

First Presbyterian Church

Wooster, Ohio



ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 9, 2026

10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

Vesper Voluntaries (excerpts)

Edward Elgar

Eric J. Gastier, organ

WELCOME

Lisa Rumbaugh

MINISTRY FOCUS

Update from the Pastor Nominating Committee

Laura Neill

POURING THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

Ellen Armour

In preparation for worship, we pour baptismal water as a sign of our engrafting into the Body of Christ.

MUSICAL OFFERING

Aria

Herbert Howells

*CALL TO WORSHIP +

Ellen Armour

One: We stand on the shore of God's new day and look ahead to what is yet to be.
We hold close the precious treasures of biblical stories, past experiences of God,
and the wisdom of our ancestors in faith.

**All: Yet we move in God's Spirit to experience something new.
May old and new blend in the way we respond to God's surprises
as well as God's steady hand.
Come, let us worship our God who comes to us in newness each day.**

*PRAYER OF THE DAY +

One: Such love you have for us, O God: revealed in creation,
embodied in redemption, poured out in Spirit.

**All: By the light of such love would we love, by the power of such love would we hope,
by the grace of such love would we serve you and others. Amen**

*HYMN 1

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

NICAEA

PRAYER OF CONFESSION +

One: Gracious God, when words of welcome and openness
have not been matched by our practices, forgive us and make us whole.

**All: When we have been a stumbling block to another's journey
rather than a trustworthy companion, forgive us and make us whole.**

One: When we are afraid of change and neglect the gift and privilege of love,
forgive us and make us whole.

All: **You hear our prayers, O God, even when words fail us. But you do not fail us.
Your love holds steady and welcomes us into greater love.**

At this time, each worshipper may offer personal, silent prayer.

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

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS +

Hear this good news of grace: God comes searching for us,
calling us by name, leading us into the peaceable kingdom.

In Christ, we become new people: broken, we are made whole;
lost, we are found; forsaken, we are restored to new life. **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

Isaiah 6:1-8

Pew Bible page 597

SERMON

Marks of a Call

Reverend Chris Stewart

OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

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

Offertory

Berceuse

Gabriel Faure

Claudia Thompson & Eric J. Gastier, 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**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Elli Gordon

**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**

CANDLE LIGHTING MEDITATION

Susan Shaffer

*HYMN 69

Here I Am, Lord

HERE I AM (Schutte)

*BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Voluntary in D (excerpt)

George Dyson

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

The sanctuary flowers today are given by Amy Baxstrom in honor of Sophia's birthday.

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](https://www.facebook.com/FPCWooster)

Sunday Greeters:	August 9 – Jim & Cindy Webster	August 16 – Mimi Lewellen
Sunday Ushers:	August 9 – Jack & Julie Miller, Steve & Susie Slack	
Sunday Sexton:	August 9 – Lydia Dunlap	August 16 – Andrew James
Sunday, August 9	9:30 am Pastor Nominating Com. Consult	10:00 am Worship
Monday, August 10	10:00 am Women's Bible Study	12:00 pm Rotary
	6:00 pm Pastor Nominating	1:30 pm Staff Mtg.
		7:00 pm Scouts
Tuesday, August 11	Filming – ATO Content	10:00 am Bible Study
		6:00 pm WACPAC
Wed., August 12	10:00 am Memory Café	11:00 am Caregivers
		5:30 pm Faith & Practice
Thursday, August 13	6:00 pm WACPAC	
Friday, August 14	11:30 am WC Parkinson's Network	
Saturday, August 15	9:30 am Al-Anon	
Sunday, August 16	9:30 am Pastor Nominating Com. Consult	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

CAMPFIRE SONG AND SHARING TIME TONIGHT

Join us for a campfire sing and a time summer story sharing on Sunday August 9th at 7:00 pm at the family farm of Sarah and Wes Davis. This time of campfire songs, stories of our summer, meaningful reflections and more will be a time for all friends of FPC. We hope this will be a time that our youth will share their summer camp experiences.

Sarah & Wes Davis' Bowen family farm- 5061 Friendsville Rd.
Follow the drive all the way back to the big white barn!
Please bring a chair and a simple snack if desired. Smores to follow!

MIXED COMPANY

Mixed Company will meet Friday, August 14th at 5:30 pm at Viaggio Italian, 219 Hostetler Road, Orrville. Call or email Kathy Turning (330-347-6620 or kathrynturning@gmail.com) by August 12th if you will be attending.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS (AND BRIEFCASES!) - Sunday, August 16

A new school year. A new work season. New adventures. New opportunities to learn, grow, serve, and love. Wherever God is calling you this fall, we want to send you on your way with a blessing.

Bring your backpack, briefcase, laptop bag, lunch bag, diaper bag, tote bag, tool bag—or whatever you carry into your daily life! Whether you're heading to preschool, elementary school, college, the office, a job site, volunteering, or beginning a new chapter, this blessing is for all ages.

During worship on Sunday, August 16, we'll gather for a special Blessing of the Backpacks, asking God's guidance, courage, wisdom, compassion, and peace for the year ahead.

Everyone is welcome. Everyone has a calling. Everyone deserves a blessing. Join us as we begin this new season together, carrying God's love wherever we go.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF WOOSTER DONATION REQUEST

The Boys & Girls Club of Wooster has been busy this summer with the kids using lots of supplies for art and other creative learning projects.

They are in need of the following:
Fine tip and broad tip color marker sets,
glue sticks,
masking tape,
scissors,
construction paper all colors.

Contact Cheryl Gooch if you have questions.

PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE UPDATE

We have good news to report! After a discernment phase that lasted approximately three months, our role of Pastor/Head of Staff is now posted and live.

For the remainder of the summer schedule, we will suspend our Sunday morning office hours and will reevaluate once we return to our program year schedule. However, please feel free to discuss with or ask questions of any PNC member. Or send us an email to fpcwoopnc@gmail.com.