

First Presbyterian Church

Wooster, Ohio



BAPTISM OF THE LORD

January 12, 2025

10:15 a.m.

PRELUDE

Cantabile

Joseph Jongen

Eric J. Gastier, organ

WELCOME

Reverend David Rice

CHORAL INTROIT

Out of Deep, Unordered Water

C. Hubert H. Parry

CALL TO WORSHIP +

Susie Slack

One: Out of the chill of the morning we enter this sanctuary of God,
where we come for worship and fellowship that warms our hearts
and awakens our minds.

We seek to draw near the mystery of God for the renewal of our spirits.

**All: May the baptismal Waters of Life cleanse us this day and renew us
for our journeys of faith and service in this new year.**

May God bring justice and mercy and peace through us for all people.

One: Come, let us worship our God, who would bring healing and wholeness to all Creation.

PRAYER +

Speak our names again this day, O God,
and send us forth as refreshing, living water to a world that is parched.
Flow through us that we might shower others with the hope of your promise
of healing and wholeness for all creation. **Amen**

HYMN 295

Go to the World!

SINE NOMINE

CONFESSION +

**All: In the waters of baptism, O God, you have cleansed us and claimed us.
Yet too often we follow our own paths, and they lead us far from you.
Forgive us for resisting your grace and failing to share your love
wholeheartedly with others.**

**Help us live into our baptisms, trusting that all we need is in you,
for you have marked us as your own, loving us without limit.**

**Wash us with your love again, so that with clean hearts we may go forth this day
in the Way of Jesus.**

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 never-failing love.
Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Amy Baxstrom

ANTHEM *When Jesus Came to Be Baptized (text: James Collier, 1999)* Nancy Daley, arr. EJG

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 43:1-7 Luke 3:15-22 Pew Bible pages 631, 56

SERMON *Through the Waters . . . and Beyond*

REAFFIRMATION OF THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

God of Life and God of Love, through this gift of baptismal water you bring cleansing grace. The dust of past shame and guilt are washed away. The bonds of love are restored. The possibilities of new life emerge. May it be so for us today as we remember our baptisms. May your Spirit be upon this water and all who gather, as we celebrate this sacred family into which you have called us. Strengthen us in love for one another as we renew our commitment to the pursuit of the Kin-dom of God, where all your creatures and creations are beloved and free. Amen

OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

Through our monetary gifts, we offer something of our work and ourselves to God.

OFFERTORY *Shall We Gather at the River* arr. Dale Wood

*DOXOLOGY 607

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

April Gamble

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 543

God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

GREEN TYLER

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *In Dir ist Freude (In Thee Is Gladness)* Johann Sebastian Bach

* Asterisk indicates places in the service to stand.

+ Liturgy adapted from *Seasons of the Spirit*

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

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).

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 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.



QR (Quick Response) Code for Direct Donations and Contributions – the Code can be read by your smartphone and will land you on the giving page of our website, where you can “Give Now” or set up a recurring donation.

330-264-9420

www.firstpreswooster.org

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR

| | | | |
|----------------------|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sunday Greeters: | January 12 – Joan Firmin | January 19 – Nancy Young | |
| Sunday Ushers: | January 12 – Pam Giffin, Mimi Lewellen, Susie Slack | | |
| Sunday Sexton: | January 12 – Calin Baxstrom | January 19 – Lydia Dunlap | |
| Sunday, January 12 | 8:45 am ARISE | 9:15 am Sunday School | 10:30 am Worship |
| Monday, January 13 | 12:00 pm Rotary | 1:30 pm Admin. Staff | 7:15 pm Clear Fork |
| Tuesday, January 14 | 9:30 am Bible Study | | 6:00 pm Boy Scouts |
| Wednesday, Jan. 15 | 10:00 am Life Memory Café | | 7:00 pm Faith & Structure |
| Thursday, January 16 | 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal | | |
| Saturday, January 18 | 9:00 pm Soup Making w/ April Gamble | | 9:30 am Al-Anon |
| | 1:00 – 4:00 pm MLK Celebration Oratorio Rehearsal | | |
| Sunday, January 19 | 8:45 am ARISE | 9:15 am Sunday School | 10:30 am Worship |
| | 1:00 – 4:00 pm MLK Celebration Oratorio Rehearsal | | |

**DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.
COMMUNITY CELEBRATION SERVICE**



Featuring *The Movement Revisited: A Musical Portrait of Four Icons* directed by J.D. Steele with 4 Narrators, the College of Wooster Jazz Ensemble and Gospel Choir.

**The Dr. Martin Luther King Essay Contest Winners for 2025
will be presented with their awards.**

MONDAY

JANUARY 20, 2025-7pm

First Presbyterian Church
621 College Ave., Wooster

Sponsored by the Wooster-Orrville NAACP