



First Presbyterian Church

Middletown, Ohio
www.fpcmiddletown.com

July 30, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.

Prelude

Blest Be the Tie

arr. Mark Hayes

*** Call to Worship**

from *Psalm 107*

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good.

People: God's steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: Let those God redeemed from trouble say so.

**People: They cried to the Lord,
and the Lord delivered them.**

Leader: Let those who are wise give heed to these things.

People: Let us consider the steadfast love of God.

*** Hymn #331**

God of Ages

National Hymn

*** Prayer of Confession (unison)**

Eternal God, you fill all our lives with love and grace divine, but we are negligent in our love for you and in our grace toward others. You put us in places where you want us to be and to serve, yet we often miss your cues and calls through people you send as messengers and intermediaries. Forgive our inattentiveness and preoccupation with our own uninspired wishes and desires, and open us to you – to your plans for us, to the movement of your Spirit among us, to your continued revelation in Jesus Christ of the community you want us to be. Forgive us, Gracious God, and use us to show forth the kind of love and mercy you have shown toward us. (Silent Confession)

*** 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!

*** Passing the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-67

Solo

Air
Suzanne Edwards, flute

Barry McKimm

Sermon

“Matchmaker, Matchmaker....”

Rev. Graham

* Hymn #30

O God, in a Mysterious Way

Dundee

* Affirmation of Faith (unison) (from *A Brief Statement of Faith*)

In life and in death we belong to God. We trust in Jesus Christ, who proclaimed the reign of God, and delivered us from death to life eternal. We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image to live as one community. We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Welcome and Announcements

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Be Thou My Vision
with *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*
Suzanne Edwards, flute

Arr. Brant Adams

* Doxology

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.

Hymnal #606

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.

* **Hymn #65**

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Cwm Rhondda

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Carillon

Gordon Young

* Please stand in Body or Spirit



Our Life Together...

Leading Worship today: Rev. Jim Graham, Guest Minister; Kathy Harris, Worship Assistant; Brian Shepard, Organist; Susan Beagle, Pianist; Suzanne Edwards, Flutist; Sarah Thornbery, Song Leader; Jim Harris, Sound Technician; Mary Brehm, Barista.

The deacons have placed a white carnation on the chancel rail in loving memory of **Ted Miller**, who died on July 24.

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

Children's Ministry

Masks are now considered optional in the nursery and Sunday School. As needed, masks and hand sanitizer are available in the hallway of the education wing.

Nursery Care is available for infants and children up to 5 years old, located next to Room 110. Two childcare workers, Monique Watkins and Ingrid Cuadra, provide exceptional care for which we are grateful.

Sunday School (children ages 6-12) will take a break during the summer months.

M&M (Men & More) Monthly Outing: Everyone is invited to join this group for dinner and fellowship at Central Connections (Middletown Senior Center) on August 8. Fellowship begins approximately at 5:00 and we usually order dinner around 5:30. We hope to see you there.

Prayer list

To submit prayer requests, please use the prayer card found in the pew in front of you. These may be placed in the offering plate as it is passed. The submitted requests will be included here next week.

Marilyn Adams	Ken & Debbie Jacobs	Gene & Wilberta
Bill Baker	Belinda Martindell	Schaefer
Hildy Brown	Family of Ted Miller	Judy & Bill Schneider
Lola Bruner	Scott & Janis Nein	Allan & Fay Smillie
Linda Decatur	John & Nancy Peterson	Carla Smith
Helen Haass	Larry Price	Shirley Steel
Family & Friends of Nancy Harrison	Richard Sandefur	Helen Taylor
		Terri Walters

Use this QR code for the online giving portal.



CALENDAR

Sunday	30	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service
Monday	31	1:00 p.m.	Staff Meeting
Tuesday	01	1:00 p.m.	Deacons Meeting
Wednesday	02	10:00 a.m.	Fellowship
		1:00 p.m.	Prayer Group
		6:00 p.m.	Gospel & Comedy
Thursday	03	6:00 p.m.	Yoga
		7:30 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous
Sunday	06	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service