to begin decorating by 6:00.** We have wreaths and garlands to hang, as well as three trees to decorate. There are plenty of jobs for all skill levels and abilities, so come join the fun, whether you join us for dinner or not!



Join the community on this evening at 7pm at Trinity United Methodist Church, 200 N. Summit St., BG sponsored by the BG Ministerial Association. Pastor Jeff will be delivering the homily. An offering will be taken during the service with all proceeds going to the BG Christian Food Pantry.