



First Presbyterian Church

Middletown, Ohio
www.fpcmiddletown.com

August 15, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.

Prelude

Oh, Sing to the Lord

arr. Ellen Coman

Call to Worship

Psalm 111:1-4

I thank the LORD with all my heart
in the company of those who do right, in the congregation.

**The works of the LORD are magnificent;
they are treasured by all who desire them.**

God's deeds are majestic and glorious.

God's righteousness stands forever.

God is famous for his wondrous works.

The LORD is full of mercy and compassion.

Hymn #821

How Can I Keep from Singing?

Prayer of Confession

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.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Gloria Patri

Hymnal #581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen, Amen!

Circle Time

Lisa Kaufer

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

John 6:51-58
Ephesians 5:8-20

Sermon

Michael Isaacs

Anthem

O, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing arr. Jason Krug
Handbell Ensemble

Affirmation of Faith

from the United Church of Canada

We are not alone,
we live in God's world.
We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.
We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

Prayers of the People & 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.

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

When in Our Music God Is Glorified arr. Burkhardt



Our Life Together...

Leading Worship today: Michael Isaacs, Pastor; Sarah Thornbery, Worship Assistant; Janet Scott, pianist, organist; Sarah Thornbery and Phil Thornbery, Song Leaders; Parker Shablak, Sound Technician; Sharon Perkins, Barista.

Handbell Ensemble: Dianne Gerber, Marti Kelley, Sandi Templeton, Phil Thornbery, Sarah Thornbery, Lynne Wiley.

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

Announcements

COVID-19 Updates from June 22 Session Meeting

Session continues to work diligently to be safe, responsible, and faithful to God and neighbor. After discussion, reflection, and prayer, here are the recent updates for our COVID-19 response.

- The physical office will fully re-open on August 2, including for those who wish to volunteer throughout the week. If you'd like to help out during the week, call the office and let us know.
- The nursery and Sunday school will resume in September. We will be hiring a second nursery attendant to provide consistent staffing and diligence about safety protocols.
- The Welcome Team will be resuming their ministry of greeting on Sunday mornings. Would you like to participate in this way? If so, let Sandy know in the office.
- Fellowship Hour will remain outside, but will move inside in the event of rain.
- Masks remain encouraged and social distancing remains in place in the sanctuary.
- Session also discussed a helpful reflection from a church leader in another setting about the pace of ministry at this time; it is titled *Hitting the Ground Running?* Read it here: <https://mministry.org/hitting-the-ground-running>

Session appreciates everyone's diligence and patience.

The Phil DeGreg Jazz Trio will join us for worship on August 29.

Pre-K Readiness: We still have openings for our Pre-K program this fall! Help us fill them by spreading the word. Learn more at <https://www.fpcmiddletown.com/prek>.

Resuming In-Person Nursery Care and Sunday School: In September, we look forward to sharing a warm welcome for children and families as they are ready to return in-person to the Nursery and Sunday School. We are in the process of hiring a second Nursery Attendant and implementing diligent safety protocols to provide the best possible care for all in these spaces. More details will be posted in the coming weeks. If you have any questions in the meantime, please contact Lisa Kaufer.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study will resume on **September 14** at 10:00 a.m. in the Youth Room. We will begin with a study of James.

Prayer list

Please submit any prayer requests for today's service to Michael before the worship service begins, the submitted requests will be included here next week.

Contribute from your device

Use this QR code for the online giving portal. You do not need to create an account for a one-time contribution.

