

**First Presbyterian Church**  
**Wooster, Ohio**  
Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost  
November 15, 2020

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



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

|                        |   |                              |
|------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| WELCOME                |   | Reverend David Rice          |
| MINISTRY FOCUS         | <i>Fundraiser for PC(USA) Disaster Assistance</i>                   | Elizabeth Perkins            |
| MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP | <i>The 2021 Pledge Campaign</i>                                     | Paul Edmiston                |
| PRELUDE                | <i>Adagio, from 'Sonata II in c-moll'</i><br>Eric J. Gastier, organ | <i>Johann Sebastian Bach</i> |

CALL TO WORSHIP + Joan Firmin

One: The God who had made us calls us to worship this day.

**All: God of transforming love, let us meet you today.**

One: The God who understands our deepest thoughts calls us to worship this day.

**All: God of transforming love, let us meet you today.**

One: The God who knows and loves each one of us more than we can ever know  
calls us to worship this day.

**All: God of transforming love, let us meet you today. Come let us worship God.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY +

Creator God, in this time of worship fill us, call us, shape us, free us from all that burdens us,  
and strengthen us for the work of being Christ's disciples this and every day. **Amen**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION +

**All: Giving God, you have blessed us with an abundance of gifts and talents.**

**But we often squander the gifts you give us.**

**So often we fail to use them, saving them up for a better time  
or hoarding them all for ourselves.**

**We are careless with the earth,**

**even though you have entrusted the earth's keeping to us.**

**We are careless with each other,**

**failing to see your face in the faces of each one of your children.**

**Forgive us, Loving God, and restore us to the new life you promise.**

**Give us the grace to be as generous to others as you have been to us.**

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

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

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS +

Hear this good news, my friends: God comes searching for us, calling us by name,  
leading us into the peaceable kingdom.

In Christ, we become new people: lost, we are found; broken, we are made whole;  
forsaken, we are restored to new life.      **Thanks be to God! Amen**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Amy Baxstrom

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**

MUSICAL OFFERING

*He Watching Over Israel, from 'Elijah'*

*Felix Mendelssohn*

Annika Balish, Emily Hasecke, Will McCullough, Carter Rogers

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 25:31-45

SERMON

*Hidden Jesus*

HYMN (see next page for the music)

***Christian Women, Christian Men***

HUNTSVILLE

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Now Thank We All Our God*

*Sigfrid Karg-Elert*

+ Liturgy adapted from *Seasons of the Spirit*. Facebook Link: <https://www.facebook.com/FPCWooster/>

++ Prayer: Copyright©2002 Stewardship and Church Finances Ministry Team, UCC, Cleveland.

**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 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). The Covenant Network of Presbyterians calls the church to bear a unified witness to generous hospitality and faithful justice.

**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 (LGBTQIA+) people in the life, ministry and witness of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and in society.

**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.