



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**

621 College Ave, Wooster, Ohio
www.firstpreswooster.org

May 8, 2022 9:00 First Word

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

DAVID RICE

CALL TO WORSHIP

MIMI LEWELLEN

Jesus the Good Shepherd calls our names to come and follow him.

His voice, speaking our names, draws us to him.

We follow without fear, for the shepherd cares for us.

Our hearts rejoice and we can place our trust in the Good Shepherd.

Come, let us enter the gate with thanksgiving!

Let us go forth confidently with songs of praise! AMEN.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

MIMI LEWELLEN

Please join me in prayer:

Patient and loving God, we stand at the gate and peer through. We keep creating our own ways, believing that we know what is in our own best interest, and we ignore the voice of the one Shepherd who will guide us to peace and hope. We wander aimlessly and then wonder why we get so lost. Help us stop and listen to the Shepherd's voice. Let us place our trust in the Shepherd who has never failed us, who loves and guides our lives. Forgive us our stubbornness and stupidity. For we ask this in Christ's Name.

AMEN

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

MIMI LEWELLEN

Even though we have wandered and have become lost, the shepherd calls to us. We can place our trust in his loving care. For we are the sheep of his pasture, blessed and given hope. **AMEN.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

MIMI LEWELLEN

Please stand if you are able and offer a gesture of peace to those around you. The Peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

AMY BAXSTROM

REFLECTION

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe that our lives are held within the encircling love of God, who knows our names and recognizes our deepest needs.

We believe that Christ is the divine Child of the living God, and that his grace is like living waters that can never be exhausted.

We believe in the birthing, renewing, enabling Spirit of God who yearns over our welfare as a mother yearns for her child.

We believe that God is in the arid desert as well as in green pastures, and that hard times and disciplines are also loving gifts.

We believe that our journey has a purpose and a destination, and that our path leads to a human glory we cannot yet imagine.

We believe that in the church we are fellow pilgrims on the road, and that we are called to love one another as God loves us.

This is our faith and we are humbled to profess in Jesus the Christ. Amen.

HYMN-

“LORD, SPEAK TO ME THAT I MAY SPEAK ” #722

PLEASE STAND

Feel free to sing, hum, follow along or meditate on the words during this time.

BLESSING

MIMI LEWELLEN

Come through the gate of joy and hope, moving into the world that needs to hear the words of peace. Go in peace to all God's people, bringing good news of Christ's abundant love for them. **AMEN.**



The Youth of First Presbyterian have another great way for you to support them! They will be selling \$20 Gift Cards to Buchwalter's Greenhouse. For each gift card sold, they will receive \$5. Consider purchasing a handful and passing out for Mother's Day or to do your own spring sprucing! Cards will be available from any youth or in the church office. See Amy Baxstrom for more information.

Important Upcoming Events

May 15- Last First Word & Annual Meeting 9:30

May 22- Spring Celebration 10:45- One Service

May 22- Afternoon of Fun at Christmas Run Park 2:00- Community Outreach and Churchwide Fellowship

Mark Your Calendar Events

June 13-17 Youth Service Week-Local Missions and Agencies 9:30-11:00

June 27-30 Creation Justice Family Week 5:30-7:00

July 10-16 Youth Trip to Ghost Ranch