

# First Presbyterian Church

Wooster, Ohio



## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 5, 2024

10:15 a.m.

PRELUDE

*Interlude in C*  
Eric J. Gastier, organ

*Walford Davies*

WELCOME

Reverend David Rice

CHORAL INTROIT

*Ave Verum Corpus (Hail, True Body)*

*Edward Elgar*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP +

Mattie Dunlap

One: Sing to the Lord a new song, for the Lord has done marvelous things.

**All: Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands! Lift up your voice, rejoice and sing!**

One: Let the sea make a noise, the rivers clap their hands,  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord.

**All: For the Lord alone is judge of the world**

**and God shall treat all people with equity.**

(from Psalm 98)

**Come let us worship our God of Healing and Wholeness.**

\*PRAYER +

God beyond all names, we celebrate your ongoing presence in our community of faith.

Give us open minds and hearts that we may welcome and include  
all whom you have called our brothers and sisters.

Help us to know you more fully and move forward together  
as faithful witnesses in word and deed. **Amen**

\*HYMN 526

*Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

*LINSTEAD*

CONFESSION +

One: Gracious God, you have chosen us as your own  
and called us to love one another as you have loved us.

**All: But we fall far short of your life-giving command;  
we cling in fear to the little we have, rather than laying it down  
so that we can receive your gifts of love and compassion.**

One: Pour out your Spirit on us anew, that we may know and proclaim the depth,  
the breadth, the height, and the length of your love that passes all measure.

**All: May we abide in that love so fully  
that it will overflow among us and through us to the world around us.**

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

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

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS +

In the hope of Easter, we find forgiveness, the power to change,  
a path to renewal, and the beginning of healing.

Let us give thanks to the One who makes all things possible,  
and live this day forward in the love that never lets us go! **Amen**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Amy Baxstrom

*On Communion Sunday, our children are invited to remain in the Sanctuary and receive the sacrament*

ANTHEM

*If Ye Love Me*

Thomas Tallis

SCRIPTURE

Acts 10:1-35

1 John 4:16b-21

Pew Bible pages 120, 227

SERMON

God's Gracious Love and Welcome

OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

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

OFFERTORY

*There Is a Happy Land*

George Shearing

\*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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

\*HYMN 300

*We Are One in the Spirit*

*THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS*

\*BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Tuba Tune*

*C. S. Lang*

\* Asterisk indicates places in the service to stand.

+ Liturgy adapted from *Seasons of the Spirit*.

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

Sunday Greeters:	May 5 – Jim & Cindy Webster	May 12 – Nancy Young
Sunday Sextons:	May 5 – Mattie Dunlap	May 12 – Aiden Hiner
Sunday Ushers:	May 5 – Kris Evans, Tim Fair, Mimi Lewellen, (???)	
Sunday, May 5	9:00 am Sunday School	9:45 am Fellowship
	11:30 am FPC Cinco de Mayo Potluck and Annual Congregational Meeting	10:15 am Worship
	7:00 pm Central Christian School Choir Concert	
Monday, May 6	9:30 am Staff Meeting	11:30 am Men's Lunch – Green Leaf
	12:00 pm Rotary	6:00 pm WACPAC
Tuesday, May 7	9:30 am Bible Study	6:00 pm Boy Scouts
		6:00 pm WACPAC
Wed., May 8	10:00 am Life Memory Café	7:00 pm Faith & Practice
Thursday, May 9	6:00 pm WACPAC	7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
		7:00 pm Book Group
Friday, May 10	10:45 am Parkinson's Network	
Saturday, May 11	9:30 am Al-Anon	10:00 am WACPAC
Sunday, May 12	9:00 am Sunday School	9:45 am Fellowship
		10:15 am Worship



**Join us in worship on May 5 to celebrate congregants who have been members of  
First Presbyterian Church for 50 years or more!**

**Garnett Alexander, Ken Alexander, Elaine Arnold, Mark Boardner,**

**Darla Campbell, James Clyde, Susan Clyde, Gordon Collins,**

**Jolene Dyer, Val Fulton, Rick Gabriel, Herman Gibbs,**

**Vince Giffin, Pearl Grosjean, Lorraine Hancock, Roy Hancock II,**

**LeRoy Haynes, Elizabeth Hooker, Betty Howell, Walt Kearney,**

**Conrad Kennedy, James Kirchhofer, Linda Kirchhofer, Bev Mapel, Bill Mapel,**

**Harry McClarran, Carol Miller, Gary Miller, Kathy Odenkirk, Richard Odenkirk,**

**Ruth Ann Odenkirk, Letitia Paterson, Elaine Peterson, Rick Peterson,**

**Jean Philippi, Bill Ross, Carl Schmid, Dottie Schmid,**

**Kenneth Schuesselin, Rita Schuesselin, Karen Short, Ted Short,**

**Mary Alice Streeter, Carol Thompson, William Wepler,**

**Betty Wilkin, David Wilkin, Yvonne Williams**