

# First Presbyterian Church

Wooster, Ohio



## SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 19, 2021

PRELUDE

*Dawn Hymn*

*Alan Hovhaness*

Eric J. Gastier, organ

WELCOME

Reverend David Rice

MINISTRY FOCUS

*Benefit for Immigrant Worker Project Scholarship*

Carla Hall

INTRODUCTION TO OUR MUSIC

Eric Gastier

CALL TO WORSHIP +

Marian Cropp

One: Come and rejoice in the gathering of God's people!

**All: We give thanks for each one here, both friend and stranger.**

One: For each of us is an irreplaceable Child of God,  
together much more than a group of individuals.

**All: And so, we draw near to God as God draws near to us.**

**Let us worship the God of our salvation, the healing and wholeness of all things.**

PRAYER +

Thank you, God, for welcoming us into your presence and drawing us into your community.  
Inspire us to offer to others what we have received from your abundance,  
especially to those who might otherwise go unnoticed or unloved. **Amen**

HYMN 320

*The Church of Christ in Every Age*

*WAREHAM*

CONFESSION +

One: God of all joy, you have invited us to enter your presence boldly;  
yet too often we hold back or turn away from you.

**All: You have opened the way for us to celebrate our relationship with you joyously,  
but we are unwilling to let go of our anxieties.**

**We confess that we resist your call to generous and open-hearted giving  
and service for the good of others.**

One: When we allow self-concern to rule all other concerns, forgive us, God,  
and bring us back to you.

**All: Warm our hearts to welcome your embrace; quicken our feet to dance with joy  
in bold assurance and glad celebration that we are beloved by you  
and called to love others.**

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

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

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS +

**One:** Here, in this moment and in this place, the Spirit of gentleness moves in our midst.  
Mercy, hope, and joy are the gifts of God to each and every one of us.

**All:** **No longer lost, we have found our way home, surrounded by God's peace,  
by God's grace, by God's love. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 1

Mark 9:30-37

SERMON

*The World Imagined*

MUSICAL OFFERING

*Song Without Words*

*Paul Winchester*

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 749

***Come! Live in the Light***

*WE ARE CALLED*

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Festive Trumpet Tune*

*David German*

+ Liturgy adapted from *Seasons of the Spirit*.

**The flowers are given today by Doris Stammer in memory of her late husband, Harold,  
and on the occasion of their wedding anniversary, September 20.**

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 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.

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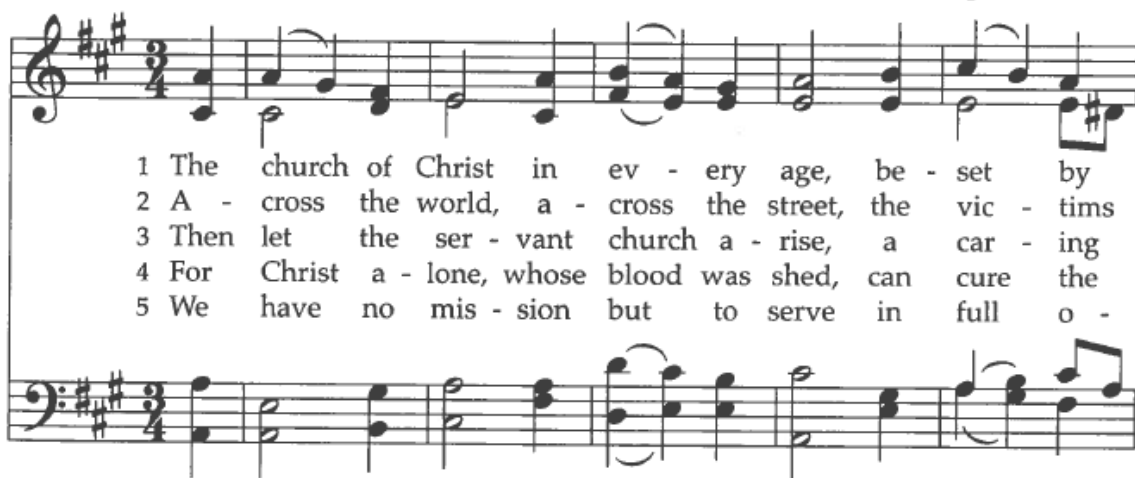
[www.firstpreswooster.org](http://www.firstpreswooster.org)

Facebook: [facebook.com/FPCWooster](https://www.facebook.com/FPCWooster)

**WEEKLY CALENDAR**

Sunday Sextons:	September 19 – Olivia Hiner	September 26 – Emily James
Sunday, September 19	9:00 a.m. First Word Outdoors	9:30 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages
	10:45 a.m. Worship Service in the Sanctuary	
Monday, Sept. 20	11:00 a.m. Zoom Staff Mtg	12:00 p.m. Rotary 6:00 p.m. Cub Scouts
Tuesday, Sept. 21	8:30 a.m. Bible Study	1:15 p.m. Traveler's Club 4:00 p.m. Social Justice
	6:00 p.m. A Seat at the Table	7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 66
Wednesday Sept 22	10:00 a.m. Life & Dementia Friendly Foundation	
	7:00 p.m. Zoom Session Mtg	7:30 p.m. CoW Fall Academy/Religion
Saturday, Sept. 25	9:30 a.m. Al-Anon	12:00 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 4066
Sunday, Sept. 26	9:00 a.m. First Word Outdoors	9:30 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages
	10:45 a.m. Worship Service in the Sanctuary	
	1:00 p.m. Youth Hike Wooster Memorial Park	2:00 p.m. Girl's Night Out

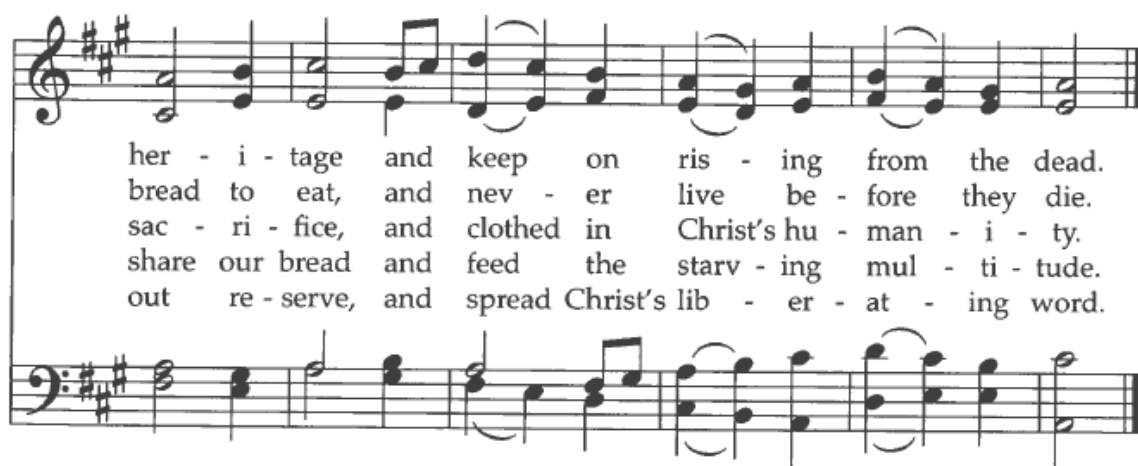
# 320 The Church of Christ in Every Age



1 The church of Christ in ev - ery age, be - set by  
2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims  
3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing  
4 For Christ a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the  
5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its  
of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for  
church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's  
fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to  
be - dience to our Lord: to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.  
bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.  
sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.  
share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.  
out re - serve, and spread Christ's lib - er - at - ing word.

In this challenging text by a British Methodist minister, the odd-numbered stanzas develop the image of "the servant church," while the second surveys the many needs and the fourth describes the true source of strength for the task.

# Come! Live in the Light!

## We Are Called



1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the  
 2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your  
 3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that



joy and the love of the Lord! We are called  
 mer - cy to all those in fear! We are called  
 great day when all will be one! God will reign,



to be light for the king - dom, to live in the  
 to be hope for the hope - less so ha - tred and  
 and we'll walk with each oth - er as sis - ters and



free - dom of the cit - y of God.  
 vio - lence will be no more.  
 broth - ers u - nit - ed in love.

*Refrain*



We are called to act with jus - tice; we are called to



love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -



oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

The thematic and musical center of this hymn on the vocation of all believers is found in the refrain, which is based on the well-known challenge of Micah 6:8, "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"