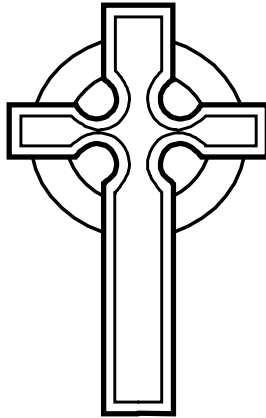


# First Presbyterian Church

Middletown, Ohio  
[www.fpcmiddletown.com](http://www.fpcmiddletown.com)

June 6, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.



## Prelude

*Adagio*  
Suzanne Edwards, flute

Gabriel Faure

## Call to Worship (responsive)

from Psalm 138

I give thanks to you with all my heart, LORD.

**I thank your name for your loyal love and faithfulness.**

On the day I cried out, you answered me.

**You encouraged me with inner strength.**

Let all the earth's rulers give thanks to you, LORD,

**Let them sing about your ways—your glory is so great!**

Even though the LORD is high, God can still see the lowly,

**but God keeps his distance from the arrogant.**

Whenever I am in deep trouble, you make me live again;

**you save me with your strong hand.**

Your faithful love lasts forever, LORD!

**Don't let go of what your hands have made!**

## Hymn #726

*Will You Come and Follow Me*  
Verses 1, 2, 4 & 5  
Fay Smillie, soprano

Kelvingrove

## **Prayer of Confession (unison)**

Eternal God, our judge and redeemer, we confess that we have tried to hide from you. We have lived for ourselves and apart from you. We have turned from our neighbors and refused to bear the burdens of others. We have ignored the pain of the world, and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed. In your great mercy forgive our sins and free us from selfishness, that we may obey your will through Jesus Christ our Savior.

## **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!

## **Scripture**

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

Mark 3:12-27

## **Sermon**

Michael Isaacs

## **Solo**

*Be Thou My Vision*  
Suzanne Edwards, flute

Jan Mulder

## **Affirmation of Faith**

from the Reformed Church of Australia

We believe in God, who made the world and reaches out to it with a love that is fierce and passionate, tender and kind.

We believe in Jesus the Christ; God revealed in a human life. Jesus touched the untouchable and pardoned the unforgivable. Raised by God, Jesus is parting the sea of evil and despair and leading us across into the land of freedom and promise.

We believe in the Holy Spirit;  
whose breathing gives life;  
whose fire purges and renews;  
whose wisdom awakens courage and hope.

Gathered by the Spirit,  
we have been baptized into a common life:  
overflowing with love and mercy;  
richer than mind can measure,  
but appearing foolish to the world.  
And we trust that the foolishness of God  
will prove wiser than the wisdom of the world,  
and that the suffering of God will heal the earth  
and fulfill our hopes of justice and peace.

## Welcome and Announcements

**Hymn #500**

*Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread*  
Fay Smillie, soprano

St. Flavian

## The Lord' Supper

### 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**

*Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

Joe Utterback



# *Our Life Together...*

**Leading Worship today:** Michael Isaacs, Pastor; Joyce Zigler, Director of Music Ministries/Organist; Lynne Mack, Worship Assistant; Parker Shablak, Sound Technician; Suzanne Edwards, Flutist; Fay Smillie, Song Leader; Mary Brehm, Barista.

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 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.

**Session has been reviewing building safety and security.** At our May meeting we approved a policy that only doors that open directly into the Narthex and Gathering Area will be open after 10:10. On Sundays, the front sanctuary doors and Door A (Gathering Area) will remain open. Door C (Circle Drive) and Door H (Side Sanctuary) will be open until 10:10. All other doors will only be suitable for exiting.

**Do you have any youth baseball gear in your house?** Bring it to the church office and we will collect it for the new Middle Way Youth Baseball which is currently accepting donations.

**Men's Monthly Meeting** is an opportunity for the men of the church to get together and socialize over dinner. On **Tuesday, June 8**, the meeting will be at The Clubhouse Sports Grille, 250 N. Main St., Monroe, at **5:30 p.m.** Hope to see you there!

**Kirkmont Summer Camp scholarships are available** in the church office, due by June 1. Visit <https://www.kirkmontcenter.org> or contact Lisa Kaufer for more information.

## *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.

Mary Jo Burns  
Larry and Letitia Curless  
Dick Dempster  
Ron Dowdy  
Shelby Guthman  
Brenda, Jerry, & Jeremy Hall  
Frances Huntzinger  
Bill McFarlane  
Thelma Ramsey  
Eli Schlaeffer  
Scott Shablak

Christina Smillie Steele  
Mary Ellen Stilianos  
Catherine Taylor's family  
Helen Taylor  
Vivian Williams  
Roger Wolfe  
For our brothers and sisters in  
Germany  
Joy: Lola Bruner's 91<sup>st</sup> Birthday  
John Peterson's 81<sup>st</sup> Birthday