

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 12, 2023



I was
to them
like those who lift
infants to their cheeks.

Hosea 11:4, NRSV

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 12, 2023, 9:30 a.m. Service

WELCOME TO FPC

We are so glad you are with us on this day where we celebrate the gift of hope for ourselves and for our world. We invite you to follow us on Facebook and Instagram, sign up for our weekly emails or check the website regularly to see the new things God is doing here at FPC Findlay!

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

Little Ones: Infants and toddlers are welcome to join trained caregivers in Room 333 on the third floor during Worship. Check-in begins at 9:20 a.m. for the 9:30 a.m. service.

Godly Play and Godly Play Choir: Children in preschool through elementary school-age are invited to attend Godly Play worship in Room 340 following the Blessing of the Children. Parents can pick up their children on the first floor in the Choir Room, where they will be doing Godly Play choir until 11:15 a.m., except on Communion Sundays when they will return during worship to be able to participate in communion.

WORSHIP VIA FACEBOOK LIVE

*As the prelude begins, we invite you to share your prayer requests
in the comments section beneath the Facebook Live video.*

Prelude Jesus Loves Me arr. Lloyd Larson

Choral Introit Cantate Domino James J. Chepponis

*Cantate Domino. Cantate Domino canticum novum.
Sing to the Lord. Sing a new song.*

* Call to Worship/Opening Words

One: Before we can remember,

All: God loved us.

One: Before we could respond,

All: God loved us.

One: Before we knew what any of it meant,

All: God loved us.

One: Still today, in our best and worst days,

All: God loves us.

Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Glo - ry to God, _____ whose good - ness shines on me,
World with - out end, _____ with - out end. A - men.

and to the Son, _____ whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, _____ with - out end. A - men.

and to the Spir - it, _____ whose love has set me free,
World with - out end, _____ with - out end. A - men.

As it was in the be - gin - ing, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

Blessing of the Children

Go Now in Peace

Natalie Sleeth

Go now in peace, go now in peace, may the love of God sur - round you
ev - ery - where, ev - ery - where you may go.

Following the Blessing of the Children, children 3rd grade and younger may go to Room 340 for Godly Play.

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson

Mark 10:13-14

page 822 (pew Bible)

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Scripture Anthem O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET

O Morning Star, how fair and bright! You shine with God's own truth and light, aglow with grace and mercy! Of Jacob's line, King David's son, our Lord and Savior, you have won our hearts to serve you only! Lowly, holy! Great and glorious, all victorious, rich in blessing! Rule and might o'er all possessing! Lord, when you look on us in love, at once there falls from God above a ray of purest pleasure. Your word and Spirit, flesh and blood refresh our souls with heavenly food. You are our dearest treasure! Let your mercy warm and cheer us! O draw near us! For you teach us God's own love through you has reached us. What joy to know, when life is past, the Lord we love is first and last, the end and the beginning! He will one day, O glorious grace, transport us to that happy place beyond all tears and sinning! Amen! Amen! Come, Lord Jesus! Crown of gladness! We are yearning for the day of your returning.

Second Lesson

Hosea 11:1-9

page 737 (pew Bible)

When Israel was a child, I loved him,
and out of Egypt I called my son.

The more I called them,
the more they went from me;
they kept sacrificing to the Baals
and offering incense to idols.

Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk;
I took them up in my arms,
but they did not know that I healed them.
I led them with cords of human kindness,

with bands of love.
I was to them like those
who lift infants to their cheeks.
I bent down to them and fed them.
They shall return to the land of Egypt,
and Assyria shall be their king,
because they have refused to return to me.
The sword rages in their cities;
it consumes their oracle priests
and devours because of their schemes.
My people are bent on turning away from me.
To the Most High they call,
but he does not raise them up at all.
How can I give you up, Ephraim?
How can I hand you over, O Israel?
How can I make you like Admah?
How can I treat you like Zeboiim?
My heart recoils within me;
my compassion grows warm and tender.
I will not execute my fierce anger;
I will not again destroy Ephraim,
for I am God and no mortal,
the Holy One in your midst,
and I will not come in wrath.
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Jessica Commeret

* Hymn #436 God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us O QUANTA QUALIA

Offering

Offertory

Great Is Thy Faithfulness
FPC GatherRing Handbell Choir

arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

* Doxology

Praise to God the Father

DA N'ASE

Praise to God the Fa - ther; praise to God the Son;
 praise to God the Spir - it; praise to the Three - in - one. Sing
 praise, sing praise to the Lord on high.
 Praise to God Al - might - y; praise to the Ho - ly One.

Prayer of Dedication
 Concerns and Celebrations
 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Prayer Response #601

Amen

DANISH AMEN

A - men. A - men. A - men.

Messages of our Life in Community

* Hymn #754

Help Us Accept Each Other

BARONITA

* Benediction

Postlude

Now Thank We All Our God

arr. Charles Callahan

** Please rise in body or spirit.*

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor: Rev. Jessica Commeret

Director of Music: Clinton Miller

Lay Reader: Meg Ramlow

Musicians: FPC Choral Scholars: BK Riha, Deja Jennings, Cassie Wilson, Zach Sanford, Isaac Washington; Desra Dabney, flute

A/V Technician: Robbie Riffle

The flowers for worship are given by Dana Bourne in honor and memory of Robert Bourne Sr. and his brother, Bill, who both served in World War II, and for all veterans who lost their lives in service to God and country. And in honor and thanksgiving for all those who continue to serve and protect. Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congregational Meeting immediately following worship today for the purpose of electing officers. Those nominated by the congregational nominating committee are: Elder, Class of 2027: Jessica Carper, Joe Niemeyer, Beverly Dowling
Elder, Class of 2024, to fill an unexpired term: Brandi Clark
Deacon, Class of 2027: Kim Palmer, Shari Buis, Jim Baker
At Large nominating committee, Class of 2025: Carol Dale-Joseph, Dick Deerhake, Suzi Healy, Janet Holtzschler, Gary Hirschfeld

2nd Hour Adult Faith Formation in Fellowship Hall: Today we continue our discussion of [Canoeing the Mountains](#) with the Rev. Jessie Commeret and Char Ebersole. Come explore our 'DNA' as a church and how that shapes our values (and we'll even be discerning what those values are).

Community Dinner is today! 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Come to the Great Room (following 2nd Hour Faith Formation). Today's menu: pork tenderloin, roasted vegetables, cheesy potatoes, applesauce, rolls and pie! KnitWits will be giving out hats and scarves to those who need them for winter. The leaders continue to ask those who are willing to **stay for the duration** to make sure the facility is clean and ready for Monday.

FPC Families will be gathering from 5:00-6:30 p.m. this evening in Fellowship Hall for conversations with Leslee Kirkconnell, new Director of Connectional Ministry. If you can't make it tonight, join us on November 26th – same time and place.

Mission Committee Input Needed by Today: What do we want to support as a congregation???? In the Narthex are paper forms or you can scan the QR code.

[https://us1.list-](https://us1.list-manage.com/survey?u=ca6ef81ccfafd16a1644b5aac&id=2f4c09a228)

[manage.com/survey?u=ca6ef81ccfafd16a1644b5aac&id=2f4c09a228](https://us1.list-manage.com/survey?u=ca6ef81ccfafd16a1644b5aac&id=2f4c09a228)



The Mission Committee will review recommendations so watch for next steps and thank you!

Maumee Valley Presbytery Stated Meeting will be this Tuesday, November 14, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. here at FPC. GatherRing Handbells **will not meet**.

Caring Cupboard & Daryl the Barrel for November:

Feminine Products for the **Caring Cupboard**.

Daryl the Barrel is collecting **Sugar**.

Thank you for supporting these ministries to our community!

BGSU A Capella Chorale and Volaré Concert

Friday, November 17, 7:00 p.m. here in our Sanctuary. The concert is free and open to the public. We serve a meal to the choristers prior to the concert. If you would like to volunteer to help serve the meal, please contact Clint Miller. cmiller@findlayfpc.org

A New Prayer Ministry: Prayers.God

Prayers.God is a new ministry for the Church. We have been using the Prayer Cross to help our youth feel comfortable with prayer. We are expanding this by adding our Prayers.God bulletin board. Please continue to put your prayers in the Prayer Cross so the youth can pray. Once the youth have completed their prayers, they will put them on the bulletin board so everyone in the church can pray. The bulletin board is located on the wall outside of the Parlor. Thank you for continuing one of the most important ministries of the church.

Save the date: November 26 at 3 p.m. Hanging of the Greens

Join us for a fun time of gathering to decorate the church! Sign-up outside the main office!

Youth Christmas Mission Project: Coats for Christmas (*and blankets, gloves, socks and hats*)

Take a teal paper from the pew racks with you—it explains everything! The youth will be collecting throughout November!



1 We praise you, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor;
 2 We wor - ship you, God of our fa - thers and moth - ers;
 3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer



in grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.
 through tri - al and tem - pest our guide you have been.
 and glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.



We lay it be - fore you; we kneel and a - dore you;
 When per - ils o'er - take us, you will not for - sake us,
 With you, Lord, be - side us, your strong arm will guide us.



we bless your ho - ly name; glad prais - es we sing.
 and with your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.
 To you, our great Re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

Hymn #436

God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us

O QUANTA QUALIA



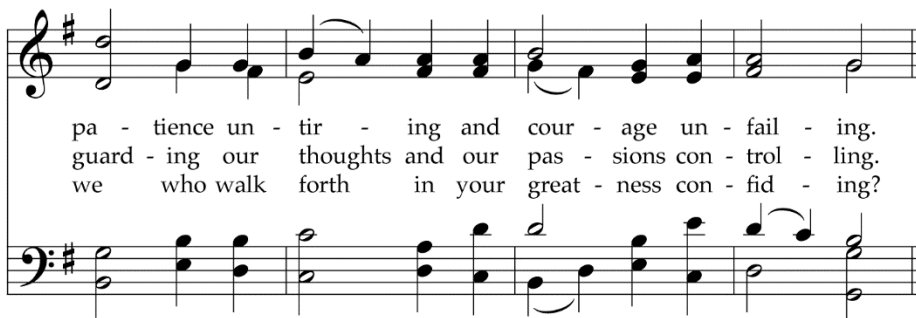
1 God of com - pas - sion, in mer - cy be - friend us,
 2 Though we are lost, you have sought us and found us,
 3 How shall we stray, with your hand to di - rect us,



giv - er of grace for our needs all - a - vail - ing.
 stilled our rude hearts with your word of con - sol - ing.
 you who the stars in their cours - es are guid - ing?



Wis - dom and strength for each day ev - er send us,
 Wrap now your peace, like a man - tle, a - round us,
 What shall we fear, with your power to pro - tect us,



pa - tience un - tir - ing and cour - age un - fail - ing.
 guard - ing our thoughts and our pas - sions con - trol - ling.
 we who walk forth in your great - ness con - fid - ing?



1 Help us ac - cept each oth - er as Christ ac - cept-ed us;
 2 Teach us, O Lord, your les - sons, as in our dai - ly life
 3 Let your ac - cep - tance change us, so that we may be moved
 4 Lord, for to - day's en - coun - ters with all who are in need,



teach us as sis - ter, broth - er, each per - son to em - brace.
 we strug - gle to be hu - man and search for hope and faith.
 in liv - ing sit - u - a - tions to do the truth in love;
 who hun - ger for ac - cep - tance, for jus - tice and for bread,



Be pres - ent, Lord, a - mong us and bring us to be - lieve
 Teach us to care for peo - ple, for all, not just for some,
 to prac - tice your ac - cep - tance un - til we know by heart
 we need new eyes for see - ing, new hands for hold - ing on:



we are our - selves ac - cept - ed, and meant to love and live.
 to love them as we find them, or as they may be - come.
 the ta - ble of for - give - ness, and laugh - ter's heal - ing art.
 re - new us with your Spir - it; Lord, free us; make us one!

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To the right is a QR Code. You can open the camera on your smartphone and be connected to our Giving page via a link pop up. We encourage you to use this method to give as we pass the offering plate.



LITURGICAL ART

First Presbyterian Church follows the liturgical calendar to mark the seasons of our life together as Christians. We are currently in the season of Pentecost or Ordinary Time, which lasts from Trinity Sunday to the First Sunday of Advent. The colors white and gold are symbolic of purity and light. The butterflies on the dossal curtain in the chancel are ancient Christian symbols of resurrection and eternal life because they emerge with glorified bodies able to soar upwards from the cocoon, which in turn comes from the caterpillar, and the caterpillar from the egg. The "holy catholic church, the communion of saints" on earth and in heaven are symbolized by these ascending butterflies, reminding us of our dying and rising in Christ, both in our baptism and in our death. The creative vision of artist Don Beck continues to shape worship at First Presbyterian Church.

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