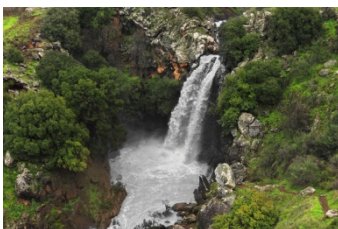


# First Presbyterian Church

Wooster, Ohio



## CHRIST THE KING/REIGN OF CHRIST

November 24, 2024

10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE

*Carillon*

*Myron J. Roberts*

Eric J. Gastier, organ

WELCOME

Reverend Erin Guzmán

MINISTRY FOCUS

*First Presbyterian Holiday Potluck*

Dave Earley

CHORAL INTROIT

*My Song Forever Shall Record (Psalm 89)*

*Dimitri Bortniansky*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP +

Susie Slack

One: We sing of your steadfast love, O God . . .

**All: Even when it is difficult to sing.**

One: We declare your love is forever, O God . . .

**All: Even when we can only think about the present moment.**

One: We witness the beauty of the creation you have made, O God . . .

**All: Even when we forget our place in it.**

One: We put our faith in you, just as you put your faith in us, O God . . .

**All: Even when our faith is the size of a mustard seed.**

\*PRAYER +

Spirit of the Living God, as we wind down this spiritual and calendar year, we find ourselves longing for more guidance than ever. The state of our world is always in flux, and we are in need of an anchor . . . Meet us in the midst of these busy and uncertain times with comfort, mercy, and hope. In this space today, open our hearts to receive your promises of abundance that come not at the expense of others, but in partnership toward a shared vision of life in which all are known, loved, and supported. **Amen**

\*HYMN 13

*The Mighty God with Power Speaks*

*KINGSFOLD*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION +

One: Wonderous and Patient God,

**All: You have accompanied us through this spiritual year with grace, challenge, and love, as we seek to be a community of generosity, hospitality, and inclusion.**

**But even with our best efforts and good intentions, we forget to humble ourselves . . .**

**At times we flaunt our abundance and take for granted our families, friends, and support systems. We allow thanksgiving and gratitude to become slogans on dinner napkins and holiday décor rather than transformational practices of heart**

**and spirit. Forgive us, O God, when we use our wealth and resources as reasons to elevate ourselves above others. Forgive us when we forget that earthly rulers are not the source of our salvation. Forgive us when we're so focused on power that we forget who among us doesn't have it.**

*Here each worshipper may offer personal, silent prayer.*

Gracious God, hear our prayers.      **Amen**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS +

Family of Faith, hear the Good News: God came into the world as a child during politically fraught circumstances and gave us a symbol of hope that the way things are won't last forever. People, objects, and institutions have power in our lives because we give it to them . . . And Christ transformed the world with the most important source of power there is: Love. Be assured that this love extends to each of us, and may it wash over you — now and forever, Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you . . . **And also with you.**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Amy Baxstrom

ANTHEM

*E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come*

*Paul Manz*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Guzmán

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 89:1-9, 14, 19-29

Pew Bible page 516

SERMON

Reverend Erin Guzmán, Henry J. Copeland Interfaith Chaplain, College of Wooster

OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

We are still receiving pledges to the 2025 Pledge Campaign.

Through our monetary gifts, we offer something of our work and ourselves to God.

OFFERTORY

*Aria*

*Dale Wood*

\*DOXOLOGY 607

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below; praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Guzmán

**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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; 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 67

*My Song Forever Shall Record*

*PUER NOBIS NASCITUR*

\*BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Festival Postlude*

*W. Eugene Thayer*

\* Asterisk indicates places in the service to stand.

+ Liturgy adapted from *Seasons of the Spirit*.

**The chancel flowers today are given by Pat and Wayne Bare in honor of Amy and Rachel for the meaningful and exciting programming they provide for the children of our congregation.**

First Presbyterian Church is a Christian community dedicated to showing God's love through worship, study, social justice, outreach, and fellowship.

**More Light Church and Member of Covenant Network  
Earth Care Congregation and Matthew 25 Church**

**The Mission of More Light Presbyterians:** Following the risen Christ, and seeking to make the Church a true community of hospitality, the mission of More Light Presbyterians is to work for the full participation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) people in the life, ministry, and witness of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and in society.

**The Mission of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians** is to strengthen the church of Jesus Christ, with the help of God's grace. We are called to achieve this goal by furthering the inclusion of LGBTQ persons, and by working for the unity of the PC(USA).

**Earth Care Pledge:** Peace and justice is God's plan for all creation. The earth and all creation are God's. God calls us to be careful, humble stewards of this earth, and to protect and restore it for its own sake, and for the future use and enjoyment of the human family. As God offers all people the special gift of peace through Jesus Christ, and through Christ reconciles all to God we are called to deal justly with one another and the earth.

**The Mission of the Matthew 25 Church:** Matthew 25:31–46 calls us to actively engage the world around us, so our faith comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities. We commit ourselves to congregational vitality by acting boldly and compassionately to end systemic poverty and structural racism, serving people who are oppressed, imprisoned, poor.



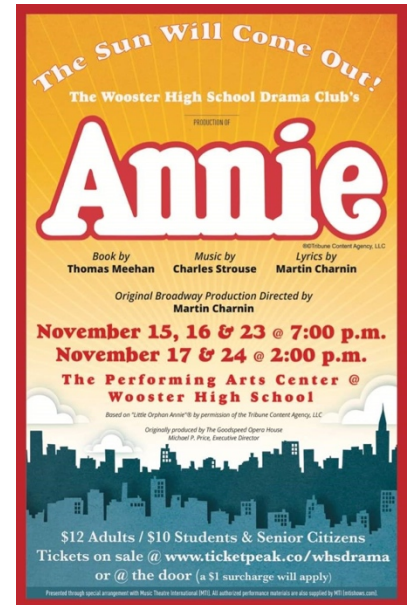
QR (Quick Response) Code for Direct Donations and Contributions — the Code can be read by your smartphone and will land you on the giving page of our website where you can “Give Now” or set up a recurring donation.

First Presbyterian Church  
621 College Ave., Wooster, OH 44691  
330-264-9420    [www.firstpreswooster.org](http://www.firstpreswooster.org)    Facebook: facebook.com/FPCWooster

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday Greeters:	November 24 – Jason & Sara Reith	December 1 – Tom & Jane Buch	
Sunday Ushers:	November 24 – Rick & Deb Zeiters Maxwell, Carol McKiernan, Diana Rice		
Sunday Sexton:	November 24 – Aiden Hiner	December 1 – Lydia Dunlap	
Sunday, Nov. 24	8:30 am Handbell Rehearsal	8:45 am ARISE	9:15 am Sunday School
	10:30 am Worship	11:30 am Decorate the Church for Advent/Christmas	
Monday, Nov. 25	12:00 pm Rotary	1:15 pm Staff	5:30 pm Meals for All
Tuesday, Nov. 26	9:30 am Bible Study	6:00 pm Boy Scouts	
Wednesday, Nov. 27	Maibach Family Dinner Set-up in Bruch Hall		
Thursday, Nov. 28	Thanksgiving Holiday – Offices Closed	Maibach Family Dinner in Bruch Hall	
Friday, Nov. 29	Thanksgiving Holiday – Offices Closed		
Saturday, Nov. 30	9:30 am Al-Anon		
Sunday, Dec. 1	8:45 am ARISE	9:15 am Sunday School	10:30 am Worship
	1:00 pm Youth & Best Buddies Auction – Bruch Hall		

Nov. 15-17 and 23-24 the WHS Drama Club will be presenting the musical "Annie" as part of their 100th Birthday Celebration. One of the most beloved musicals of all time, the story centers around Annie's adventures in the NYC orphanage with the loveable "hag" Mrs. Hannigan and her journey to the millionaire Oliver Warbucks and eventual adoption. As always, members of the First Presbyterian Church are heavily involved. Sophomore, **Lydia Dunlap** will star as "Annie" and she will be joined by sophomore, **Acadia Webb** playing "Elsie." Junior, **Sara Lewellen**, granddaughter of Mimi, is a member of the ensemble and is also serving as the production assistant. Junior **Hannah Kazibwe** and 8th grader **Lilee Webb** are also members of the ensemble, and 6th grader **Ian Webb** has joined the tech crew! **Gabe Vossler** is the student stage manager. **Steve LoGiudice** and **Megan Wereley** are serving as House Managers of the Drama Club and **Sara Dunlap** is heading up one of the parent committees. **Kristi Hiner** is the asst. director (and will be making a guest appearance), and the show is being directed by **Brett Hiner**. Get your tickets now at [www.ticketpeak.co/whsdrama](http://www.ticketpeak.co/whsdrama).



## FALLING LEAVES, RISING GRATITUDE

A Time to Reflect, A Time to Give Thanks

Join us for gratitude stations this November on Sunday mornings from 8:45-9:15 in the Chapel.

November 3 - Gratitude for those who've gone before us.  
 November 10 - Gratitude for God's Creation  
 November 17 - Gratitude for Community

Traditional ARISE will resume on November 24  
 with the theme Gratitude for God.



Today, following morning worship, we will be decorating the church for Advent/Christmas. All are invited to join in! For more information and any questions please contact Nancy Young and Susie Slack.