

First Presbyterian Church

Wooster, Ohio



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 12, 2025

10:30 a.m.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE	<i>Intermezzo, from 'Sonata VI'</i> Eric J. Gastier, organ	<i>Charles-Marie Widor</i>
POURING THE BAPTISMAL WATERS		Noah and Hope Shaffer
WELCOME		Reverend David Rice
STEWARDSHIP FOCUS		Susan Shaffer
OPENING SONG	<i>Be with You</i>	Susan Shaffer

*CALL TO WORSHIP Susie Slack

One: Come and sing the praise of our wondrous God!

All: Come and celebrate the Divine who refreshes us and brings us new life.

One: Be joyful and celebrate the goodness of God here and everywhere.

All: Awesome and marvelous are God's works!

Come, let us worship our God of all creation.

*PRAYER +

God of mystery and wonder, you are with us in times of joy and in times of uncertainty;
in times of healing and times of doubt.

As we worship you this day, help us to remember that you are with us
in all the twists and turns of our lives, the unexpected and the routine.

Lead us to praise you and give you thanks and praise in all times and all places. **Amen**

*HYMN 340

This Is My Song

FINLANDIA

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Gracious God, we are at times held captive by things of our own making:

**All: we stifle our dreams; we are closed to the depth and diversity of your word;
we do not allow ourselves to experience the fullness of your grace;
we fail to appreciate the wonder of each other.**

Forgive us, God.

Help us to break away from those things that bind us.

Free us to be your people, to praise and serve you with joy.

Here each worshipper may offer personal, silent prayer.

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

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS +

God offers us more than we need, for God's forgiveness is endless,

God's love is infinite, God's care is vast, God's compassion is beyond description.

Receive these gifts of God for a new way of living.

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.**

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Amy Baxstrom

MUSICAL OFFERING

Elegie, from 'Triptyque for Flute & Organ'
Karolyn Rice, flute and Eric Gastier, organ

Gordon Young

SCRIPTURE

Ezekiel 47:1-12

Pew Bible page 769

MESSAGE

Moral Courage

Maddie Veitch, College of Wooster Class of 2026

*HYMN 300

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

We continue to receive the Peace & Global Witness Offering

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

Offertory

Nimrod, from 'Variations on an Original Theme'

Edward Elgar

*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

**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**

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 726

Will You Come and Follow Me

KELVINGROVE

*BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

Maddie Veitch

POSTLUDE

Postlude in F

Eric Thiman

* Asterisk indicates places in the service to stand. + Liturgy adapted from *Seasons of the Spirit*.

The Faith and Worship Team would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank Ann Gastier for the World Communion display this year. Ann collects all the varieties of bread herself and then sets up the display Sunday morning. Thank you, Ann, for the meaningful example of global witness and peace.

Susie Slack

Resources

OPW Instagram: @pcusa_opw

OPW Facebook: @Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Washington Office

PMUN Instagram: @pcusa_un

PMUN Facebook: @Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations

OPW Website (Including Contact Information): <https://pcusa.org/about-pcusa/agencies-entities/interim-unified-agency/ministry-areas/office-public-witness>

PMUN Website (Including Contact Information): <https://pcusa.org/about-pcusa/agencies-entities/interim-unified-agency/ministry-areas/ministry-united-nations>

Action Alerts: <https://www.votervoice.net/mobile/PCUSA/home>

Presbyterian Advocacy Hour: <https://pcusa.org/about-pcusa/agencies-entities/interim-unified-agency/ministry-areas/public-witness/advocacy-hour>

YAAC Conference: <https://presbyterianmission-22542400.hs-sites.com/advocacy-conference>

CSW Conference: <https://pcusa.org/about-pcusa/agencies-entities/interim-unified-agency/ministry-areas/united-nations-ministry/commission-status-women>

Fellowship Application: <https://pcusa.org/about-pcusa/agencies-entities/interim-unified-agency/ministry-areas/public-witness/public-witness-internship>

Maddie Veitch Contact: maddieveitch5@gmail.com

First Presbyterian Church is a Christian community dedicated to showing God's love through worship, study, social justice, outreach, and fellowship.

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

[illegible]

Sunday Ushers: October 12 – Jack & Julie Miller, Steve & Susie Slack

Sunday Sexton: October 12 – Elli Gordon October 19 – Aiden Hiner

Sunday, Oct. 12 8:45 am ARISE 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship

Monday, Oct. 13 10:00 am Amy's Bible Study 12:00 pm Rotary 1:30 pm Staff Mtg.

7:15 pm Clear Fork Trout Unlimited

Tuesday, Oct. 14 9:30 am Bible Study 4:30 pm Scout Troop 61 Spaghetti Dinner

6:00 pm Scout Troop 66 Meeting

Wednesday, Oct. 15 10:00 am Memory Café 7:00 pm Faith & Practice

6:30 pm Pumpkin Decorating – Bruch Hall 7:00 pm F & Structure

Thursday, Oct. 16 6:00 pm WACPAC 7:00 pm Choir Reh. 7:00 pm Book Group

Saturday, Oct. 18 9:30 am Al-Anon 5:30 pm Youth Murder Mystery Dinner

Sunday, Oct. 19 8:45 am ARISE 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship

Donna Bye – Office Administrator

Amy Baxstrom – Director of Family Ministries

Rachel King – Dir. of Children's Music; Media Coordinator

Tim Hall – Building Supervisor