



**First Presbyterian Church**  
**Middletown, Ohio**  
*October 15, 2023*



Thank you for the blessings of family, the warmth, comfort, and security of family love.

**Bless us that we may be a blessing, O Lord.**

Our family love is a gift to be shared, that the stranger may be as welcome as a brother or sister.

**Bless us that we may be a blessing, O Lord.**

We praise you for those who have lived and died in Christ, that we might have the freedom to dwell in a community of faith.

**Bless us that we may be a blessing, O Lord.**

Let us not forget that the days of sacrifice are not over for us who claim your family name.

**Bless us that we may be a blessing, O Lord.**

**\* Prayer of Confession** (unison) (Adapted from the Prayers of Peter Marshall)

O God, we confess to you the wrong ideals and sinful living which have cut us off from you. We have sought to hide behind barriers of selfishness. We have tried to isolate ourselves from the wounds of the world. In our self-sufficiency, we have not sought your help. We have sought to solve our differences only through self-interest. Lord God of hosts, forgive us, we pray. By your guidance and the power of the Holy Spirit, may we be keenly sensitive to all the unresolved injustice and wrong still in our midst. Hear our prayer, and grant that we may confidently expect to see it answered in our time; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**\* Assurance of Forgiveness**

**Response**

*Amazing Grace*  
Miami Valley Pipes and Drums

**Scripture**

2 Timothy 4:9-22

**Sermon**

"Come Before Winter"

Rev. Stan Gockel

**\* Hymn #801**

*The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want*  
"From the Scottish Psalter, 1650"

Crimond

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

from the Scots Confession

We confess and acknowledge one God alone, to whom alone we must cleave, whom alone we must serve, whom only we must worship, and in whom alone we put our trust. Who is eternal, infinite, immeasurable, incomprehensible, omnipotent, invisible; one in substance and yet distinct in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. By whom we confess and believe all things in heaven and earth, visible and invisible, to have been created, to be retained in their being, and to be ruled and guided by his inscrutable providence for such end as his eternal wisdom, goodness, and justice have appointed, and to the manifestation of his own glory.

**\* Gloria Patri**

Hymnal 579

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!

**Presentation of Tithes and Offering**

**Offertory**

*Today, We Celebrate Our Faith*  
Kirk Choir

Joseph M. Martin

**\* 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 and the Lord's Prayer**

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.

**Benediction**

*A Blessing of Music*  
Kirk Choir

Joseph M. Martin

**Postlude**

*Green Hills of Tyrol*  
*When the Battle's O'er*  
Miami Valley Pipes and Drums

**Tartan Flags given by:**

**Family**

**Clan**

Doug and Barb Alder, Nancy and Ivan Thompson, Tom and Connie Kerr	Kerr In memory of Norm and Martha Kerr
Marilyn Barton	Russell Ancient
John and Harriet Brandt	Brown Modern
Jim and Lola Bruner	Montgomery
George and Isabel Develen	Buchanan Ancient
Hazel Duvall	MacLean of Durat
Greg and Dianne Gerber	Ramsey Ancient Johnson Modern Livingston Modern In memory of Lois Livingston Woodburn
Jackie Hale	McAuley In memory of Mary Grace Flesch
John and Anita Macadam	MacGregor
Amy Malcom, Virginia and Joe Marks and Family	Malcolm In memory of William E. Malcom and in honor of Dolores Malcom
Marge McIntosh	MacIntosh
Diana and Norma McVay	Undesignated clan
Betty Lou Nein	Farquharson Modern In memory of Scott H. Finlay
Joe and Tina Newlin	Farquharson Scott
Annette Reid	Robertson Hunting Ancient
Bill Sandston	Buchanan Modern In memory of Jeanne R. Sandston
Allan and Fay Smillie	Lamont Ancient (Hunting Ancient)
Virginia Swisher	Campbell

## **Kirkin' o' the Tartans Service Participants**

Rev. Stan Gockel, Guest Pastor  
Kathy Harris, Worship Assistant  
Joyce Zigler, Director of Music Ministries/Organist  
Janet Scott, Pianist  
Vivien Fields, Cross Bearer  
Jim Harris, Sound Technician

### **Tartan Bearers**

Larry Anderson	Dolly Howard	+Sue Sant	Bill Triick
Sally Bach	Jessie Jenkins	Darrell Templeton	Ann Veith
Paula Cohen	Scott Kerr	Sandi Templeton	+Donna Walker
Nancy Fraunfelter	Sarah Newlin	Rod Thomson	Lynne Wiley
Patti Gage	Martha Robertson	Jo Ann Thornbery	Marge Wooley
Kathy Harris			

+St. Luke Church

### **The Kirk Choir**

Bob Cover	Vivien Fields	Terry Mack	Beth Susco
Debbie Cover	+Gerry Gunderson	Diana McVay	Mick Susco
Tara Downie	David Jenkins	Tina Newlin	Tony Susco
Davis Dorrrough	Sierra Jenkins	Julie Ramsey	Sandi Templeton
Suzanne Edwards	Marti Kelley	Brian Shepard	Sarah Thornbery
			Tom Zigler

+St. Luke Choir member

### **Miami Valley Pipes and Drums**



# ***Our Life Together...***

**Leading Worship today:** Rev. Stan Gockel, Guest Pastor; Kathy Harris, Worship Assistant; Joyce Zigler, Director of Music Ministries/Organist; Janet Scott, Pianist; Kirk Choir; Jim Harris, Sound Technician; Lynne Wiley, Barista.

The deacons have placed two white carnations on the chancel rail in loving memory of **John Peterson**, who died on October 7 and for **Allan Smillie** who died on October 9.

**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 loose offering** from today's service will be donated to Hope House.

**Tuesday Morning Bible Study** meets in the Youth Room at 10:00 a.m. We will be exploring the book "Sabbath as Resistance" (Saying NO to the Culture of Now). Books are available in the church office or pick one up at Bible Study. 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.

The *Renaissance Ringers* will rehearse Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

## **Music Ministry**

If you purchased a mum for the Kirkin' Service you may take it home with you today.

## **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 10/22 & 10/29. We especially want to include children and youth in special worship celebrations such as Communion, etc.)

## 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.

Doug & Linda Bailey	Ken Jacobs	Family of Allan Smillie
Darrell Begley	Cheryl Jarbo	Helen Taylor
Lola Bruner	Matt & Kara Miller	Wanda Terrell
George & Isabel Develen	Family of John Peterson	Dustin Vincent
Diana & Rick Gross	Thelma & Julie Ramsey	Joyce Zigler
Helen Haass	Kathy Ressler	Joy: Cooper the dog is alive and well!
Mike Hamlin	Richard Sandefur	
Mike & Gladys Hopkins	Geneva Shea	



**Use this QR code for the online giving portal.**

## CALENDAR

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>15</b>	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service
<b>Monday</b>	<b>16</b>	1:00 p.m.	Staff Meeting
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>17</b>	9:00 a.m.	Pre-K Readiness
		10:00 a.m.	Bible Study
		4:00 p.m.	Middletown Teacher's Association
		6:30 p.m.	Designated Pastor Nominating Committee
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>18</b>	9:00 a.m.	Pre-K Readiness
		10:00 a.m.	Prayer Group
		10:00 a.m.	Fellowship
		6:30 p.m.	Renaissance Ringers
		7:30 p.m.	Sanctuary Choir
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>19</b>	9:00 a.m.	Pre-K Readiness
		6:00 p.m.	Session
		6:00 p.m.	Yoga
		7:30 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>22</b>	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service