

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

February 23, 2025

10:00 a.m.

*Please stand if you are comfortable standing.

LITURGIST: Kourtney Hill

PRELUDE *Partita 1, Sarabande*

J.S. Bach

WELCOMING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING THE PEACE

INTROIT *Open Your Ears, O Faithful People*

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively) *Psalm 105:1-5, 17*

One: O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples.

All: Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.

One: Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

All: Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually.

One: Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,

All: He had sent a man ahead of them, Joseph, who was sold as a slave.

One: O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples.

All: Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.

***HYMN #445** *God, How Can We Forgive* Leoni

CALL TO CONFESSION (liturgist)

As the Scots Confession reminds us, "The children of God fight against sin; they sob and mourn when they find themselves tempted to do evil; and, if they fall, rise again with earnest and unfeigned repentance. They do these things, not by their own power, but by the power of the Lord Jesus, apart from whom they can do nothing." Our Lord stands ready to forgive; come, let us confess our sins.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Holy Lord, you give us your dreams, but still we prefer our idle musings. You give us your protection, but still we scratch and claw at every perceived threat. You have given us roots that will let us blossom and grow, but still we yearn to wander. You offer us hope, but still we choose to dance with despair. Forgive us these sins, remove our debts, and let your grace overwhelm our lives once again.

SILENT CONFESSION

KYRIE *Spirit, Open My Heart*

DECLARATION OF PARDON (responsive) *Psalm 105:42-43*

One: The Lord has remembered his holy promise. He has brought his people out with joy, his chosen ones with singing. Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Hymnal Page 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

MOMENT FOR EDUCATION

SCRIPTURE READING **Genesis 45**

SERMON *"Overwhelming Grace"*

ANTHEM **Go, Go, Go Joseph!** Andrew Lloyd Weber
Narrator: Amanda Ark
Baker: Karli Christ
Butler: Sam Scheele
Joseph: Zach Ortega

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *Apostles Creed.*

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Creator of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He arose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER (we say "debts")

OFFERING OUR TITHES and GIFTS

Offertory *Andante* J. Blied

***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**



Venmo

*HYMN #296

Go in Grace and Make Disciples

Wondrous Light

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Know That God Loves You

Carson Cooman

POSTLUDE

Baroque Trumpet

Gordon Young

PRAYERS: All those adversely affected by war and all acts of violence, all victims of hate crimes, Megan (Jenny Ludwig’s great-niece), Miranda Douglas, Kat Nic, Scarlet Gensler-Nic, Lyn Long, Marcy St. John, Linda Myers, Ken Oman, Scott Muellich & David & Mindy Shaner (relatives of Scotty Huntington); 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.

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



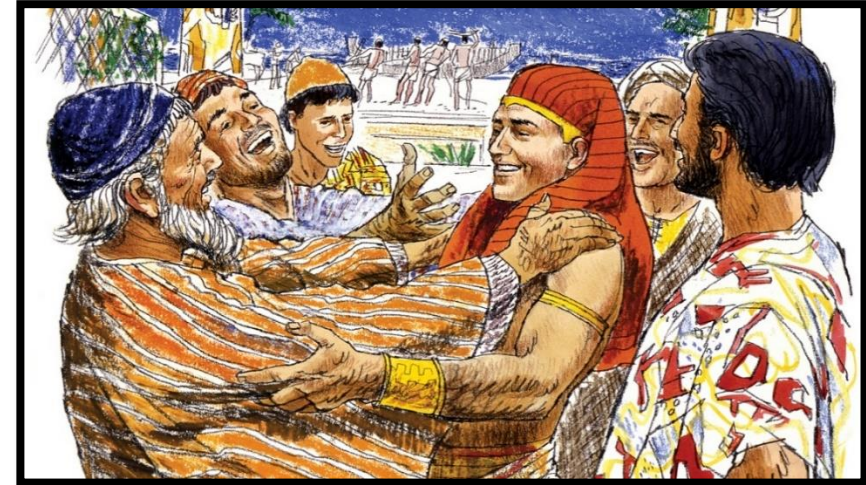
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“Go in Grace and Make Disciples” text: Mary Louise Bringle, 2001; music: William P. Rowan, 1999; *Text*©2002 GIA Publications, Inc.; *Music*©1999 William P. Rowan (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.); *One License*#718132-A

First Presbyterian Church

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“Overwhelming Grace”

February 23, 2025

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God, How Can We Forgive

1. God, how can we forgive when bonds of love are torn? How can we rise and start anew, our trust reborn? When human loving fails and every hope is gone, your love gives strength beyond our own to face the dawn.
2. When we have missed the mark, and tears of anguish flow, how can you still release our guilt, the debt we owe? The ocean depth of grace surpasses all our needs. A priest who shares our human pain, Christ intercedes.
3. Who dares to throw the stone to damn another's sin, when you, while knowing all our past, forgive again? No more we play the judge, for by your grace we live. As you, O God, forgive our sin, may we forgive.

Go in Grace and Make Disciples

1. Go in grace and make disciples. Baptize in God's holy name. Tell of death and resurrection; Easter's victory now proclaim. Christ's commission sends us forth to the nations of the earth. Go in grace and make disciples, midwives for the world's rebirth.
2. Go and follow Christ's example, not to vanquish, but to heal. Mend the wounds of sin's divisions. Servant love to all reveal. Roles and ranks shall be reversed; justice flow for all who thirst. Go and follow Christ's example. Forge a world of last made first.
3. Go in Pentecostal spirit, many tongues and many gifts. Feed the hearts of hungry people. Spread the gospel that uplifts. Till the day of Christ's return, as disciples, teach and learn. Go in Pentecostal spirit: let God's flame of witness burn.



Just a reminder the March newsletter is Tuesday, February 25th. Please email articles to the church office (firstpresbyterianbg@gmail.com) by the end of the day.

Week of Feb 23 thru March 2

SUNDAY	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	11:15 a.m.	Refreshments & Fellowship in FH
	4:00 p.m.	Girl Scouts (Green Lounge)
	7:00 p.m.	Meditation/Recovery Group (Green Lounge)
MONDAY		OFFICE IS CLOSED
TUESDAY		MARCH NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
	1:00 p.m.	Book Group (Green Lounge)
	7:00 p.m.	Christian Nurture meeting (Green Lounge)
		Membership meeting (Library)
	8:00 p.m.	A.A. (FH)
WEDNESDAY	9:00 a.m.	Sorting Clothes in the Deacons' Shop
THURSDAY	9:30 a.m.	Deacons' Shop is open to the public
		Staff meeting in Pastor Jeff's office
	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir rehearsal (Bell Room)
	7:00 p.m.	Choir rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	Meditation Group (FH)
SUNDAY	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service w/Communion



Ash Wednesday - On **Wednesday, March 5**, we will begin our observation of a holy Lent by **sharing a simple meal together at 6 p.m.** followed by our **Ash Wednesday service at 7 p.m.** Everyone is invited to attend either or both parts. No reservation is required for the meal. The service will include an imposition of ashes.



First Friday will be March 7 @ 6:00 pm at Cocina de Carlos, 205 Farnsworth Rd in Waterville. We do not have to go upstairs! RSVP to Nettie Rose, nettierose@aol.com, 419-262-7889.

The **Chili Cook-off** for raising funds for our youth to go to Camp and Triennium this year will be **March 16th**. If you would like to test out your best chili, sign-up with Amanda to bring a chili. (There will be prizes!) OR bring an empty stomach ready for chili on the 16th! Corn bread and crackers will be provided.

