

# First Presbyterian Church

Wooster, Ohio



## WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

### SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 5, 2025

10:30 a.m.

#### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

*Angel's Farewell, from 'Dream of Gerontius'*  
Eric J. Gastier, organ

*Edward Elgar*

POURING THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

Troy and Emily McMillen and family

WELCOME

Reverend David Rice

STEWARDSHIP FOCUS

*Youth Quarter Auction*

Sarah Dunlap

CHORAL INTROIT

*Nimemwona Bwana*

*Tanzanian tune, arr. Michael Burkhardt*

"I have seen the Lord, and he is beautiful."

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Mark Gooch

One: In the midst of our busy lives, God calls us into community.

**All: In the rush of work and family and friends, God calls us into community.**

One: With those who are lovely and those who are difficult, God calls us into community.

**All: With those who are known and with those who are strangers,  
God calls us into community.**

One: With people all around the world, God calls us into community.  
Come let us share worship and communion together.

\*PRAYER +

We give you thanks, gracious God, that you invite us and all people into your presence,  
to feast at your table, to share together as equals, and to welcome one another.

We pray that the design of your great love may bring peace to our church,  
peace among nations, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts,  
according to the Way of Jesus we seek to follow. **Amen**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Gracious God, you created the whole world and called it good,  
but we look out at your world and see division and suffering.

**All: You call us to maintain the unity of spirit in the bond of peace,  
but we choose division over diversity, confrontation over civility,  
conflict over peace born from justice.**

One: You call us to love the least of these among us,  
but we hear the cries of the oppressed and choose our own comfort.  
We allow senseless suffering rather than sacrifice for our neighbors.

**All: Forgive us. Grant us fresh vision to see one another as your children.  
Rekindle in us your gifts—the spirit of power, love, and self-discipline—  
that with faith, we might be made new  
and be part of bringing forth your peaceable kingdom.**

*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

ANTHEM

*I Am the Living Bread*

*Michael McCabe*

SCRIPTURE

Luke 17:1-10

Pew Bible page 75

SERMON

*Faith Enough?*

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE Today, we will receive the Peace and Global Witness Offering.  
Through our monetary gifts, we offer something of our work and ourselves to God.

Offertory

*Pastorale – Prélude*

*Jean Langlais*

\*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.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**And also with you.**

**We lift them to the Lord.**

**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

**BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD**

\*HYMN 316

*Where Charity and Love Prevail*

*TWENTY-FOURTH*

\*BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Expression 30*

*Naji Hakim*

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

**The flowers today are given for the beauty of the earth from a gardener.**

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](http://www.firstpreswooster.org)

Facebook: facebook.com/FPCWooster

## WEEKLY CALENDAR AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Sunday Greeters:	October 5 – April Gamble	October 12 – Joan Firmin	
Sunday Ushers:	October 5 – Kris Evans, Tim Fair, April Gamble, Mimi Lewellen		
Sunday Sexton:	October 5 – Calin Baxstrom	October 12 – Elli Gordon	
Sunday, Oct. 5	8:45 am ARISE	9:15 am Sunday School	10:30 am Worship
	3:00 pm FALL FESTIVAL – FPC Parking Lot		
Monday, Oct. 6	10:00 am Amy’s Bible Study	11:30 am Men’s Lunch	12:00 pm Rotary
	1:30 pm Staff	5:30 pm Scout Troop 61 – Cooking in Kitchen	
Tuesday, Oct. 7	9:30 am Bible Study	6:00 pm Scouts	6:00 pm WACPAC
Wednesday, Oct. 8	10:00 am Memory Café	11:30 am Caregivers	7:00 pm F & Practice
Thursday, Oct. 9	6:00 pm WACPAC	7:00 pm Choir Reh.	7:00 pm Book Group
Friday, Oct. 10	8:00 am Coats for Kids Setup	10:45 am WC Parkinson’s Network	
Saturday, Oct. 11	8:00 am Coats for Kids	9:30 am Al-Anon	10:00 am WACPAC
	11:00 am Wooster Advocacy	5:30 pm Youth Murder Mystery Dinner	
Sunday, Oct. 12	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

## FALL BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Thursday evenings through October 16, at 7:00 p.m.



**Join us for our annual Fall Festival Trunk or Treat Family Event**

**Sunday, October 5, 3:00-5:00 pm**



**There will be a Men's Luncheon at the Green Leaf Restaurant  
on Monday, October 6th at 11:30am.**