

# First Presbyterian Church

Wooster, Ohio



## EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 3, 2025

10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

*Prelude in Classic Style & Psalm*  
Eric J. Gastier, organ

*Gordon E. Young*

WELCOME

Reverend David Rice

MINISTRY FOCUS

*Earth Care Team*

Nicholette Rogers

MUSICAL OFFERING

*Song Without Words*

*Paul Winchester*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP +

Joan Firmin

One: Our lives are in the care of God.

**All: God has given us abundance and hope.**

One: This day we have come to praise and thank God for all that God has done for us.

**All: We gather to celebrate God's love and to offer our lives in service.**

One: Come, let us open our hearts to the Lord!

**All: Let us rejoice in God's goodness and love.**

\*PRAYER +

Bountiful God, who gives to us all that we need to sustain our lives:

open our hearts today to hear your words of compassionate justice, that we may focus

on the ways in which you intend us to live and be of service to you by serving the world.

Guide us in our reflections, intentions, expressions, and actions, bringing our heads, hearts,

and being into alignment with you. In the name of Jesus of Nazareth, we pray. **Amen**

\*HYMN 653

*Give Thanks to God Who Hears Our Cries*

*MORNING SONG*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION +

One: Gracious and Generous God, we live in a society that is fixed on acquiring things.

Too often we focus our energies on our collections of 'stuff,'

forgetting the needs of others who have little or nothing,

those for whom life has been a constant struggle.

We have failed you in modelling hospitality, generosity, and humility.

**All: Forgive us and turn us around**

**to look at the ways in which our wealth and abundance —**

**both of substance and spirit—can be used for good, for healing and hope.**

**Enable us to be in ministry to those in need, offering dignity and empowerment.**

**Help us to be gatherers and shepherds of justice and mercy,**

**as the kin-dom of your Love unfolds.**

*Here each worshipper may offer personal, silent prayer.*

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

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS +

Family of Faith, hear the Good News: Even when we are distracted from what matters,  
God still loves us and is present with us — calling us back to a grounded center.  
Be encouraged, as we are guided in the Spirit to use our gifts, time, and resources  
in service to Love made manifest. **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

SCRIPTURE

Luke 12:13-21

Pew Bible page 70

SERMON

*Storing Treasures*

OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

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

OFFERTORY

*Pr*

*Re*

\*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**

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

*Be Thou My Vision*

*arr. James Naigus*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

\*HYMN 716

***God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending***

*BEACH SPRING*

\*BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Toccata Brevis*

*Daniel E. Gawthrop*

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

Hornist **Jacob Bodnar** is finishing his second season with the OLO Orchestra. He is a Wooster native who has just completed his MM at the University of Akron where he served as a graduate assistant for the horn studio. He received his BA in music and business from Ashland University. Jacob has performed with the Mansfield and Central Ohio Symphonies, the Tuscarawas Philharmonic, and the Wooster Symphony Orchestra.

Violinist **Abreal Whitman** is the assistant concertmaster for the OLO Orchestra this season. She received her BA from the Eastman School of Music and her MM from Louisiana State University. Abreal has performed with the Mozart Mentors, Augusta (Maine) Symphony, and the Boston Youth Symphony. She recently won the assistant concertmaster position with the Acadiana Symphony Orchestra. She will begin her Doctoral program at Texas Tech School of Music this fall.

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](http://www.firstpreswooster.org)    Facebook: facebook.com/FPCWooster

**WEEKLY CALENDAR and ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

Sunday Greeters:	August 3 – Leigh Oaks	August 10 – Pam Giffin
Sunday Ushers:	August 3 – Kris Evans, April Gamble, Mimi Lewellen, Jack Rogers	
Sunday Sexton:	August 3 – Eli Gordon	August 10 – Aiden Hiner
Communion Servers:	Wes Davis, April Gamble, Mimi Lewellen	
Sunday, August 3	10:00 am Worship	6:00 pm FPC Youth Cookout – Amy's Home
Monday, August 4	10:00 am Bible Study – Parlor	11:30 am Men's Lunch – Green Leaf
	12:00 pm Rotary	1:30 pm Staff
		7:00 pm Deacon's Mtg.
Tuesday, August 5	9:30 am Bible Study	6:00 pm Scouts
		6:00 pm WACPAC
Wed., August 6	10:00 am Life Memory Café	11:00 am Café Caregivers
	7:00 am Faith & Nurture	
Thursday, August 7	6:00 pm WACPAC Rehearsal	
Friday, August 8	10:45 am Parkinson's Network	5:00 pm Mixed Company – Lewellen Home
Saturday, August 9	9:30 am Al-Anon	11:00 am Wooster Advocacy Group
Sunday, August 10	10:00 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



**Men's Luncheon at Green Leaf Restaurant on Monday, August 4,  
at 11:30 am.**



**Mixed Company will meet Friday August 8th at 5:00 pm at the home  
of Mimi Lewellen, 1760 West Smithville-Western Road.**

**The dinner will be pulled pork.**

**The cost is \$10.00 cash per person. Please let Kathy Turning know  
by August 6<sup>th</sup>, if you are planning to attend  
([kathrynturning@gmail.com](mailto:kathrynturning@gmail.com)).**

