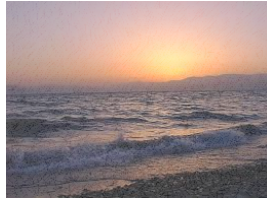


First Presbyterian Church

Wooster, Ohio



SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

June 1, 2025

10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

Adagio, from 'Symphony III'

Louis Vierne

Eric J. Gastier, organ

WELCOME

Reverend David Rice

MINISTRY FOCUS

Pentecost Offering

Diana Rice

MUSICAL OFFERING

Rorate caeli

Jean Demessieux

*CALL TO WORSHIP +

Nancy Young

One: We come to this place of prayer,

**All: for here we can bring our hopes and dreams,
our hidden fears and the doubts we hide from others.**

One: We come to this place of grace,

All: for here we learn compassion and joy, and discover how deeply we are loved.

One: We come with these people called the church,

**All: to be blessed by the variety of gifts, to live as one for our God.
Come let us worship together.**

*PRAYER +

God of glad songs and deep mysteries, your unending love continues to surprise us.

In these last days of the Easter season,

we give thanks for the hope and freedom we see embodied in the Way of Jesus.

We thank you for welcoming us into your household and trusting us with your redeeming work
of drawing all people into the wide and ever-widening circle of your inclusive love. **Amen**

*HYMN 2

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PRAYER OF CONFESSION +

One: Gracious God, you encourage us with your love,
bringing new beginnings out of old endings.

We confess that we need your life-giving power in our lives and our relationships.

**All: We have hurt others and been hurt by them. We are often angry or afraid.
We are not sure when to assert our needs and when to care for others' needs.**

One: We continue to live in ways which do not lead to peace and justice.

All: Forgive us, O God, that we may also forgive.

Pour your Spirit of wisdom and healing upon us,

that by our lives and our loving, we may heal the world.

Here each worshipper may offer personal, silent prayer.

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

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS +

In the hope of Easter, we find forgiveness, the power to change,
a path to renewal, and the beginning of healing.
Let us give thanks to the One who makes all these things possible
and live this day forward in the love that never lets us go! **Amen**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Amy Baxstrom

We confirm Hudson Baxstrom and James Robert (JR) Wright into the full membership of our church

SCRIPTURE

Acts 16:16-40

Pew Bible page 128

SERMON

True Freedom

OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

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

OFFERTORY

Allegretto, from 'Impromptu,' Opus 90, No. 4

Franz Schubert

Tom Gregory, piano

*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**

*HYMN 510

We Gather Here in Jesus' Name

COME, SHARE THE LORD

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 7

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*BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Rondeau, from 'Sinfonies de Fanfares'

Jean Joseph Mouret

* 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.

First Presbyterian Church
621 College Ave., Wooster, OH 44691
330-264-9420 www.firstpreswooster.org Facebook: facebook.com/FPCWooster

WEEKLY CALENDAR and ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Sunday Greeters:	June 1 – Elaine Arnold	June 8 – Oak Hill Service
Sunday Ushers:	June 1 – Kris Evans, Tim Fair, April Gamble, Mimi Lewellen	
Sunday Sexton:	June 1 – Calin Baxstrom	June 8 – Oak Hill Service
Sunday, June 1	10:00 am Sanctuary Worship	1:00 pm Imagine the Possibilities Recital
	4:00 pm FPC Youth Party at Paula's	
Monday, June 2	10:00 am Summer Bible Study	11:30 am Men's Lunch at Green Leaf
	12:00 pm Rotary	1:30 pm Staff
		7:00 pm Deacons
Tuesday, June 3	9:30 am Bible Study	6:00 pm Boy Scouts
		6:00 pm WACPAC
Wed., June 4	10:00 am Memory Café	11:00 am Caregivers
		7:00 pm Faith & Nurture
Thursday, June 5	6:00 pm WACPAC	
Friday, June 6	10:45 am WC Parkinson's Network	
Saturday, June 7	9:30 am Al-Anon	Jim Burrill Memorial: 10:00 am Visitation, Service, Lunch
Sunday, June 8	10:00 am Outdoor Worship Service at Oak Hill Park	
Donna Bye – Office Administrator	Amy Baxstrom – Director of Family Ministries	
Rachel King – Dir. of Children's Music, Media Coordinator	Tim Hall – Building Supervisor	

Starting June 2 at 10:00 am, we will gather in the Parlor and meet over the Summer for some coffee and conversation. In the last several years, we have experienced much stress and change. Our political climate, environmental stressors, and family dynamics have created chaos that swirls around us. This summer, we will find the path to healing and peace through two books. We will begin with the Horizon's Bible Study titled *Finding Resilience, Joy and our Identity in Jesus Christ*. In this study, we will follow biblical characters and writers and learn how they model these traits. We will then move into Steve Charleston's book, *Ladder to the Light*. Charleston's book is one of comfort, truth, and challenge in a time of anguish and fear. Please plan to join us!



There will be a Men's Luncheon at the Green Leaf Restaurant at 11:30 on Monday, June 2. Bring your appetites and great conversation.



WORSHIP AT OAK HILL PARK SUNDAY, JUNE 8 - 10:00AM

This year our outdoor summer worship service will be held at Oak Hill Park on Sunday, June 8, at 10:00am. Note: If the morning turns out to be rainy, worship will be held in Bruch Hall at 10:00 am.

The park is located on the west side of Oak Hill Rd. at the roundabout. There is ample pavilion space with picnic table-and-benches seating, but feel free to bring your own chairs. There is also ample car parking space within short, flat, walking distance of the pavilion.

Please mark your calendars and plan to come together for worship at this small gem of a park with inspirational views across the hills and valleys of God's creation.