

First Presbyterian Church

Wooster, Ohio

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 4, 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

Communion

Louis Vierne

Eric J. Gastier, organ

CALL TO WORSHIP +

Rev. Gloria Ulloa, Presbyterian Church of Colombia

One: We gather from the west to the east, from the south to the north,
to celebrate the God of peace who accompanies us in our acts of peace.

**All: This God of peace accompanies us in each and every circumstance around us.
We praise God's name! Amen!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Rev. Lydia Neshangwe, Uniting Presbyterian Church of Southern Africa

Our God who is, Our Creator God, Our Heavenly Father:

Bless us with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths and superficial relationships.

Bless us with anger at injustice, oppression and exploitation of people.

Bless us with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war.

Bless us with enough foolishness to believe that we can make a difference in this world.

In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Shant Agoushian, Union of Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East

Jameel Maher Khadir, Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Holy Land

One: Gracious Lord, creator of this universe, in your generosity you have given us a world of
abundance and diversity, yet we live guided by greed and selfishness.

**All: We confess that we have defaced your creation and poisoned our environment
through our consumerist behavior and for personal gain.**

One: In Christ, you made us brothers and sisters and intended for us to be united,
and yet we have built walls to separate us from those who are different from us.
You gave us wisdom and creativity and we have used those to trick each other
and to develop weapons of destruction and death.

You gave us laws to order our lives and we have abused them
to take revenge and punish our enemies.

**All: We love war rather than strive for peace.
We ignore the poor and the weak and honored the rich and powerful.
In all this we have not lived according to your will.
Forgive us, Lord, for daring to boast in our human achievements
and for failing to recognize that you alone are worthy of praise. Forgive us.**

Here each worshipper may offer personal, silent prayer.

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

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

“God accepted us simply because of our faith in Christ,” through whom our sins were forgiven.

May he help us to continue to “preach peace to those who are near and far.” **Amen.**

(Phil. 3:9; Eph. 2:17)

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

Mr. Nattapong Kunlaset

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

Amy Baxstrom

MESSAGE FROM OUR MISSION PARTNERS Sharon Kandel, PC(USA) Regional Liaison for Horn of Africa
Esther Wakeman, Lecturer at McGilvary College of Divinity at Payap University, Chiang Mai, Thailand

MUSICAL OFFERING

Ave Verum

Edward Elgar

Choral Scholars: Annika Balish, Emily Hasecke, Will McCullough, Carter Rogers

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION +

INVITATION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

GREAT THANKSGIVING 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**

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

HYMN

This Is My Song

FINLANDIA

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION Rev. Philip Akway Obong, South Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church

POSTLUDE

Festival Postlude

Flor Peeters

+ Liturgy adapted from *Seasons of the Spirit*.

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

The flowers are in thanksgiving for our countless sisters and brothers in faith around the world.

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.