



First Presbyterian Church

Middletown, Ohio
www.fpcmiddletown.com

February 25, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.

Prelude

Be Thou My Vision

Marilyn Thompson

Welcome and Announcements

*** Call to Worship**

from Psalm 92

It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;

**It is good to declare your steadfast love in the morning,
and your faithfulness by night,**

For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;
at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

**The righteous flourish in the courts of our God.
and remain evergreen and full of sap,**

This shows that the LORD is upright;
the LORD is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

Let us worship God!

***Hymn#327** *From All That Dwell Below the Skies* Lasst Uns Erfreuen

*** Prayer of Confession (unison)**

Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.

*** 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 Psalm 66:1-4

Scripture Matthew 5:13-16

Sermon "Filled with Joy!" Rev. Brakemeyer

*** Hymn #213** *In the Cross of Christ I Glory* Rathbun

*** Affirmation of Faith (unison)**

Jesus has taught us to speak of hope as the coming of God's Kingdom. We believe that God is at work in our world turning hopeless and evil situations into good. We believe that goodness and justice and love will triumph in the end, and that tyranny and oppression cannot last forever. One day 'all tears will be wiped away' and 'the lamb will lie down with the lion.' True peace and true reconciliation are not only desirable, they are assured and guaranteed. This is our faith, and our hope. Amen

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *Medley of the Cross* Arr. Howard Helvey
Sanctuary Choir

*** 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 #611** *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* Hymn to Joy

Charge and Benediction

Postlude *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* Arr. Molly Ijames

* Please stand in Body or Spirit.



Our Life Together...

Leading Worship today: Rev. Randall Brakemeyer, Guest Preacher; Bob Cover, Worship Assistant; Joyce Zigler, Director of Music Ministries/ Organist; Janet Scott, Director/Pianist; Sanctuary Choir; Parker Shablak, Sound Technician; Lynne Wiley, Barista.

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

The Book Study (formerly Bible Study) will meet on Monday in Pastor Ed's office at 9:30 a.m. The group is reading a new book, suggested by a member, *THE THIRD SIDE: Why We Fight and How We Can Stop*. Copies have been ordered and can be picked up at the church office.

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

M&M (Men & More) Monthly Outing: Everyone is invited to join this group for dinner and fellowship at Wildwood Golf Club, 601 Aberdeen Dr. on **Tuesday, March 12**. 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.

Rhonda Anderson	A. J. Norton	Brian T.
Doug Bailey	Phyllis	Helen Taylor
Sue Barnes	Danny Raleigh	Mary Ann Terrell
Emily Brandt	Thelma & Julie Ramsey	Wanda Terrell
John Cloud	Geneva Shea	Bill Thomas
Mike Hamlin	Mary Ellen Stilianos	Connie Willis
Roman Pearce	Eva Straub	

Use this QR code for the online giving portal.



CALENDAR

Sunday	25	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service
Monday	26	9:30 a.m.	Book Study
		1:00 p.m.	Staff Meeting
Tuesday	27	9:00 a.m.	Pre-K Readiness
		5:30 p.m.	Girl Scouts
Wednesday	28	9:00 a.m.	Pre-K Readiness
		10:00 a.m.	Fellowship at Triple Moon
		7:30 p.m.	Sanctuary Choir
Thursday	29	9:00 a.m.	Pre-K Readiness
		6:00 p.m.	Yoga
		7:30 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous
Sunday	03	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service