

First Presbyterian Church

Wooster, Ohio



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 1, 2023

World Communion Sunday

10:00 a.m.

VOLUNTARY

Partita on 'I Come, Dear Savior, To Thy Table'

Thomas S. Canning

Eric J. Gastier, organ

WELCOME

Reverend David Rice

MINISTRY FOCUS

Peace and Global Witness Offering

Mattie Dunlap

CHORAL INTROIT

Let All the World in Ev'ry Corner Sing

Erik Routley

*CALL TO WORSHIP +

Carol McKiernan

One: From north and south, from east and west, we come:
God's people called to God's table, where simple grace nourishes us.

**All: From down the street to across town,
from single households to apartment dwellers:
God's people are called to community, where we live and serve one another.**

One: From every class, every race, every status; from little ones with dreams
to elders with overflowing hearts:

All: God's people are called to witness to God's hope, to offer peace to a shattered world.

*PRAYER +

Help us, O God, to recognize the times in which we live and to choose to live faithfully.
Grant us courage to stand with and speak for those at risk.
As we are able, help us to preserve community, extend hospitality,
and redeem the time you entrust into our hands. **Amen**

*HYMN 503

Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation

O QUANTA QUALIA

CONFESSION +

One: Forgiving God, we confess that we are a fearful people.
Too often, we live in the midst of the abundance of your world
afraid that there is not enough.

**All: We covet what little our neighbors have.
We hoard the good news of your creation.
We make idols of scarcity and want to control the world's resources.
Forgive us. Gently ease our grip and open our hands and our eyes that we,
trusting in your grace, may truly live out the heart and soul of the Gospel —
to love you by loving our neighbors as ourselves.**

Here each worshipper may offer personal, silent prayer.

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

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS +

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant us to live in harmony with the world.
May the God of hope fill us with joy. May we live in unity together as the Body of Christ.
May we abound in hope and live in peace with one another and all creation. **Amen**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Amy Baxstrom

On Communion Sundays, our children are invited to remain in worship and participate in communion.

ANTHEM

When the Morning Stars Together

arr. John A. Ferguson

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 21:23-32

Pew Bible page 22

SERMON

Doing Is Believing

OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

We receive the Peace and Global Witness Offering.

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

OFFERTORY

Chant de Paix (Song of Peace)

Jean Langlais

*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**

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

GREAT THANKSGIVING 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 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**

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*HYMN (please see back page)

Now Praise the Hidden God of Love

DICKINSON COLLEGE

*BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Festive Trumpet Tune

David German

* Asterisk indicates places in the service to stand.

+ Liturgy adapted from *Seasons of the Spirit*

**The flowers today are given by Carol McKiernan in memory of
Dorothy Gilliland, Mary McKiernan, and Mary Roberts.**

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.

330-264-9420

www.firstpreswooster.org

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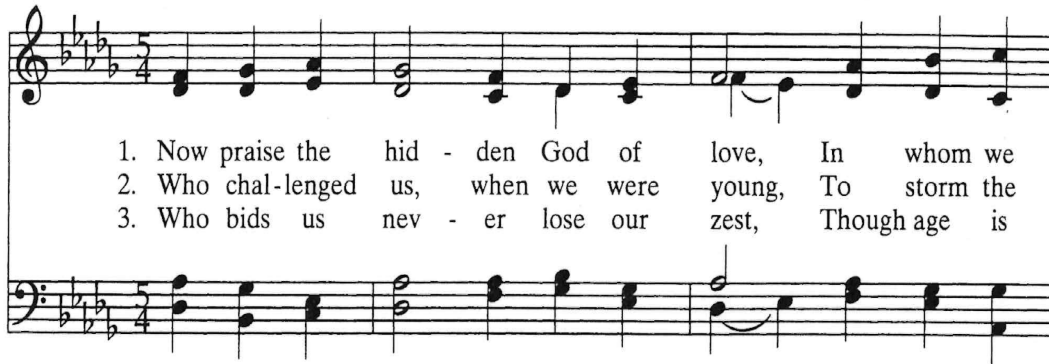
Sunday Greeters:	October 1 – Nancy Young	October 8 – Dave & Sonja Tugend
Sunday Ushers:	October 1 – Tim Fair, Mark Gooch, Mimi Lewellen, Nancy Young	
Sunday Sextons:	October 1 – Megan Armour	October 8 – Mattie Dunlap
Sunday, October 1	9:00 am Sunday School	9:45 am Fellowship
	5:30 pm Blessing of the Animals at Christmas Run Park	10:15 am Worship
Monday, October 2	6:30 pm Eventide	
	9:30 am Staff Meeting	11:30 am Sr. Men's Lunch
	12:00 pm Rotary	
	5:00 pm Boy Scouts	6:00 pm WACPAC
	7:00 pm Deacon's Mtg.	
Tuesday, October 3	9:30 am Bible Study	7:00 pm Boy Scouts
Wednesday, Oct. 4	10:00 am Life Memory Café	10:00 am Bible Study
	7:00 pm Faith&Nurture	
Thursday, October 5	6:00 pm WACPAC	7:00 pm Christ of the Celts
	7:00 pm Choir	
Friday, October 6	10:45 am Parkinson's Network	11:30 am Friday Fellowship
Saturday, October 7	9:00 am FPC Workday at the Manse on College Ave.	9:30 am Al-Anon
Sunday, October 8	9:00 am Sunday School	9:45 am Fellowship
	10:15 am Worship	
	11:30 am Tour the Manse on College Avenue	6:30 pm Eventide

Now Praise the Hidden God of Love 402

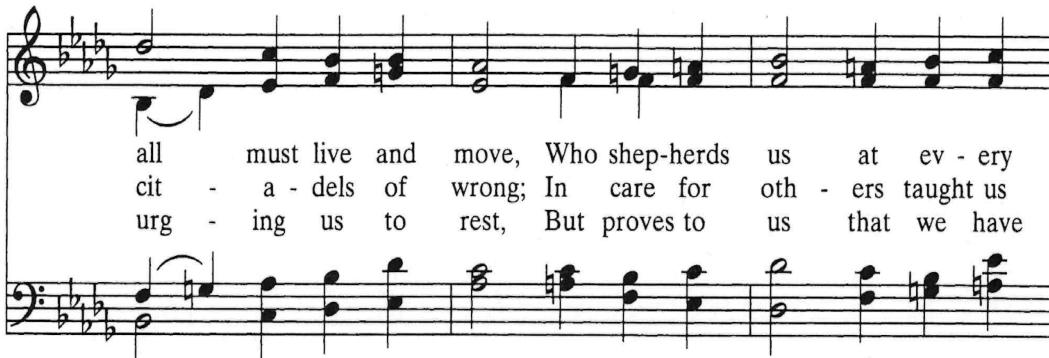
DICKINSON COLLEGE LM

Fred Pratt Green, 1975

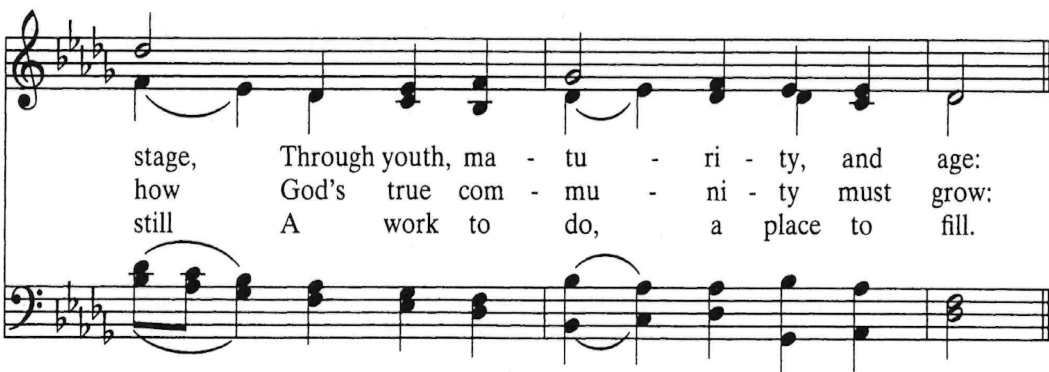
Lee Hastings Bristol, Jr., 1962



1. Now praise the hid - den God of love, In whom we
2. Who chal-lenged us, when we were young, To storm the
3. Who bids us nev - er lose our zest, Though age is



all must live and move, Who shep-herds us at ev - ery
cit - a - dels of wrong; In care for oth - ers taught us
urg - ing us to rest, But proves to us that we have



stage, Through youth, ma - tu - ri - ty, and age:
how God's true com - mu - ni - ty must grow:
still A work to do, a place to fill.

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