

First Presbyterian Church

Wooster, Ohio

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 18, 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

PRELUDE

Air Tendre

Jean-Baptiste Lully

Eric J. Gastier, organ

CALL TO WORSHIP +

Kate Yordy

One: Through prayer and practice, we pursue what is just,
what is true, what is kind.

All: With each new day, we hope for love to lead us.

One: With discernment, we wade bravely into the struggles of life together.

All: We yearn for wisdom that satisfies.

One: Persistently, faithfully, relentlessly, we keep our gaze set upon righteousness.

All: Determined in hope, may the Holy be our firm foundation.

PRAYER OF THE DAY +

Beloved One, in the midst of worrisome and troubled days,
we seek refuge in your presence.

In your care, we find a place to tend our fears and air our grief,
to hold our anger, and to renew our passion for collective good.

Draw us near to you, O God, and meet us as we are with your restorative love. **Amen**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION +

**All: How lovely is your dwelling place of peace, Holy God;
forgive us when we choose to live in discord.**

**How wonderful are the paths of tranquility;
forgive us when we put on shoes laced with anger.**

**How gracious are your words of amity;
forgive us when harsh, hurting, shameful speech spews from our lips.**

**Have mercy on us, Gentle Grace,
and enable us to become peacekeepers for your creation.**

**Embrace us with that mystery of the gospel in which pain is transformed into praise,
where restlessness becomes placidness,**

**and agitation is replaced by sweet accord with one another
as gifts from the One who came that we might have peace
in every moment of our lives, Jesus our Christ.**

Here each worshiper may offer personal, silent prayer.

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

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS +

God does not withhold forgiveness from us, but fills us with hope, with joy, with peace.
We are being reconciled to one another, even as we are being called
to be reconcilers and peacemakers in our world.
Go and shape the world in love, and be at peace. **Amen**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

CHILDREN'S SABBATH SONG *This Little Light of Mine* Kailana and Abrielle James and Mae Kelly

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Amy Baxstrom

CHILDREN'S SABBATH SONG *Amazing Grace* Olivia Kelly, piano

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Reverend Charles Cureton

**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 *Cantate Domino (Psalm 148)* *Giuseppe Ottavio Pitoni*
Choral Scholars: Annika Balish, Emily Hasecke, Will McCullough, Carter Rogers

SCRIPTURE Exodus 32:1-14

SERMON *Graven Images*

HYMN (see next page for the music) ***God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us*** *O QUANTA QUALIA*

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Rigaudon, from 'Idoménée'* *André Campra*

+ Liturgy that Matters 2020 *enfleshed* ++ Liturgy adapted from Thom Shuman and Christine Sine.

Facebook Link: <https://www.facebook.com/FPCWooster/>

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.