

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

September 8, 2024

10:00 a.m.

*Please stand if you are comfortable standing.

LITURGIST: Kourtney Syrus

PRELUDE *Trumpet Voluntary (Larghetto)*

John Bennet

WELCOMING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING THE PEACE

INTROIT *You Are Welcome Here*

Mark Burrows

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

One: Let us worship God, who has done great things.

All: **We rejoice in our God, who made a way through the desert of this world.**

One: Let us worship God, who has caused streams of mercy to flow in the wasteland.

All: **We are the people God has formed through Christ; we worship him, and we rejoice!**

One: Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

All: **We praise God for the grace that has saved us. Alleluia! We rejoice!**

*HYMN #339 *"Lift Every Voice and Sing"*

CALL TO CONFESSION (liturgist) *Hebrews 4:14-16*

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

KYRIE *There Is a Longing in Our Hearts*

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 #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 2:1-13**

ANTHEM **Chant and Jubilation** Hal H. Hopson

SCRIPTURE READING **Mark 7:24-30**

SERMON *"Learning Mercy"*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison) *The Apostles' Creed*

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

OFFERING of OUR TITHES and GIFTS

Offertory *Grave* John Alcock

*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 # *"For the Healing of the Nations" (#346)*

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Live in Charity*

*POSTLUDE *Higher Ground* Mark Hayes



Venmo

PRAYERS: All those adversely affected by war and all acts of violence, all victims of hate crimes, Calla Higgins, Linda Evans' father, the family of Mary Organ, Samantha Hammersmith (Kyle Hammersmith's wife), Miranda Douglas, Kat Nic, Scarlet Gensler-Nic, Linda Myers, Ken Oman, Anna Beeker's parents, Jenny Breyer (niece of Mary Clarke), Mahmoud & family, the family of 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.

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!

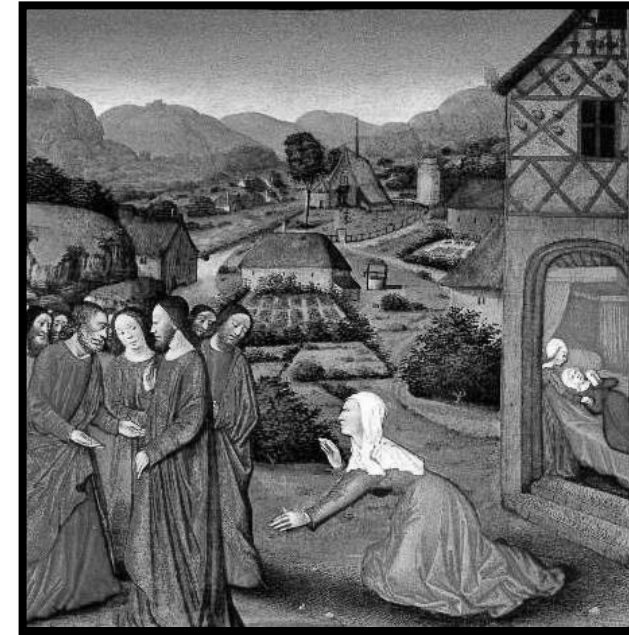


First Presbyterian Church www.firstpresbyterianbg.org
More Light Presbyterians www.mlp.org

www.mlp.org

STAFF MEMBERS

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	



"Learning Mercy"

September 8, 2024

Phone: 419-352-5176

Email: firstpresbyterianbg@gmail.com

Like us on Facebook

Webpage: www.firstpresbyterianbg.org

Lift Every Voice and Sing

1. Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring, ring with the harmonies of liberty. Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies; let it resound loud as the rolling sea. Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us; sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us. Facing the rising sun of our new day begun, let us march on, till victory is won.
2. Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod, felt in the days when hope unborn had died. Yet, with a steady beat, have not our weary feet come to the place for which our parents sighed? We have come over a way that with tears has been watered; we have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered, out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
3. God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, thou who hast brought us thus far on the way; thou who hast by thy might led us into the light keep us forever in the path, we pray. Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee; lest our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee; shadowed beneath thy hand may we forever stand, true to our God, true to our native land.

For the Healing of the Nations

1. For the healing of the nations, Lord, we pray with one accord; for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords; to a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word.
2. Lead us forward into freedom; from despair your world release, that, redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace. Show us how through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase.
3. All that kills abundant living, let it from the earth be banned: pride of status, race, or schooling, dogmas that obscure your plan. In our common quest for justice may we hallow life's brief span.
4. You, Creator God, have written your great name on humankind; for our growing in your likeness, bring the life of Christ to mind, that by our response and service earth its destiny may find.

Week of Sept. 8 thru Sept. 15

SUNDAY	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service w/Communion
	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
		Amanda Ark is on vacation until Sept. 27th
TUESDAY	1:00 p.m.	Book Group in the Green Lounge
	5:30 p.m.	La Conexion ESL classes
	5:30 p.m.	Session mtg in the Gathering Place
	6:30 p.m.	Overeaters Anonymous (Green 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.
	4:30 p.m.	Trustees mtg in the Fellowship Hall
THURSDAY	9:30 a.m.	Deacons' Shop is open to the public
		Staff mtg. in Pastor Jeff's office
	5:00 p.m.	Worship mtg. in Pastor Jeff's office
	5:30 p.m.	La Conexion ESL classes
	7:00 p.m.	Choir rehearsal in choir room
	7:00 p.m.	Meditation Group in FH
FRIDAY		OFFICE IS CLOSED/Tammy is on vacation
SUNDAY	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	11:15 a.m.	PW Steering mtg.
	11:30 a.m.	Deacons' mtg. in the Library

Kindred Spirits Resumes. Kindreds Spirits Circle starts in September. We plan to try the latest PW Bible study, *“Let Justice Roll Down: God’s Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation”* This is different from past studies in that it focuses on scripture's view of land, water, air, food and climate change justice rather than a specific book of the Bible. To order the study book call 1-800-533-4371 or go online at <https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/current-bible-study/> . Cost is \$10 for the book. **Questions? Call or text Julie Smith Maekask at 419-247-1794. Our next meeting will be on Sept. 16th at 4:30 p.m. in the Green Lounge.**



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**



Tip of the Month

Take advantage of the e-cycle event! The rummage sale was part one of helping you do some house cleaning, and e-cycling is part two. Put any of the items listed aside, and bring them to us on Sept. 28. Thank you!