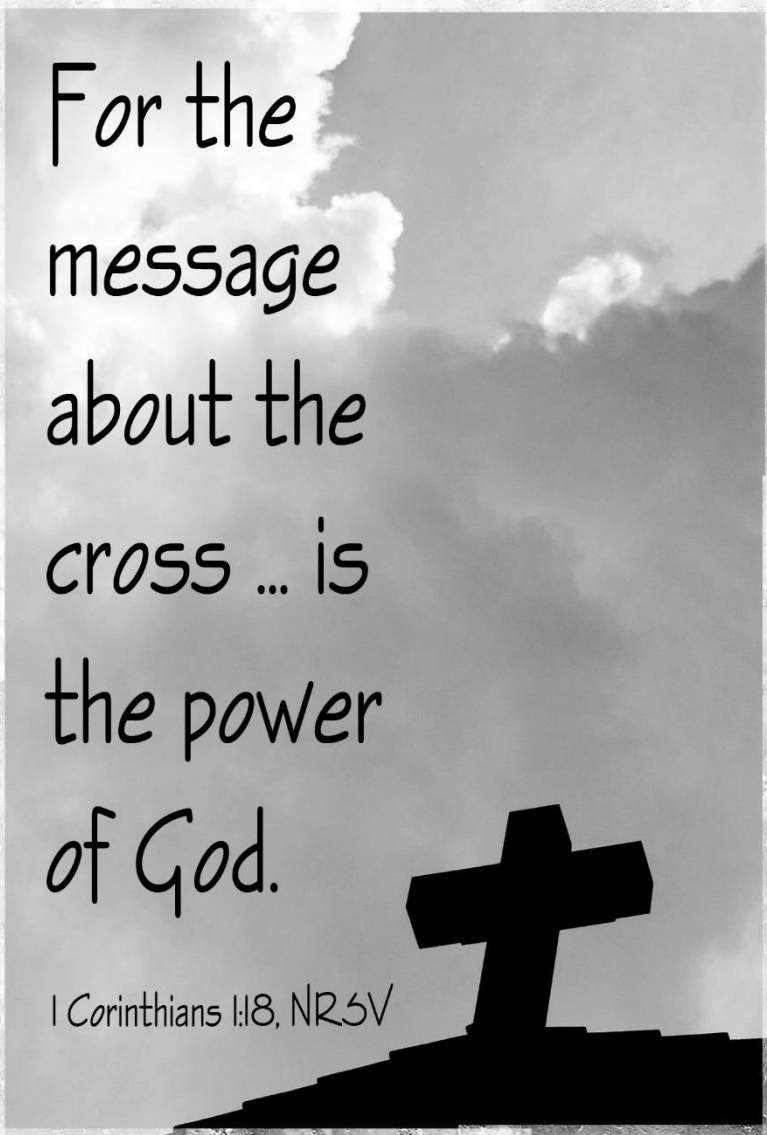


Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024



For the
message
about the
cross ... is
the power
of God.

1 Corinthians 1:18, NRSV

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2330 SOUTH MAIN STREET | FINDLAY, OH 45840 | FINDLAYFPC.ORG

Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024, 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, sign up for our weekly emails or check the website regularly to see the new things God is doing among us 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.

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 in Godly Play choir until 11:15 a.m.

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 Highland Cathedral arr. Charles Callahan
Choral Introit Be Not Afraid Jacques Berthier
Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!

* Call to Worship/Opening Words

In resurrection faith, we join together —
called by Christ from our many places and histories.
In resurrection faith, we join together—
united in Christ, to seek his purpose.
In resurrection faith, we join together —
to share the work of proclaiming Christ's good news.
Let us worship God.

* Hymn #301 Let Us Build a House TWO OAKS
Verses 1 & 2 – All; Verse 3 – Higher voices; Verse 4 – Lower voices; Verse 5 – All

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

Risen Lord,

**there is so much work to be done in your world,
that we confess that we are overwhelmed,
and we have lost focus.**

**We have gotten caught up in minutiae
so that we don't have to admit we aren't moving forward.**

**We have created in-groups and out-groups,
hierarchies of influence in our community,
ignoring your call to unity of purpose.**

**We have used our words carefully,
making sure not to say too much, or not to say anything, or not to say what we
really mean, so as never to rock the boat.**

**Forgive us for using many words that serve only themselves
without ever pointing to your cross and resurrection.**

**Draw us once again into the foolishness of your life —
life that lifts up where the world tramples down,
life that brings together where the world separates,
life that overcomes even the worst the world can do.**

**Breathe your life into us,
that we in turn may live as your Body, for your glory.**

(Silent Confession)

In the risen Christ, we pray. **Amen.**

* Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

* Passing of the Peace

Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

* Grateful Response

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

MFURAHINI, HALELUYA

Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia. Re-joice and praise him, al - le - lu - ia.
For our re - deem - er burst from the tomb, e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.
Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy. Death's fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.
Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

Blessing of the Children

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

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson

Acts 18:1-11

Pew Bible pages 902-903

After this Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. There he found a Jew named Aquila from Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, and, because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them, and they worked together—by trade they were tentmakers. Every Sabbath he would argue in the synagogue and would try to convince Jews and Greeks.

When Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia, Paul was occupied with proclaiming the word, testifying to the Jews that the Messiah was Jesus. When they opposed and reviled him, in protest he shook the dust from his clothes and said to them, “Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent. From now on I will go to the gentiles.” Then he left the synagogue and went to the house of a man named Titius Justus, a worshiper of God; his house was next door to the synagogue. Crispus, the official of the synagogue, became a believer in the Lord, together with all his household, and many of the Corinthians who heard Paul became believers and were baptized. One night the Lord said to Paul in a vision, “Do not be afraid, but speak and do not be silent, for I am with you, and no one will lay a hand on you to harm you, for there are many in this city who are my people.” He stayed there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

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

Scripture Anthem

Chanson épique

Maurice Ravel

Good Saint Michael who gives me leave To behold and hear my Lady, Good Saint Michael who deigns to elect me To please her and defend her, Good Saint Michael, descend, I pray, With Saint George onto the altar Of the Madonna robed in blue.

With a heavenly beam bless my blade And its equal in purity And its equal in piety As in modesty and chastity: My Lady.

(O great Saint George and great Saint Michael) Bless the angel watching over my vigil, My sweet Lady, so like unto Thee, O Madonna robed in blue! Amen.

Zach Sanford, soloist

Second Lesson

I Corinthians 1:10-18

Pew Bible page 926

Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. For it has been made clear to me by Chloe’s people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each of you says, “I belong to Paul,” or “I belong to Apollos,” or “I belong to Cephas,” or “I belong to Christ.” Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

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

Sermon

Foolishness of Peanut Butter Sandwiches and Love

Rev. Jessica Commeret

* Hymn #303

God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian

CHURCH UNITE

Call for Offering

Offertory Anthem

A Joyful Alleluia!

Cynthia Dobrinsky

* Doxology Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here be -
 low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise God a - bove, ye heaven-ly
 host; Cre - a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

* Prayer of Dedication
 Concerns and Celebrations
 Prayers of the People
 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 #600

Amen

African American

A - men, a - men.
 A - men, a - men, a - men.

Messages for Our Life in Community

- * Hymn #372 O for a World AZMON
- * Benediction
- Postlude Fanfare Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens

** Please rise in body or spirit*

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor: Rev. Jessica Commeret

Director of Music: Clinton Miller

Lay Reader: Jessica Carper

Director of Connectional Ministry: Leslee Kirkconnell

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

A/V Technician: Robbie Riffle

Flowers for worship are given by David and Laura Mast in celebration of family.

Announcements

2nd Hour Faith Formation Today: The Mission Committee will hold continuing conversations about our missions and talk about our recent field trip to City Mission and Martha's Home. Children will have Godly Play choir.

Come & See FPC Today and next Sunday, May 5, Pastor Jessie is leading a 'new member' class so you can learn more about what it means to be Presbyterian and how we do mission and ministry here. Come to Room 211 following worship at 10:30 a.m.

Youth will have Faith Formation during 2nd Hour. Confirmation students especially need to attend!

Upcoming 2nd Hour Faith Formation:

May 5: Come and See with Pastor Jessie, Room 211, week 2.

May 5: Adults: Who Me? Presbyterian!? Fellowship Hall ; Children Godly Play Choir;

May 12: Adults: Who Me? Presbyterian!? Fellowship Hall; Community dinner – children and youth will help prepare in the Great Room Kitchen.

May 19: Pentecost Brunch Potluck. Bring your brunch dish to the Fellowship Hall kitchen before worship and then join us following for delicious and fun fellowship. Wear red!

Seeking help with Child Care: we will need new child care help with Sunday and beyond soon. If you know someone who loves children and would be able to be here Sunday mornings (and other times as arranged), please see Leslee Kirkconnell.

MOPS Returns! This Thursday, May 2, we are hosting an 'open house' for Moms to come hear about plans to bring a MOPS (now MomCo) group back to FPC. From 12:00-1:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall, we will learn about the program, gauge interest and meet other moms! We anticipate starting a group in September. Childcare provided. Enter downstairs through the elevator access.

Findlay National Day of Prayer: Thursday, May 2, 8:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. at the Marathon Center for the Performing Arts. Come at any point – Pastor Jessie and Clint will be leading from 1:00-2:00 p.m.

Confirmation Meeting for youth TODAY following worship in the Youth Room. This is a Youth 2nd Hour Faith Formation time so all youth (grades 6-12) should come.

Family/Intergenerational Choir will help lead worship on May 12. Rehearsals Wednesday May 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the Choir Room and Sunday May 12 at 9:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. All are welcome to join in!

Onward & Upward next gathering will be Thursday, May 9, 11:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Utility scams are increasingly common and older adults are particularly vulnerable. Come hear from Amy Carles, program specialist with Ohio Consumers' Counsel on how to identify and avoid scams. Please sign up so our lunch hospitality is abundant!

May 19 is Pentecost and we will have a Potluck Brunch following worship! Plan to bring a breakfast-y dish (breakfast casserole, fruit salad, biscuits etc etc) and stay for delicious fellowship and some Pentecost fun!

Get Connected! Scan the code to read our weekly Connections Newsletter:



Fine Arts Camp Registration is OPEN! Scan the code or visit our website to register your rising 1st – 5th grade child. July 29-August 3, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Hymn #301

Let Us Build a House

TWO OAKS

Verses 1 & 2 – All; Verse 3 – Higher voices; Verse 4 – Lower voices; Verse 5 – All

Capo 3: (A7) (D) (A) (D) (G) (A) (Bm)
 C7 F C F B^b C Dm

1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can
 2 Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, and words are
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter,
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and

(D) (A) (D) (Bm7) (Em) (A)
 F C F Dm7 Gm C

safe - ly live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell
 strong and true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek
 wine, and wheat; a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground
 wood and stone to heal and strength-en, serve and teach,
 vi - sions heard and loved and trea-sured, taught and claimed

(Em) (A7) (G) (D) (F#m) (Bm)
 Gm C7 B^b F Am Dm

how hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 to dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
 where peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
 and live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
 as words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and

(Em) (A) (D) (G)
 Gm C F B^b

vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we
 strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us
 laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace; let this

Refrain

(D) (G) (F#7) (Bm) (Em) (Bm)
 F B^b A7 Dm Gm Dm

love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 one we claim the faith of Je - sus:
 share in Christ the feast that frees us: all are wel - come;
 bring an end to fear and dan - ger:
 house pro-claim from floor to raf - ter:

(F#m) (Em) (D) (Em) (A7) (D) (G) (D)
 Am Gm F Gm C7 F B^b F

all are wel - come; all are wel - come in this place.

Capo 1: (Em) (Bm) (Em) (D) (G)
 Fm Cm Fm E^b A^b

1 God the Spir - it, guide and guard-ian, wind - sped
 2 Christ our Sav - ior, sov - ereign, shep-herd, Word made
 3 Great Cre - a - tor, life - be - stow - er, truth be -
 4 Tri - une God, mys - ter - ious be - ing, un - di -

(D) (Em) (A) (B7) (Em) (Bm)
 E^b Fm B^b C7 Fm Cm

flame and hov - ering dove, breath of life and
 flesh, Love cru - ci - fied, teach - er, heal - er,
 yond all thought's re - call, fount of wis - dom,
 vid - ed and di - verse, deep - er than our

(Em) (D) (G) (Am) (Em) (Bm) (Em)
 Fm E^b A^b B^bm Fm Cm Fm

voice of proph-ets, sign of bless - ing, power of love:
 suf - fering ser - vant, friend of sin - ners, foe of pride:
 womb of mer - cy, giv - ing and for - giv - ing all:
 minds can fath - om, great - er than our creeds re-hearse:

(C) (G) (D)
 D^b A^b E^b

give to those who lead your peo - ple fresh a -
 in your tend - ing may all *pas - tors learn and
 as you know our strength and weak - ness, so may
 help us in our var - ied call - ings your full

This text affirms that the church's ministry is the combined witness of all its members. The first half of each stanza addresses either one of the divine Persons or the full Triune God, and the second half forms a prayer drawing on the attributes recalled in the first half.

(Am) (Em) (B7) (Em) (Bm)
 B^bm Fm C7 Fm Cm

noint - ing of your grace; send them forth as
 live a shep - herd's care; grant them cour - age
 those the church ex - alts o - ver - see its
 im - age to pro - claim, that our min - is -

(Em) (D) (G) (Am) (Em) (Bm) (Em)
 Fm E^b A^b B^bm Fm Cm Fm

bold a - pos - tles to your church in ev - ery place.
 and com - pas - sion shown through word and deed and prayer.
 life stead - fast - ly, yet not o - ver - look its faults.
 tries u - nit - ing may give glo - ry to your name.

1 O for a world where ev - ery - one re - spects each oth - er's ways,
 2 O for a world where goods are shared and mis - er - y re - lieved,
 3 We wel - come one world fam - i - ly and strug - gle with each choice
 4 The poor are rich; the weak are strong; the fool - ish ones are wise.
 5 O for a world pre - par - ing for God's glo - rious reign of peace,

where love is lived and all is done with jus - tice and with praise.
 where truth is spo - ken, chil - dren spared, e - qual - i - ty a - chieved.
 that o - pens us to u - ni - ty and gives our vi - sion voice.
 Tell all who mourn: out - casts be - long, who per - ish - es will rise.
 where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

Everything longed for in this text is a reminder of how far our present world is from what God wants. Yet this is not just wishful thinking; it is a call to action, a summons to participate in the fulfillment of God's desire for all earth's people to live in radical *shalom*.

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.



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LITURGICAL ART

First Presbyterian Church follows the liturgical calendar to mark the seasons of our life together as Christians. Traditionally various colors are used for each season. THE EASTER SEASON is a period of 50 days, celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The colors are WHITE AND GOLD, symbolizing joy and celebration, renewal and hope. The banners and pulpit and lectern paraments, completed in 2005, were designed by liturgical artist Jenia Rimov of Camas, Washington. The banner on the pulpit side portrays the new light of Easter and the banner on the lectern side portrays our response to the good news of resurrection: Alleluia! These themes are continued on both pulpit and lectern paraments. The butterfly in the chancel represents the Risen Christ and was created in 2017 by Don Beck, a member of our congregation whose artistic vision continues to shape worship at First Presbyterian Church during all seasons of the liturgical year. The large white Paschal Candle is used to represent the Risen Christ, dispelling darkness during this season, as well as for baptisms and funeral/memorial services during the year. The colors white and gold are also used for ALL SAINTS SUNDAY, the first Sunday of November, symbolizing the joy of the “communion of saints” both on earth and in glory.

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