# First Presbyterian Church

**Christ the King Sunday – November 22, 2026**

621 College Ave, Wooster, OH 44691
330-264-9420 www.firstpreswooster.org Follow:

**More Light Church and Member of Covenant Network**
**Earth Care Congregation and Matthew 25 Church**

**Prelude** *Partita on "Simple Gifts"* *Noël Goemanne*
Eric J. Gastier, organ

**Welcome** Becky Webb

**Ministry Focus** Alternative Gift Market Luke & Emily Armour

**Pouring the Baptismal Waters** Eliza Davis
In preparation for worship, we pour baptismal water to show we belong to the family of God.

**Choral Introit** *What Shall I Render to the Lord* *Peter Tiefenbach*

***Call to Worship** Eliza Davis

One: Let us worship in gladness and come before our God with joy.
Enter this sanctuary with thanksgiving and with gratitude sing God's praise.

**All: Through us, God provides healing for those in need and comfort for those in distress.**

One: How shall we thank God for our blessings?

**All: Let us share our bread with the hungry; let us not turn away from the needy.**
**We will shelter the homeless and help those who have no help.**
**We will sing a new song to the world of God's love for all creation.**
**Come, let us worship together.**

***Prayer of the Day**

O God, you are the source of our life and the hope of our hearts. The universe is filled with your Spirit and our lives with your life-giving presence. We come before you in wonder and amazement. Accept our worship and strengthen our commitments as we bring you our praise, our offerings, our pledges, and our very selves. **Amen**

***Hymn 265** *Jesus Shall Reign Where'er* *DUKE STREET*

**Prayer of Confession**

One: Gentle and awesome God, we acknowledge to you, to one another, and to ourselves that we are not always what you have called us to be.

**All: We stifle our gifts and hoard our possessions; we avoid opportunities to offer kindness, but are quick to take offense; we pretend we can make little contribution to peace and justice in our world. Forgive us, turn us toward generosity, and send us on your Way. Let us know the joy of giving and help us live for others as we live for you.**

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

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

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

The Good News is that we are made whole—not by our efforts, not by any work we have done, not by any word of ours. Out of the riches of grace, God pours forgiveness into our lives, giving us all we need, so that we might live in hope and joy. **Amen**

***Passing of the Peace**

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

**Children's Moment** Amy Baxstrom

**Anthem** *Rejoice! The Lord is King* *Malcolm Archer*

**Scripture** Galatians 5:22-26, Luke 6:43-45 Pew Bible page 179, 61

**Sermon** Cultivating a Culture of Generosity Reverend Mike Parker

***Hymn 708** *We Give Thee But Thine Own* *SCHUMANN*

**Offering and Substance of Life**

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

**Offertory** *Tranquillo, ma con moto* *Herbert Howells*

***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**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication** Reverend Mike Parker

**Candle Lighting Meditation**

We invite you to come to the center aisle and light a candle in prayer and meditation.

**Meditation Music** *Give Thanks* *Henry Smith*

Rachel King and Friends – Hymnal 647: Please join in singing if you would like to.

**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 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 612** *We Praise You, O God* *KREMSER*

*** Blessing and Benediction** Reverend Mike Parker

**Postlude** *Postlude on "Duke Street"* *Wilbur Held*

Eric J. Gastier, organ

* Asterisk indicates places in the service to stand.

The liturgy for this service was adapted from Seasons of the Spirit.

**Today the flowers are given by Wil, Helena, Dan, and Eric in thanksgiving for organ donors everywhere.**



We invite you to stay after worship TODAY to help decorate our church for Advent.

Many hands make light work!

## FPC Affiliations:



**More Light Presbyterians**



**Covenant Network of Presbyterians**




**Earth Care Congregation**



**Matthew 25 Church**

## Spotlight on the 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.

## FPC Staff:

Amy Baxstrom, Director of Family Ministries
Eric J. Gastier, Director of Music and Organist
Rachel King, Children's Music/Media Coordinator
Donna Bye, Office Administrator
Tim Hall, Building Supervisor

**Clerk of Session:** Lisa Rumbaugh

## FPC Sunday Servers:

| | Sunday, November 22 | Sunday, November 29 |
|---|---|---|
| Greeters: | Mary Sayler | Leroy & Shannon Foster |
| Ushers: | Jack Miller, Julie Miller, Steve Slack, Susie Slack | Jennifer Moyseenko, Mark Gooch, Pam Giffen, Jack Rogers |
| Sexton: | Andrew James | Addy Hiner |

## Pastoral Care Support

Please contact the office for any Pastoral Care needs. Call 330-264-9420 and leave a message for Donna Bye or email office@firstpreswooster.org or sessionclerk@firstpreswooster.org and someone will connect with you.

## FPC Weekly Calendar:

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| Sunday 11/22 | 9:15am Sunday School | 10:30am Worship | 11:45 Advent Decorating |
| | 2:00pm Frozen at WHS | 5:00pm Wooster Concert Band | |
| Monday 11/23 | 10:00am Women's Bible Study | 12:00pm Rotary | 1:30pm Staff Meeting |
| | 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop #66 | | |
| Tuesday 11/24 | 10:00am Bible Study | | |
| Thursday 11/26 | Office Closed -Happy Thanksgiving | 10:00am Maibach Family | |
| Friday 11/27 | Office Closed -Happy Thanksgiving | | |
| Saturday 11/28 | 8:00am Soup Making | 9:30am Al-Anon | 12:00pm BSA Cub Scout 4066 |
| Sunday 11/29 | 8:45am ARISE | 9:15am Sunday School | 10:30am Worship |
| | 6:00pm Youth Murder Mystery | | |

## News and Upcoming Events:

**Join us to make Ham and Bean soup for our congregation and for Meals for All November 28th 8:30-10am.**

We need 3 volunteers and the following items: 4 bags of yellow onions (one pound bags), 4 bags of carrots (one pound bags), 6 pounds of dried white beans, chicken broth (preferably Better than Bouillon concentrate). Items can be dropped off in the kitchen the week of November 23rd.

Let April know if you can help out or donate: aprilgamble11@gmail.com

**Opportunities to Serve Our Community this Advent Season:**

Bring unused, blank Christmas Cards and matching envelopes with no writing on them for inmates at the Wooster jail and place them in the box in the gathering area.

Ring bells for Salvation Army at Buehler's Milltown on December 14. Sign-up sheet is in the gathering area.

Fill our mitten tree in the gathering area with hats, gloves, and mittens for students in need at Cornerstone Elementary, or bring in adult socks for those in need at Homeward Bound.

Sponsor a family through Salvation Army – let Amy Baxstrom know if you are interested.

**Main Street Wooster's Downtown Historic Church Tour – Friday, December 4**

The historic Church tour will have a stop at First Presbyterian Church once again! We need volunteers to help welcome guests, show them the sanctuary, and encourage them to have refreshments in Bruch Hall.

We need 6 volunteers to help 3:30-5:30 and 6 volunteers to help from 5:30-7:30. If you can help, please let Amy Baxstrom know which shift. Thank you!

**Tim Hall Retirement Reception - Saturday, December 5th from 3:00-5:00 pm**

Tim has been so much more than his official title of "Maintenance Supervisor" for more than 20 years. Come and thank him and celebrate his well-deserved retirement.

**Alternative Gift Market Sunday, December 6 11:00am – 2:00 pm at Trinity UCC, 150 E. North Street**

You may purchase $5 shares in any of 39 different carefully vetted organizations from around the world, everything from backpack medics in Burma to food and healing for Ukraine's refugees to water wells in South Sudan. In addition, we'll have goods from World Crafts of Kidron, handmade bags from Ghana, fair trade coffee, and olive soap and lotion to create awareness for a just peace for Palestine-Israel.

Lunch will be available for a donation and all proceeds will go to Wooster's Homeward Bound Shelter.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WOOSTER

ADVENT 2026



Sunday, November 29 - HOPE
8:45AM ARISE 9:15AM Sunday School 10:30AM Worship
Friday, December 4
4:00-7:00PM Historic Downtown Church Tour

Sunday, December 6 - PEACE
8:45AM ARISE 9:15AM Sunday School 10:30AM Worship
11:00AM Alternative Gift Market at Trinity UCC

Sunday, December 13 - JOY
9:15AM Sunday School
10:30AM Children & Youth Advent Celebration in Worship
11:30AM Church Holiday Potluck

Sunday, December 20 - LOVE
8:45AM ARISE 9:15AM Sunday School 10:30AM Worship

Christmas Eve Service
6:45PM Music Prelude 7:00PM Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 27 and Sunday, January 3
10:30AM Worship