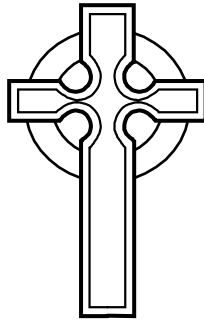


First Presbyterian Church

Middletown, Ohio
www.fpcmiddletown.com

June 13, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.



Prelude

May Jesus Christ Be Praised

arr. Faye Lopez

Call to Worship

Adapted from Psalm 92

It's good to give thanks to the LORD;

it's good to sing praises to your name, Most High!

It's good to proclaim your loyal love in the morning;

it's good to proclaim your faithfulness at night!

The righteous sprout like a palm tree and grow like a cedar.

Those replanted in the LORD's house sprout in God's courtyards.

Even when old and gray, they will remain lush and fresh to proclaim:

"The LORD is righteous; God is my rock."

Hymn #634

To God Be the Glory

To God Be the Glory

Prayer of Confession

God of Wisdom, we do not see as you see. We look at others and make judgments. We look on the outward appearance, but you look into the heart. Loving God, forgive our shallowness, open our eyes to see as you see, open our hearts to love as you love. Help us to see each one as heart of your heart.

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!

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Ezekiel 17:22-24
Mark 4:1-8, 26-34

Sermon

Michael Isaacs

Solo

O God, Beyond All Praising arr. Rodney Abriol
Brian Shepard, tenor
Phil Thornbery, pianist

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**

How Firm a Foundation

arr. P. L. Harris



Our Life Together...

Leading Worship today: Michael Isaacs, Pastor; Brian Shepard, Organist; Phil Thornbery, Organist; Ken Thomas, Worship Assistant; Jim Harris, Sound Technician; Debbie Cover, Barista.

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

The deacons have placed two white carnations on the chancel rail in loving memory of **Eunice Clements**, who died on October 31, 2020, and for **Dickie Greathouse** who died on June 8.

Announcements

COVID-19 Updates from May 25 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.

- Masks are encouraged for the full participation of children and people who are immunocompromised in worship.
- Physical distancing measures will continue in the sanctuary.
- We will resume responsive and unison readings and prayers.
- Worship may include vocal ensembles of up to eight singers. While we are eager to sing together again, we will wait to resume congregational singing.

Session appreciates everyone's diligence and patience.

Compassion Camp: Changing the World with Lovingkindness

Beginning July 7, join us each week in July as we explore what it means to have compassion for others, ourselves, and the world. Activities for all ages will be available online each Sunday and we'll connect online via Zoom each Wednesday at 5:00 p.m.

Sign up for Compassion Camp, so we can send you more detailed information about receiving weekly content and participating in online gatherings. Contact Lisa Kaufer for more information (lisa@fpcmiddletown.com).

Upcoming Worship

Next week (June 20) we welcome guest preacher the Rev. Sandy McConnel, who is pastor emeritus at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Dayton. Violinist Tom Sobieski will also be joining us. On June 27, we will welcome trumpeter Audrey Schmid.

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 mobile device



Online giving to First Presbyterian Church is available through the Presbyterian Foundation. You do not need to create an account for a one-time contribution. Use this QR Code to be taken to the online giving portal.