



First Presbyterian Church

Middletown, Ohio

www.fpcmiddletown.com

May 5, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.

Prelude

O the Deep, Deep, Love of Jesus

Mark Hayes

Welcome and Announcements

*** Call to Worship (responsive)**

Psalm 98:4-6

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,

with the lyre and the sound of melody.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn

make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

*** Hymn #318** *In Christ There Is No East or West*

St. Peter

*** Prayer of Confession (unison)**

Holy God, we come before You acknowledging our frequent failures to embrace Your gifts and the wideness of Your grace.

We confess that we have often held narrow views, not recognizing the extent of Your love. We confess our hesitations, our reluctance to extend the invitation of Your grace to others as freely as it was given to us. We have not always loved as You have commanded, nor have we fully trusted in the victory that faith in Your Son assures us. Lord, forgive our shortsightedness and our quickness to judge, rather than to love. Open our hearts to the joy and the freedom found in obeying Your commands, and in the profound love You have shown us through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

*** Assurance of Forgiveness**

God's love is steadfast and His mercy endures forever. Through Jesus Christ, who conquered the world by His love, your sins are forgiven.

We will rejoice and abide in His endless love, for we have been chosen and cherished. Amen

*** Response** *We Are Forgiven* Hymnal #447
We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

*** Passing the Peace**
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture 1 John 5:1-6

Scripture John 15:9-17

Sermon Justin Miller

*** Hymn #465** *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* Converse

Affirmation of Faith (unison) 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; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *We Come in Wonder* Arr. Jon Paige
Sanctuary Choir

*** Doxology** Hymnal #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.

* Hymn #515

I Come with Joy
Verses 1-3

Dove of Peace

The Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Prayer Cards

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

* Hymn #526 *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ* Linstead

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

John Hughes

* Please stand in Body or Spirit.

Our Life Together...

Leading Worship today: Justin Miller, Pastor; Marty Hensler, Worship Assistant; Joyce Zigler, Director of Music Ministries/Organist; Chris Baird, Director/Organist; Jim Harris, Sound Technician; Sharon Perkins, Barista.

The deacons have placed two white carnations on the chancel rail in loving memory of **Robert Hesselbrock**, who died on April 2 and for **Naomi Somer**, who died on April 26. Naomi is Sandi Templeton's mom.

Hearing aids and large print bulletins are available for use during the worship services. Please contact an usher for assistance.

Wiggle bags are available at each Sanctuary entrance to help children feel included and engaged during the worship service.

Join us for Fellowship Hour in the Gathering Area before and after today's service. Stop by for fellowship and refreshments.

Announcements

Tuesday Morning Bible Study "If you are interested in diving deeper into God's Word in a different, more casual, setting as compared to Sunday morning, join us for the Tuesday morning Bible study. It is a time to gather, discuss, and learn from one another how God's Word is speaking to and through each of us. We will be hosting Bible studies at the church, meeting tentatively each Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. in the Youth Room. For the next several weeks we will be going through the book of Ruth. If you are interested in receiving weekly email reminders send an email to justin@fpcmiddletown.com and you will get added to the Bible Study list. We look forward to seeing you there!"

Sanctuary Choir will rehearse on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

M&M (Men & More) Monthly Outing: Everyone is invited to join this group for dinner and fellowship at Wildwood Golf Club, 601 Aberdeen Dr. on **Tuesday, May 14**. Fellowship begins approximately at 5:00 and we usually order dinner around 5:30. We hope to see you there.

Kairos weekend at Lebanon Correctional Institution is on May 2 – 5. Let's remember to keep them in our prayers during this time. Thank you for your generosity, the cookies were delivered and will be enjoyed by all.