

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024



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

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 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. This morning 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	Trio Sonata in G	J.C. Richter
Choral Introit	Be Not Afraid	Jacques Berthier
	<i>Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!</i>	

* Call to Worship/Opening Words

To know the warmth of love,

To have the assurance that someone cares,

To be confident of our worth,

To be bold to love in return,

To be washed over with grace,

To be accepted as we are:

This is to know a bit of God.

Then let us worship our God.

* Hymn #401	Here in This Place	GATHER US IN
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* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

**Your love stands firm, no matter how hard we push, O God.
We press for advantage,
we weigh heavy on your creation,
we try to skirt around the edges so we can claim faithfulness
while getting what we want,
and still your love stands firm:
the foundation you give us to build on,
the fundamentals we must learn if we are to live your kingdom life.
You have shown us the more excellent way,
the way that leads to life deeper than the mask,
the way that satisfies every longing.
May your forgiveness draw us into practice,
building up our capacity to love more and more,
as you do.**

(Silent Confession)

In Jesus' name 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

Mark 12:28-31

Pew Bible page 825

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

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

Scripture Anthem

*Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.
Exsultemus et in ipso jucundemur.
Timeamus et amemus Deum vivum.
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.
Amen.*

Ubi Caritas

Where charity and love are, God is there.
The love of Christ has gathered us together.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.
Let us revere and love the living God.
And from a sincere heart let us love one another. Amen.

Ola Gjeilo

Second Lesson

I Corinthians 13:1-13

Pew Bible page 934

If I speak in the tongues of humans and of angels but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers and understand all mysteries and all knowledge and if I have all faith so as to remove mountains but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions and if I hand over my body so that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable; it keeps no record of wrongs; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part, but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see only a reflection, as in a

mirror, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love remain, these three, and the greatest of these is love.

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

Sermon

Rev. Jessica Commeret

* Hymn #693

Though I May Speak

GIFT OF LOVE

Call for Offering

Offertory Anthem

Trio Sonata in G

J.C. Richter

Response

Come to the Table

Jennifer Baker-Trinity

Come to the table, come to the table.

All is now ready, come one and all. Come, oh, come.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

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...

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.

Institution of the Sacrament

Serving of the People

All are welcome at Christ's table. Please receive the sacrament via the center aisle and return to your seat via the side aisle. The bread is gluten-free and the cup is juice so all may partake.

Communion Hymn #530 One Bread, One Body

John B. Foley

Prayer After Communion

You have fed us, Lord, and we are grateful. Allow us to respond this day, and in the days to come, with hearts made ready, eyes made open, hands made strong, and feet made willing to do your will in this place, and in all the places to which you call us. Amen.

Messages for Our Life in Community

* Hymn #692 Spirit, Open My Heart WILD MOUNTAIN THYME

* Benediction

Postlude Allegro Maestoso, Sonata No. 2 Felix Mendelssohn

** Please rise in body or spirit*

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor: Rev. Jessica Commeret

Director of Music: Clinton Miller

Lay Reader: Joe Niemeyer

Director of Connectional Ministry: Leslee Kirkconnell

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

A/V Technician: Robbie Riffle

The flowers for worship are given by John and Denese Malacos in celebration of family.

Announcements

2nd Hour Faith Formation: Who Me? Presbyterian? Even those of us who are (maybe long-time) members aren't always sure about what being Presbyterian means. Come explore with Leslee Kirkconnell today and next Sunday some of our more 'interesting' facets. Fellowship Hall, 10:30 a.m.

Come and See, Week 2: New Member Class continues with Pastor Jessie in Room 211.

Leslee Kirkconnell will be in Montreat, NC this week for continuing education – fun to come!

Community Dinner is next Sunday, May 12, 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Children and youth will help prepare the meal in the Great Room kitchen during 2nd Hour. Please sign up on the

board outside the office so we can extend extravagant hospitality to our neighbors. Our menu includes Chicken Divan, Rice Pilaf, Salads (provided by the congregation), applesauce and cake.

Onward & Upward is Thursday, May 9, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Scammers are targeting more and more people. Older adults are more vulnerable, but you can recognize a scam! Amy Carles from the Ohio Consumers' Counsel will help us understand how to recognize a potential scam. Sign up so our lunch hospitality will be abundant and bring a friend!

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.



It's a Party! A Pentecost Brunch Party! Sunday, May 19, following worship in Fellowship Hall. Bring a brunch potluck dish (breakfast casserole, fruit, biscuits, anything breakfast-y) and join us for delicious food, fellowship and some Pentecost fun. Wear red!

Music Ministry Offering: On Pentecost Sunday (May 19) a special offering for the Music Ministry will be taken. You can find envelopes in the pews. Your financial gifts contribute to special musicians and music events.

Graduation Sunday: We will recognize our graduating seniors on Sunday, May 26. If you have a soon-to-be-graduate, email Leslee – lkirkconnell@findlayfpc.org.

Summer News & Views 'Big Newsletter' will be published before the end of May. All information your committee wants included should be to Leslee Kirkconnell by **Monday, May 13.**

Summer Outdoor Worship begins Sunday, May 26. In May, June, July and August, we will worship outdoors (weather permitting) on the last Sunday each month. Dress comfortably and bring your chairs (there will be chairs available also).

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



Mobile Pantry is May 18. Sign up outside the office to help us assemble and give food boxes to our community, 7:30-10:30 a.m. Email Katie Abbott (katie.n.abbott@gmail.com).

Phishing emails: If you get a weird email that looks like it's from one of the staff, check the sender's address carefully – if it's not our findlayfpc.org domain, it's a scam and you should delete. You can always call the office and check with us directly too!



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,
 bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light years a-way: here in this place the new light is shin-ing;



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
 call us a-new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion; give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er; gath-er us in and

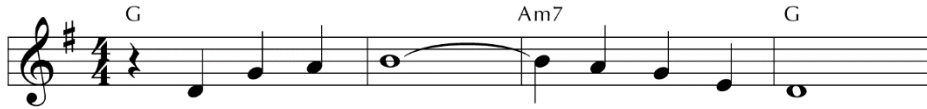


blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly;
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

The "you/your" mentioned in every stanza is never identified, but this 1979 hymn is clearly a corporate prayer to God on behalf of the diverse congregation who have assembled for worship, longing to be transformed and used as God's witnesses and for God's purposes.



1 Though I may speak with brav - est fire,
 2 Though I may give all I pos - sess,
 3 Come, Spir - it, come, our hearts con - trol;



and have the gift to all in - spire,
 and striv - ing so my love pro - fess,
 our spir - its long to be made whole.



and have not love, my words are vain,
 but not be given by love with - in,
 Let in - ward love guide ev - ery deed;



as sound - ing brass, and hope - less gain.
 the prof - it soon turns strange - ly thin.
 by this we wor - ship, and are freed.

As paraphrases of 1 Corinthians 13:1, 3 the first two stanzas here are in the first person singular, yet they lead into a plural prayer for the gift of such love, for it thrives in community. These words are especially poignant with this adaptation of an English folk melody.

Communion Hymn #530 One Bread, One Body

John B. Foley

Refrain

C G C G C G D

One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of

Em D G D G Em A

all, one cup of bless - ing which we bless.

D C G C G C G D

And we, though man-y, through-out the

Em D G D G Em A D G (C) *Fine*

earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

G D Em D Em

1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or
 2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the
 3 Grain for the fields, scat-tered and

D Em7 F Am D

free, wom - an or man, no more.
 works, one in the Lord of all.
 grown, gath-ered to one, for all.

to Refrain

Capo 3: (D) (G) (D) (G) (A7)
 F B^b F B^b C7

Refrain

Spir - it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of

(Bm) (D/A) (G) (A7) (Bm) (D/A) (Em)
 Dm F/C B^b C7 Dm F/C Gm

liv - ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing

(D) (G) (Em7) (D) (G) (D)
 F B^b Gm7 F B^b F

and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart. *Fine*

(D) (G) (D) (G)
 F B^b F B^b

1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's
 2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my
 3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of

(A7) (Bm) (D/A) (G) (A7)
 C7 Dm F/C B^b C7

kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and
 goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and
 sis - ter, broth - er. In the wel - come of

(Bm) (Em7) (D) (G2) (G)
 Dm Gm7 F B^b2 B^b

fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.
 deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.
 Christ, may we wel - come one an - oth - er. *to Refrain*

The pace and diversity of modern life often hinder us from remaining vulnerable to our emotions and to the humanness of other people. This prayerful text to be open to such joys and pains draws on Ezekiel 11:19 and 36:26 in stanza one and echoes Jeremiah 31:33 in stanza two.

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.

Music Copyrights

Be Not Afraid. Text: Taizé Community, 1998. Music: Jacques Berthier, 1998. Text © 1998 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.) Music © 1998 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia. Text: Bernard Kyamanywa, 1966; trans. Howard S. Olson, 1969. Music: Tanzanian melody. Text © 1977 Howard S. Olson (admin. Augsburg Fortress)

Here in This Place. Text & Music: Marty Haugen, 1979. Text © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc. Music © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc.

Though I May Speak. Text: Hal H. Hopson, 1972. Music: English folk melody; adapt. Hal H. Hopson, 1972. Text © 1972 Hope Publishing Company Music © 1972 Hope Publishing Company

One Bread, One Body. Text & Music: John B. Foley, SJ, 1978 Text © 1978 John B. Foley, SJ (Published by OCP) Music © 1978 John B. Foley, SJ (Published by OCP)

Spirit, Open My Heart. Text: Ruth Duck, 1994. Music: Irish melody; arr. Alfred V. Fedak. Text © 1996 The Pilgrim Press Music Harm. © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

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