

First Presbyterian Church

Wooster, Ohio



THIRTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 23, 2025

10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE

Partita on 'Simple Gifts'

Noël Goemanne

Eric J. Gastier, organ

POURING THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

Cheryl Gooch

WELCOME

Reverend David Rice

STEWARDSHIP FOCUS

Financial Pledge Campaign for 2026

Laura Neill

CHORAL INTROIT

Salmo 150

Emani Aguiar

*CALL TO WORSHIP +

Laura Neill

One: Jesus traveled many places. Some made him welcome; some did not.

All: Yet in all places, Jesus made others feel welcome.

One: And so, in Jesus' name, we all are welcomed here, sons and daughters of God,
beloved children of the Divine.

All: When we welcome one another, we welcome Jesus into our midst as well.

Sisters and Brothers, come let us worship our God with joy.

*PRAYER +

Pass by here, Generous Creator: renew our vision of your ways,
so we may see the world as you intend it to be.

Pass by here, Saving Grace: call us by name and bring your healing and wholeness to us today.

Pass by here, Living Spirit: draw us together as your righteous people,
so that our lives may show your love in the way we welcome others. **Amen**

*HYMN 104

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

VALET WIR ICH DIR GEBEN

CONFESSION +

One: God of the future, you grant visions and dreams to those who
look to your Spirit for guidance, who incline their ears to hear your Word anew.

**All: We are grateful for women and men of courage and faith who have come before us
Forgive us when we have been afraid to step out as they did
when your Spirit urges your people forward.**

One: Forgive our fear of where you may lead and of what you may require of us.

**All: Open our hearts and eyes to a fresh vision of Jesus,
whose example ever leads us on your sacred Way.**

Here each worshipper may offer personal, silent prayer.

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

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS +

When we lay down our fears and defenses, there is room for forgiveness and love.
The former ways of resistance crumble and we are shaped into a community
of creative freedom, of spirited living, of peace. **Thanks be to God! Amen**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Amy Baxstrom

ANTHEM

King of Kings

African-American spiritual, arr. Marc Douglas

SCRIPTURE

Luke 19:1-10

Pew Bible page 77

SERMON

Salvation Has Come

OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

We continue receiving 2026 Pledge Cards

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

OFFERTORY

Forlana

Gerald Finzi

*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 774

There Is Now a New Creation

STUTTGART

*BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Now Thank We All Our God

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

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

**The chancel flowers today are given by Wil, Helena, and Eric Gastier
in Thanksgiving for organ donors everywhere.**

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Sunday Greeters:	November 23 – Youth	November 30 –
Sunday Ushers:	November 23 – Pam Giffin, Carol McKiernan, Diana Rice, Kathy Turning	
Sunday Sexton:	November 23 – Aiden Hiner	November 30 – Calin Baxstrom
Sunday, Nov. 23	8:45 am ARISE	9:15 am Sunday School
	1:30 pm FPC Youth Hosting Best Buddies Quarter Auction – Bruch Hall	10:30 am Worship
	2:00 pm “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory” – Wooster H.S.	
Monday, Nov. 24	10:00 am Amy’s Bible Study	12:00 pm Rotary
	5:30 pm Meals for All	1:30 pm Staff
Tuesday, Nov. 25	9:30 am Bible Study	7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop #66
Wednesday, Nov. 26	10:00 am Memory Café	11:00 am Memory Café Caregivers
Thursday, Nov. 27	Offices Closed – Thanksgiving	10:00 am Maibach Family Dinner
Friday, Nov. 28	Offices Closed - Thanksgiving	
Saturday, Nov. 29	9:30 am Al-Anon	
Sunday, Nov. 30	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	



If you haven't received your pledge card, please call the church office and Donna will mail a card out to you or just stop by and pick one up. There is also a supply of cards in the gathering area, and on the table in the Sanctuary. Together we can all combine our monetary and non-monetary resources to make a difference in our local, national, and world communities through our programming, missions, and structure. Thank you!



Faith and Worship will need help to decorate the church for
Advent and Christmas on **Sunday, November 23.**

If you can mark your calendars and donate a little time after the 10:30 service to hang door swags, wreaths, put up the sanctuary and mitten trees, or drape garlands, your help will be **so** appreciated!

