

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

March 23, 2025

3rd Sunday in Lent

10:00 a.m.

*Please stand if you are comfortable standing.

LITURGIST: **Anne Moser**

PRELUDE

Dark Mystery

John Turner

WELCOMING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING THE PEACE

INTROIT

The Glory of These Forty Days

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

adapted from "God of Our Life" (#686)

One: God of our life, through all the circling years, we trust in thee.

All: **In all the past, through all our hopes and fears, thy hand we see.**

One: God of the past, our times are in thy hand. With us abide.

All: **Lead us by faith to hope's true promised land. Be thou our guide.**

One: God of the coming years, through paths unknown we follow thee.

All: **When we are strong, Lord, leave us not alone. Our refuge be.**

***HYMN #756**

O God of Every Nation

Llangloffan

CALL TO CONFESSION (liturgist)

Throughout the ages, God has repeatedly rescued and restored God's people, tailoring their salvation to their circumstances. In Jesus Christ, God has moved decisively, forgiving all sins past, present, and future. With this confidence in Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit, let us approach God again in prayer.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Save us, O Lord! Purify us from all the wickedness both within and beyond. Liberate us from all that entangles and enslaves. Make us citizens of your Kingdom, who can embrace your providence even in our despair. And restore in us all that is broken. Wicked, enslaved, politically corrupt, languishing apart from you, and razed to the ground, we have nowhere to turn but to you. So, we turn again, returning to your love and grateful for your grace.

SILENT CONFESSION

KYRIE

Fear, a Kyrie

Stephen Deeter, J.A. Schooley

DECLARATION OF PARDON (responsive)

One: Amen. In the name of Jesus Christ you have been made citizens of the Kingdom of God.

All: **Thanks be to God. Amen!**

***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

Judges 21:25

ANTHEM

The Weeping Tree

Joseph M Martin

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Samuel 8:1-22

SERMON

"Politically Incorrect"

***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

Andantino

J. Blied

***Doxology (Unison) Hymn #608**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ, all people here below;

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;

Praise Triune God, whom we adore

***Prayer of Dedication**



Venmo

***HYMN #329**

God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength

Winchester Old

***CHARGE AND BEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE** *May the Peace of the Lord Go with You* Charles Yannerella

POSTLUDE

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Arr. Mark Hayes

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 www.mlp.org

STAFF MEMBERS

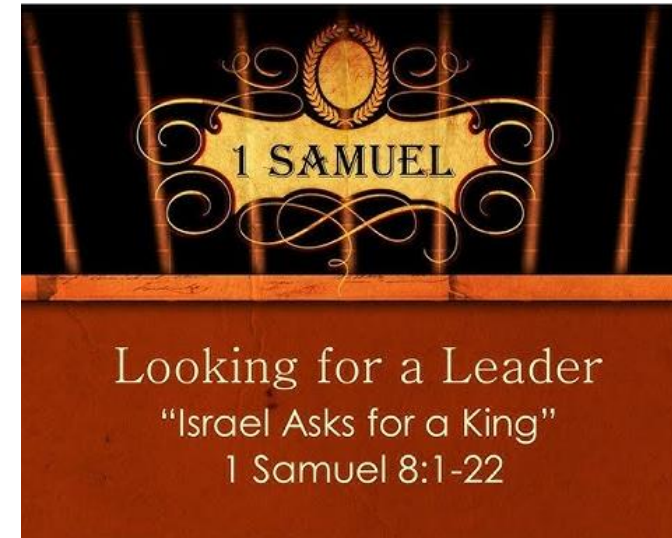
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"O God of Every Nation" text: William W. Reid Jr., 1958, alt.; Music: Welsh folk melody; *Llwybrau Moliant*, 1872; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906; Text. © 1958 ren. 1986 *The Hymn Society* (admin. Hope Publishing Company); One License #718132-A

God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength"; text: Stanzas 1-2, *The New Metrical Version of the Psalms*, 1909; music: Este's Psalms, 1592; harm. George Kirbye 1592.; One License#718132-A

First Presbyterian Church

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



"Politically Incorrect"

March 23, 2025

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O God of Every Nation

1. O God of every nation, of every race and land, redeem the whole creation with your almighty hand. Where hate and fear divide us and bitter threats are hurled, in love and mercy guide us and heal our strife-torn world.
2. From search for wealth and power and scorn of truth and right, from trust in bombs that shower destruction through the night, from pride of race and station and blindness to your way, deliver every nation, eternal God, we pray.
3. Lord, strengthen those who labor that all may find release from fear of rattling saber, from dread of war's increase; when hope and courage falter, your still small voice be heard; with faith that none can alter, your servants undergird.
4. Keep bright in us the vision of days when war shall cease, when hatred and division give way to love and peace, till dawns the morning glorious when truth and justice reign and Christ shall rule victorious o'er all the world's domain.

God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength

1. God is our refuge and our strength, our ever-present aid, and therefore, though the earth be moved, we will not be afraid;
2. Though hills amid the seas be cast, though foaming waters roar, yea, though the mighty billows shake the mountains on the shore.
3. Where God abides a river flows; that city will rejoice. But nations fear and kingdoms shake before God's thundering voice.
4. Since God is in the midst of it, the city walls shall stand, secure and safe with God's sure help, when trouble is at hand.



First Friday for April will be April 4th at 6:00 pm at Smokey Bones, 512 W Dussel Dr in Maumee. Please RSVP to Nettie Rose by Wednesday, April 2nd. 419-262-7889, nettierose@aol.com

Week of March 23 thru March 30

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| SUNDAY | 10:00 a.m. | Worship Service |
| | 11:30 a.m. | Membership Inquiry Luncheon (FH) |
| | 4:00 p.m. | Girl Scouts (Green Lounge) |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Meditation/Recovery Group (Green Lounge) |
| MONDAY | | OFFICE IS CLOSED |
| TUESDAY | | April Newsletter Deadline |
| | 1:00 p.m. | Book Group (Green Lounge) |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Christian Nurture & Membership Mtgs. |
| | 8:00 p.m. | A.A. (FH) |
| WEDNESDAY | 9:00 a.m. | Sorting Clothes in the Deacons' Shop |
| | 5:30 p.m. | WeMeet dinner and book group discussion |
| THURSDAY | 9:30 a.m. | Deacons' Shop is open to the public |
| | | Staff mtg. in Pastor's office |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Bell Choir rehearsal (Bell Room) |
| | 6:00 p.m. | MVP Session Records review (FH) |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Choir rehearsal |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Meditation Group (FH) |
| SUNDAY | 10:00 a.m. | Worship Service |

Membership Inquiry Lunch: Following worship today, the Membership Committee is hosting a membership inquiry lunch for anyone considering joining the church. The time will feature good eats, great conversation, and time to ask any and every question you ever had about FPCBG and/or church membership. And please always remember, you are loved in this church whether you're a member or not.



WeMeet this week we will begin our study of the Screwtape letters! We will begin with chapters/letters 9-16 and read 8 letters each week. You can come just for dinner or just dinner and socializing is your speed or just for the study or both! Dinner will be served at 5:30pm book discussion will begin at 6:15pm.



Presbyterian Women are pleased to offer 13 white Easter Lilies for sale to decorate the church sanctuary for Easter and to commemorate and honor the memory of loved ones. The price is \$14.00 per plant. **Checks should be**

made payable to Presbyterian Women with the word "lily" 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 Thursday, April 3, or until the lilies are sold out.** Families who purchase flowers may pick them up after the Easter Service on April 20.

Please fill out your Easter Lily order with the following information:

Name _____

Phone number _____

In Memory or Honor of _____

Number of plants ordered _____

Divine Doodle Page