

First Presbyterian Church

Middletown, Ohio www.fpcmiddletown.com

January 14, 2024 - 10:00 a.m.

Prelude

Sweet Hour of Prayer with As the Deer

Arr. Susan Caudill

Welcome and Announcements

* Call to Worship

Psalm 99

Leader: The LORD reigns, let the nations tremble; he sits enthroned between the cherubim,

let the earth shake.

People: Great is the LORD in Zion; he is exalted over all the nations.

Leader: Let them praise your great and awesome name—

he is holy.

People: The King is mighty, he loves justice—

you have established equity;

in Jacob you have done what is just and right.

Leader: Exalt the LORD our God

and worship at his footstool; he is holy.

* **Hymn** #307 God of Grace and God of Glory Cwm Rhondda

* Prayer of Confession

Gracious and loving God, you have created us of one blood and yet we have persisted in believing that the blood of some is poison, thereby disrupting the unity of the human race. We build walls between people of different hue and sexes and nations, rather than bridges. Too many of us ignore the plight of the excluded and go about our lives as if all is right in the world. Forgive us for failing to love everyone as our neighbor, as you have told us to do through the prophets and your Son. Empower us by your Spirit to speak for justice and to hold all men and women in love. This we ask in the name of the One who died on the cross for all, even Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* Assurance of Forgiveness

* Gloria Patri

We Are Forgiven

Hymnal #447

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God. We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

* Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Amos 5:18-24

Scripture Matthew 5:38-48

Hymn: In an Age of Twisted Values Church United Sanctuary Choir

Please turn to #345 in your pew Hymnal and follow along. Pastor McNulty will be referring to this hymn in his sermon.

Sermon "Prophets and Profits" Rev. McNulty

* **Hymn** #318 In Christ There Is No East or West St. Peter

* Affirmation of Faith (unison) From the Confession of 1967 God has created the peoples of the earth to be one universal family. In his reconciling love, God overcomes the barriers between sisters and brothers and breaks down every form of discrimination based on racial or ethnic difference, real or imaginary. The church is called to bring all people to receive and uphold one another as persons in all relationships of life: in employment, housing, education, leisure, marriage, family, church, and the exercise of political rights. Therefore, the church labors for the abolition of all racial discrimination and ministers to those injured by it. Congregations, individuals, or groups of Christians who exclude, dominate, or patronize others, however subtly, resist the Spirit of God and bring contempt on the faith which they profess.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Sing Out a New Song to the Lord N. Price/D. Besig 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** #772 Live into Hope Truro

Charge and Benediction

Postlude Holy, Holy, Holy Mark Hayes

* Please stand in Body or Spirit.



Our Life Together...

Leading Worship today: Rev. Ed McNulty, Guest Preacher; Paul Nisbet, Worship Assistant; Joyce Zigler, Director of Music Ministries/Organist; Davis Dorrough, Pianist; Sanctuary Choir; Parker Shablak, Sound Technician; Lynne Wiley, Barista.

The deacons have placed two white carnations on the chancel rail in loving memory of **Bruce Barnes**, who died on December 28, and for **Lou Christy** who died on January 4.

A Celebration of Life Service for **Sue Harris** will be on Monday, January 15, at 1:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

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.

<u>Announcements</u>

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.

Angel Ornaments are available for pick-up in the Gathering Area after worship.

Renaissance Ringers will rehearse Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

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, January 16**. 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.

Richard Bach	Mike Hamlin	Thelma & Julie
Family of Bruce Barnes	Chris Hanson	Ramsey
Louise Begley	The Hanson family	Fred & Lynn
Mary Brehm	The Hillshafer family	Rentschler
Family of Lou Christy	Debbie Jacobs	Van Rudd
Cynthia Edwards	Tom & Suzanne Lafayette	Geneva Shea
Melanie Edwards	Rev. Ed McNulty	Helen Taylor
Chris Evans	Chad Muskopf	Connie Willis
Helen Haass	Larry Price	

Use this QR code for the online giving portal.