

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

September 22, 2024

10:00 a.m.

*Please stand if you are comfortable standing.

LITURGIST: Christina Guenther

PRELUDE "Improvisation" Ted Goldman

**WELCOMING & ANNOUNCEMENTS
PASSING THE PEACE**

INTROIT *You Are Welcome Here* Mark Burrows

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

One: Blessed are those who delight in the law of the Lord,

All: **And meditate on God's word day and night.**

One: They are like trees planted by streams of water,

All: **Which yield their fruit in its season. Let us worship the Lord, our source of wisdom and strength.**

*HYMN #401 *Here In This Place (Gather Us In)* Gather Us In

CALL TO CONFESSION (liturgist)

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God. Please join me in the Unison Prayer of Confession as it is printed in your bulletin, and on the screen...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Merciful God, we confess that we have often acted out of selfish ambition and vain conceit. We have allowed envy and self-interest to guide our actions, rather than the wisdom that comes from above. Forgive us for the times we have caused conflicts and quarrels among ourselves and others. Help us to submit ourselves to you, resist the devil, and draw near to your grace. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen. *(silence is kept)*

KYRIE *Come Bring Your Burdens to God*

SILENT CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF PARDON (liturgist)

One: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. As far as the East is from the West, so far has God removed our transgressions from us. Walk in the newness of life!

All: **Thanks be to God!**

*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 James 3:13 – 4:3, 7-8a MSG

ANTHEM *I Will Arise* Arr. Alice Parker and Robert Shaw

SCRIPTURE READING Mark 9:30-37 MSG

SERMON "First Place" Pastor Lance Wiesmann

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison) (from A Brief Statement of Faith)

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING of OUR TITHES and GIFTS

Offertory *A New Doxology* Forest Green

*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 #757 *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples* Kingsfold

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE #80 *You Shall Go Out With Joy*

*POSTLUDE *They'll Know We Are Christians* Arr. Mark Hayes



Venmo

PRAYERS: All those adversely affected by war and all acts of violence, all victims of hate crimes, Phyllis Hartwell, Calla Higgins, Linda Evans' father, Samantha Hammersmith (Kyle Hammersmith's wife), Miranda Douglas, Kat Nic, Scarlet Gensler-Nic, Marcy St. John, Linda Myers, Ken Oman, Beth Apple (Rosemary's sister), 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.

First Presbyterian Church

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

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.)

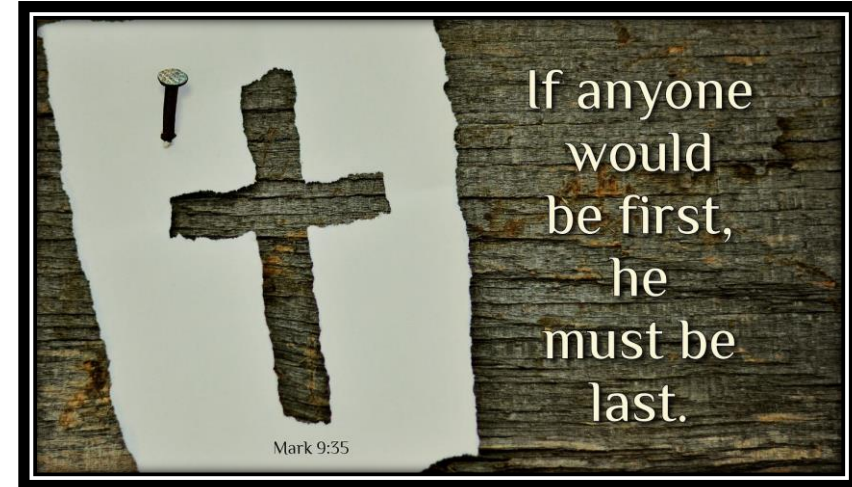
There are no closed doors here.
Christ Welcomes All Here!



First Presbyterian Church www.firstpresbyterianbg.org
More Light Presbyterians www.mlp.org www.mlp.org

STAFF MEMBERS

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Fernando Hernandez and Monica Garcia, Sextons	
Araya Musselman, Nursery Worker	



"First Place"



We thank Rev. Lance Wiesmann for being our guest pastor today while Pastor Jeff is on vacation. Lance is a "cradle Presbyterian" and has been involved in Maumee Valley Presbytery most of his life. He is a Commissioned Ruling Elder/Commissioned Pastor and is currently serving at Cadmus Presbyterian Church up in Adrian, MI until the end of this year. In addition to serving the local Church, he is also on the Ordination Task Force through the General Assembly, and serves the Presbytery with Dr. Jeff, as co-Moderator of the Sessions Record Review Committee (actually Jeff & Lance ARE the Committee). He is single and has a canine best friend named Oscar (see picture). When he's not doing Church work, he enjoys being a member of the Oddfellows Lodge and loves to cook.

September 22, 2024

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Here In This Place (Gather Us In)

1. Here in this place the new light is streaming; now is the darkness vanished away; see in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day. Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us in, the blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.
2. We are the young, our lives are a mystery. We are the old who yearn for your face. We have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race. Gather us in, the rich and the haughty; gather us in, the proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so lowly; give us the courage to enter the song.
3. Here we will take the wine and the water; here we will take the bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daughters call us anew to be salt for the earth. Give us to drink the wine of compassion; give us to eat the bread that is you; nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.
4. Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away: here in this place the new light is shining; now is the kingdom, and now is the day. Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and make us your own; gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bones.

Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples

1. Today we all are called to be disciples of Lord, to help to set the captive free, make plowshare out of sword, to feed the hungry, quench their thirst, make love and peace our fast, to serve the poor and homeless first, our ease and comfort last.
2. God made the world and at its birth ordained our human race to live as stewards of the earth, responding to God's grace. But we are vain and sadly proud; we sow not peace but strife. Our discord spreads a deadly cloud that threatens all of life.
3. Pray justice may come rolling down as in a mighty stream, with righteousness in field and town to cleanse us and redeem. For God is longing to restore an earth where conflict cease, a world that was created for a harmony of peace.
4. May we in service to our God act out the living word, and walk the road the saints have trod till all have seen and heard. As stewards of the earth may we give thanks in one accord to God who calls us all to be disciples of the Lord.

Week of Sept. 22 thru Sept. 29

SUNDAY	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service, guest pastor, Lance Weismann
	11:15 a.m.	Fellowship & Refreshments in FH
	4:00 p.m.	Girl Scouts in Green Lounge
	7:00 p.m.	Meditation/Recovery Group in the Green Lounge
MONDAY		OFFICE IS CLOSED
TUESDAY		October Newsletter Deadline (firm)
	1:00 p.m.	Book Group in the Green Lounge
	5:30 p.m.	La Conexion ESL classes
	6:30 p.m.	Overeaters Anonymous (Green Lounge)
	7:00 p.m.	Membership meeting
	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.
	5:30 p.m.	We Meet meal & fellowship time in FH
THURSDAY	9:30 a.m.	Deacons' Shop is open to the public
		Staff mtg. in Pastor Jeff's office
	5:30 p.m.	La Conexion ESL classes
	6:00 p.m.	First Presby Bell rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	Choir rehearsal in choir room
	7:00 p.m.	Meditation Group in FH
SATURDAY	9:00 a.m.	Green Team's Ecyllcing event at WC Sr. Center
	7:00 p.m.	Pairs & Spares Group
SUNDAY	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	7:00 p.m.	FPC Youth Group meeting



First Friday for October will be Friday, the 4th at 6 pm, and we will attend a BGSU volleyball game at the Stroh Center. Tickets are \$7 each and we have purchased 15 tickets with the option to get more as needed. We will hand out the tickets and collect money the evening of the game but we need a list of people who are interested. **Please let Bri Schooley know if you would like a ticket. 330-592-3394 or Brianne.schooley@gmail.com.** The Stroh Center is a cashless venue.



We are excited to announce the PW Fall Luncheon will be Sunday, October 6, in Fellowship Hall following the morning service. A short business meeting and speaker will follow lunch. Our speaker will be our own Dick Martin, local BG historian and member of the BG Historic Preservation Commission. In July,

historical signage designed and researched by the Commission was placed in 16 locations around BG. Dick will share with us his knowledge and experience from this project as well as his love for the history of Bowling Green. **Please RSVP to Nancy Hess at 419-806-4788 or nhess1581@yahoo.com by October 2.** All women from our church community, whether members or frequent visitors, are welcome at PW events. An inclusive definition of women is embraced by Presbyterian Women.

Come Experience Kirkmont! - Many of you have reached out to say you want to



experience what the campers do at Kirkmont. Well now you can get just a taste of it! **We will have a Retreat at Kirkmont October 11-13th! This retreat will be a full weekend (Friday - Sunday) BUT with options to stay for only one night or just for the day on Saturday!** We will have time to commune around the camp fire together, sing songs, do camp

activities AND relax and enjoy the peace of this thin space. *(Read article in the September Newsletter)*



The event is set for December 14! A delicious pancake breakfast will be served, and individuals and families will receive Aldi gift cards for their grocery needs. Children will receive Walmart gift cards, so they may select a Christmas gift of their choice.

The Deacons are asking you to consider donating to help with the cost of the gift cards and breakfast supplies. **Early donations are encouraged as it helps the Deacons set the budget for the event.** If you would like to donate, please write a check payable to the First Presbyterian Church and on the memo, line write "Deacons' Xmas." A donation can also be made through Venmo and PayPal.



ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

The Green Team's annual E-cycling event will be **Saturday, September 28 from 9 am to noon.** We are working with AIM E-cycling to collect electronics you no longer use, like computers, cell phones, small appliances, cables, and more. Start putting those items aside and bring them to us on September 28! *(Read article in the September Newsletter)*

You can e-cycle most electronics, including:

- **Computers and laptops (AIM will destroy the information)**
- **Computer parts, including mice, keyboards and hard drives**
- **Printers**
- **Cables**
- **Speakers**
- **Flat screen televisions**
- **Cameras**
- **Cell phones**
- **Office equipment**
- **Electronic games**
- **VCR or DVD players**
- **Audio visual/video production equipment**
- **Lamps**
- **Small appliances**

What cannot be recycled?

- **Large tube TV's or computer monitors**
- **Large appliances**
- **Light bulbs**



Climate Change - Climate change is believed to be one of the greatest challenges facing our future. How much do we know about it? How is carbon and carbon dioxide contributing to climate change? And most importantly, what can we do to help?

The Green Team has invited **Travis Chapin, part of the Citizens' Climate Lobby**, to share information with us. **Mark your calendar for Wednesday, October 2 at 7 pm in the Fellowship Hall.** Invite friends and join us for this information presentation. Refreshments will be provided.