



# First Presbyterian Church

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

November 26, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.

**Prelude**

*Hymns of Grateful Praise* Arr. McDonald/Larson

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Minute for Mission**

Tom Scott

**Minute for Mission**

Marti Kelley

**\* Call to Worship**

Psalm 95

**Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD;  
let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.**

Let us come before him with thanksgiving  
and extol him with music and song.

**For the LORD is the great God,  
the great King above all gods.**

In his hand are the depths of the earth,  
and the mountain peaks belong to him.

**The sea is his, for he made it,  
and his hands formed the dry land.**

Come, let us bow down in worship,  
let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;

**for he is our God**

**and we are the people of his pasture,  
the flock under his care.**

**\* Hymn #187**

*Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

Bradbury

**\* Prayer of Confession**

Gracious God, your Son has told us that we cannot serve two masters, but too often we have paid Him no heed. We know better, but we give in to the lusts fostered by television ads that urge us to buy “more” and “more.” We have just gone through the motions of Thanksgiving but, as we watched, with stomachs stuffed, parades and football games, we sometimes have forgotten to thank You, who are the source of all that we enjoy. In the name of Christ the servant King we ask for your forgiveness. Amen

**\* 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**

Ezekiel 34:1-24

**Scripture**

Matthew 25:31-46

**Sermon**

“The Shepherd King”

Rev. McNulty

**\* Hymn #186**

*Come Now, You Blessed, Eat at My Table*

*Come Now, You Blessed*

**\* Affirmation of Faith (unison)**

From the Heidelberg Catechism

That I am not my own, but belong— body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

**Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory**

*Rejoice!*  
Sanctuary Choir

N. Price/D. Besig

**\* 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.

## 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 #761** *Called as Partners in Christ's Service* Beecher

## Charge and Benediction

**Postlude** *Now Thank We All Our God* Arr. Molly Ijames

\* Please stand in Body or Spirit.



# *Our Life Together...*

**Leading Worship today:** Rev. Ed McNulty, Guest Preacher; Kathy Harris, Worship Assistant; Joyce Zigler, Director of Music Ministries/Organist/Pianist; Brian Shepard, Pianist; Sanctuary Choir; Jim Harris, Sound Technician; Debbie Cover, Barista.

The deacons have placed two white carnations on the chancel rail in loving memory of **Ruth Sauer**, who died on November 18 and **Ken Jacobs**, who died on November 21.

**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

**Monday Morning Bible Study:** We have made a change. Beginning on Monday we will have Bible Study at 9:00 a.m. in the Youth Room. We are exploring the book “Sabbath as Resistance” (Saying NO to the Culture of Now). Ed McNulty will be giving his view on the book. If you have any questions, call the church office or contact Barb Nein at [barbara.nein@yahoo.com](mailto:barbara.nein@yahoo.com).

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

### Children's Ministry

**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)** is offered most Sundays\* in the Godly Play Room following the Passing of the Peace at which time leaders will escort children to Sunday School. When worship concludes, parents/guardians will need to come to the Godly Play Room to pick up their child(ren). (\*Note: This month, Sunday School will meet on 11/26. We especially want to include children and youth in special worship celebrations such as Communion, etc.)

**Many thanks to all who purchased the Angel Memorial Ornaments.** We have completely sold out of the Angel Ornaments. Please watch PresbyNews and the bulletin for information on how much our donation to Hope House will be.

### Music Ministry

**Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!** Thank you to the Sanctuary Choir & Guests, the Bells of Peace Handbell Choir, Janet Scott, Brian Shepard and Davis Dorrrough for making last Sunday's presentation of “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” glorious! It was a very special and inspiring day for all of us.