

First Presbyterian Church

Wooster, Ohio



THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 22, 2023

10:15 a.m.

PRELUDE

Gavotte & Air
Eric J. Gastier, organ

Samuel S. Wesley

WELCOME

Reverend David Rice

CHORAL INTROIT

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

RATISBON

*CALL TO WORSHIP +

Joan Firmin

One: As Jesus journeys through our lives, he asks us to follow him.

**All: In this moment, we have the chance to leave the past behind
and pursue him into God's future.**

One: As Jesus wanders in our world, he invites others to join him.

**All: Without delay, may we join them in this ministry,
reaching out in hope and love to each other and all creation.
Come, let us walk in the light of God!**

*PRAYER +

Inviting God, you call us to follow in many ways. You call some of us to witness with public deeds of justice, and you call some of us to do the quiet work of companionship. You call some of us to proclaim your truth in stirring speeches and some to sing your love in gentle lullabies. Invite us to follow you by respecting the many different ways of witness, rejoicing that we have so many opportunities to answer your call. **Amen**

*HYMN 619

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven

LAUDA ANIMA

CONFESSION +

**All: God of light, we ask forgiveness for talking too much and doing too little.
We confess that we get angry with people at home, at church, at our jobs.
There are times we have caused conflict, divisiveness, and needless pain.
Forgive us for blaming others while firmly believing in our own opinions.
Grant us an awareness of all those who are different from us —
those whose customs and habits make us defensive and uncomfortable.
Open our minds and hearts to be the loving children
you have created and called us to be.**

Here each worshipper may offer personal, silent prayer.

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

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS +

Friends, receive this good news: the people who walked in darkness have seen a great light,
those who lived in a land of great darkness, on them light has shined.
This light came into our world in the life and Way of Jesus,
in whom the love of God was illumined.
Receive this love and follow the Light of the World,
as the Spirit of God guides us in new paths of service in this new year. **Amen**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE *Please take care to maintain some physical distance as we share the Peace*
The Peace of Christ be with you . . . **And also with you.**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Amy Baxstrom
Following the Children's Moment, children are invited to go with Amy to Joy Worship.

ANTHEM *Thou Wilt Keep Him in Perfect Peace* *Samuel S. Wesley*

SCRIPTURE Matthew 4:12-22

SERMON *Follow the Light*

OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

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

OFFERTORY *Siciliano* *John Stanley*

*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

**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 170 *You Walk along Our Shoreline* *WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN*

*BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Rondeau, from 'Abdelazer'* *Henry Purcell*

* Asterisk indicates places in the service to stand. + Liturgy adapted from *Seasons of the Spirit*

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

Facebook: facebook.com/FPCWooster

WEEKLY CALENDAR

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|--------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Sunday Greeters: | Jan. 22 – Diana Day | Jan. 29 – Carol McKiernan |
| Sunday Sextons: | Jan. 22 – Hannah LoGiudice | Jan. 29 – Sophia Baxstrom |
| Sunday, Jan. 22 | 9:00 am Sunday School | 9:45 am Fellowship 10:15 am Worship |
| Monday, Jan. 23 | 9:30 am Admin. Staff Mtg | 12:00 pm Rotary |
| Tuesday, Jan. 24 | 9:30 am Bible Study | 5:30 pm RDM 7:00 pm Scouts |
| Wednesday, Jan. 25 | 10:00 am Memory Café | 11:00 am Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce |
| | 11:30 am Fellowship Meal | 7:00 pm Session |
| Thursday, Jan. 26 | Kitchen Workday | 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal |
| Saturday, Jan. 28 | 9:30 am Al-Anon | 12:00 pm Cub Scouts |
| Sunday, Jan. 29 | 9:00 am Sunday School | 9:45 am Fellowship 10:15 am Worship |