

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

May 12, 2024

Ascension Sunday

10:00 a.m.

*Please stand if you are comfortable standing.

LITURGIST: Beatrice Guenther

PRELUDE

Bell Fanfare

David Burton Brown

First Presby Bell Choir

WELCOMING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING THE PEACE

INTROIT

You Are Welcome Here

Mark Burrows

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

based on Hebrews 4:14; Revelation 5:10, 12

One: Jesus Christ has come into heaven and is at God's right hand— with angels, authorities, and powers in submission to him.

All: Since we have a great high priest who has gone into heaven— Jesus, the Son of God—let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. Let us praise his holy name!

One: Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!

All: Blessing, glory, wisdom, thanks, honor, power, and strength be to our God forevermore!

One: Alleluia, Amen!

All: Alleluia!

***HYMN (see insert)**

"A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!"

Lasst Uns Erfreun

CALL TO CONFESSION (liturgist)

While we claim to celebrate the ascension of our Lord, the way we live proclaims our lack of faith in his power to deal with the world, to heal the world. Let us confess the incongruity between our faith and practice. Let us pray.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Almighty God, you have raised Jesus from death to life, and crowned him Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him, or acknowledged his rule in our lives. We have gone along with the ways of the world, and failed to give him glory. Forgive us, and raise us from sin, that we may be your faithful people, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ, who rules the world and is head of the church, his body.

SILENT CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF PARDON (responsively)

One: Amen. Hear the good news of the gospel: God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

All: In Christ, by God's grace, we are saved. Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Hymnal #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

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 93

SPECIAL MUSIC

O Come Sing Unto the Lord

Jane Anderson, trumpet

Eugene Englert

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 1:1-11

SERMON

"The Confidence of a King"

HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you

One: Lift up your hearts

All: We left them to the Lord

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise

Prayers & The Lord's Prayer (*we use the word "debts"*)

Sanctus

Hymn #552

Holy, Holy, Holy

Land of Rest

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Distribution of the Elements

Communion

Communion Music

JOYS AND CONCERNS

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
OFFERING of OUR TITHES and GIFTS**

Offertory *A Simple Celebration* Brian Johnson

*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 #271 *"The Lord Almighty Reigns"*

St. Bride

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *Somebody's Knocking at Your Door* Arr. Sharon Elery Rogers

The Presby Bell Choir is playing the Prelude, Offertory and the Postlude during today's service. We thank them for their gift of music.

Our special music today was provided by Jane Anderson on trumpet. Thank you for sharing your gift of music.

PRAYERS: All those adversely affected by war and all acts of violence, all victims of hate crimes, Paul and Marilyn Nusser, Dorsey Sergent, Miranda Douglas, Kat Nic, Linda Myers, Ken Oman, Linda Young (friend of Tammy Schnitker), 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 www.firstpresbyterianbg.org
More Light Presbyterians www.mlp.org



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First Presbyterian Church

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"The Confidence of a King"

May 12, 2024

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A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!

1. A hymn of glory let us sing! New songs throughout the world shall ring: Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ, by a road before untrod, ascends unto the throne of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
2. The holy apostolic band upon the Mount of Olives stand; Alleluia! Alleluia! And with his followers they see; their Lord ascend in majesty. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
3. To all the singing angels cry, "Why stand and gaze upon the sky? Alleluia! Alleluia! This is the Savior!" thus they say; "This is his glorious triumph-day." Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
4. "You see him now, ascending high up to the portals of the sky; Alleluia! Alleluia! Hereafter, you shall Jesus see; returning in great majesty." Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
5. O risen Christ, ascended Lord, all praise to you let earth accord. Alleluia! Alleluia! You are, while endless ages run, with Father and with Spirit one. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Lord Almighty Reigns

1. The Lord Almighty reigns in majesty reigns in majesty most bright, appeared in omnipotence, and girded round with might.
2. The world established stands on its foundations broad; your throne is fixed, you reign supreme, the everlasting God.
3. The seas have lifted up their voice in majesty, but God on high, supreme in might, is greater than the sea.
4. Your testimonies, Lord, in faithfulness excel, and holy must your servants be who in your temple dwell.

Week of May 12 thru May 19

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| SUNDAY | 10:00 a.m. | Worship Service w/Communion |
| | 11:15 a.m. | Refreshments & Fellowship in Fellowship Hall |
| MONDAY | | OFFICE IS CLOSED |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Green Team meeting |
| TUESDAY | | Tammy is not in the office today |
| | 1:00 p.m. | Book Group in the Green Lounge |
| | 5:30 p.m. | Session meeting in the Gathering Place |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Overeaters Anonymous (courtyard lounge) |
| | 8:00 p.m. | A.A. in the Fellowship Hall |
| WEDNESDAY | 9:00 a.m. | Sorting Clothes in the Deacons' Shop |
| | 12:00 p.m. | BULLETIN DEADLINE EVERY WEDS. |
| THURSDAY | 9:30 a.m. | Deacons' Shop is open to the public |
| | | Staff Meeting in Pastor's office |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Bell rehearsal in the Bell room |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Choir rehearsal |
| SUNDAY | 10:00 a.m. | Worship Service w/Communion & Pentecost Sunday |



Mud Hens Game Night - On Thursday, May 30 at 6:40 p.m. the Toledo Mud Hens are playing the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders, but more importantly about 10 minutes before game time our very own Pastor Jeff will throw out the first pitch! If you'd like to come, laugh, and enjoy an early summer evening together, let Jeff or Brianne know. **Tickets cost \$11 and your RSVP is due by May 15.** Additionally, since Pastor Jeff earned this honor by bidding on it at a Wood County Special Olympics event, Jeff and Bri will donate \$2 per ticket purchased to this wonderful organization.

CAMP REGISTRATION – If you want to go to camp **sign up before May 15th** and you can get your camp fully funded by a special scholarship being offered by one of our sister churches in the Synod! Contact Amanda Ark, FYMS akark@bgsu.edu or 937/844-6787.



Beginners

June 9-12
Grades K-3

Rejoice

July 7-13
Grades 3-12

YOU & ME

July 13-14
Ages 3-17 (with an adult)



PENTECOST
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
 CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS

Nurturing the faith of those who are the church to come

A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also address the needs of at-risk children. 40% of the Pentecost offering can be retained by individual congregations wanting to make an impact in the lives of young people within their own community. The remaining 60% is used to support children-at-risk, youth, and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

This offering is appropriately received at Pentecost, just as the church is remembering the coming of the Holy Spirit with its wondrous animating activity in the life of the church. The children and youth who benefit from these gifts are themselves an animating presence in the church of today, whether members of Sunday schools or neighborhood children who receive hospitality and homework assistance.

The Pentecost Offering should be an integral part of every congregation's participation in the Educate A Child Initiative, since through this Special Offering:

- Each church serves the larger ministry of the PC(USA) by enabling programs for **children at risk** and supporting **Young Adult Volunteers** and **Ministries with Youth**, which includes Youth Triennium.
- Each church expresses its goodwill for children beyond its own neighborhood by joining a portion of its treasure along with others in a coherent Presbyterian voice for children.
- **Each church retains 40% of the offering**, which can serve as start-up funds for an Educate the Child program or sustaining funds for ongoing ministry.

The Pentecost offering is a Christian discipline of stewardship in which, through revenue sharing, the whole church witnesses to Jesus' injunction that "whoever welcomes one of these little ones, welcomes me." It just makes sense – dollars and cents!

Help youth begin life with a solid foundation of faith.

Psalm 71 testifies that a foundation of faith established during childhood helps ensure lifelong faith and service. The patterns and lessons established during these formative years continue to bear fruit throughout a person's life. By receiving the Pentecost Offering, you are nurturing the faith of those who are the church to come children, youth, and young adults.

This year's offering will be received on Sunday, May 19th. The Mission Committee will be deciding where our church's 40% will be directed at their next meeting.



Pentecost Sunday is May 19th and we would like everyone to wear as much red as you can and be ready for a church Birthday Party with cake & ice cream "Sunday" bar in FH after the service.

Kindred Spirits Circle will meet on **Monday, May 20th in the Library at 4:30 pm.** They will be discussing the final lesson in their study of Luke/Acts. The topic will focus on the reliance of Jesus during crisis through the story of Tabitha.

Love board games or want to learn to love them? We will meet at the church at **7 pm Friday, May 24th for game night!** We will have snacks and play board games together! Everyone is welcome!



Planning ahead – The church will be celebrating our **Graduates on Sunday June 9th** during the worship service and we are hoping everyone will attend! Please let Amanda know if there are graduating Seniors (H.S. or College) so they can be added to the festivities 😊



The PW "Spring Event" will be held at the **Wood County Historical Museum (13660 County Home Rd., Bowling Green) on June 8.** We will meet at the museum at **10:30 am** for some light refreshments and then have a guided tour of the museum. A soup and salad lunch will be served following our tour.

For those interested, we will explore the museum grounds with a guide after lunch. **Please RSVP to Nancy Hess (419-806-4788 or nhess1581@yahoo.com) by May 31.** The fee for the lunch is \$12 and can be paid at the event. If you wish to avoid stairs to enter the building, drive around the building to the back parking lot. The handicap entrance is an elevator that will take you to the first floor.

