Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 2, 2025



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February 2, 2025, 10:00 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.

Children's Worship Bulletins: These are available along with activity packets in the Narthex.

Ask a Greeter for one.

Prayground: Today, children remain in worship to celebrate Communion and are invited to come to the Prayground at the front of the church during Grateful Response.

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.

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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 Epiphany or Ordinary Time, which lasts from Epiphany to Ash Wednesday. The color GREEN symbolizes the renewal of living things and the promise of new life and growth for the Church. The DOSSAL CURTAIN, behind the Cross, and the paraments on the pulpit and lectern visually depict a saying of Jesus: "Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living waters" -John 7:30. It also reminds us of the words "Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream" -Amos 5:24. The TREE OF LIFE, on either side of the Chancel depicts Revelation 22:2 "On either side of the river was the tree of life, and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations." The vision of artist Don Beck remains a formative influence on the worship life of First Presbyterian Church.

Honoring our heritage, we are a dynamic body welcoming all to Christ's spacious table, illumined to serve God with imagination and love.

Belong. Be Challenged. Be Love.

Please turn off all mobile and electronic devices while in the Sanctuary.

*Indicates to rise in body or spirit.

GATHERING

At the sound of the bells, please prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

We gather as a community and prepare our hearts to worship God.

Tolling of the Bells

Prelude Let Us Break Bread Together arr. Charles Callahan

Choral Introit Listen, God Is Calling

Listen, listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting, offering forgiveness, comfort, and joy.

*Call to Worship

Side 1: There is always good to do

Side 2: There is always a need of mercy

Side 1: There is always more to learn

Side 2: There is always risk when God's truth meets the ways of the world.

All: And Jesus has called us and sent us to bear his light into the world. Let us come in the power of the Spirit to be refreshed and prepared for his work.

*Opening Hymn 65

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah See page 8

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Creator God,

The first day humans experienced in Creation was a day of rest.

We confess we have turned that around,

and live as if we are the creator who worked first and rested at the end and mostly we don't even do that.

We miss out on the blessing of growing from gift and joy,

And instead often make everything about being right, following rules, earning our way.

We also are prone to casual, even absent-minded, lives —just going through our everyday tasks without much thought,

about how to better orient toward you in between Sundays.

And so we confess that we're defensive about sabbath rest, swinging between declaring it outdated and being desperate for respite from endless work,

between judging those who take days off and wishing we could do it ourselves.

Forgive us, loving God.

Forgive us for distorting your story and then trying to fit our lives to it. Show us once again your more excellent way, and heal us that we may reflect your image clearly into a world longing for grace.

(Silent Confession)

We pray this all in the name of Christ. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*Passing of the Peace

Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

*Grateful Response 585

Glory to God



Children are invited to come to the Prayground at this time where there are engaging activities for them to participate.

TEXT: Anon. MUSIC: Peruvian melody MACHU-PICHU

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson Jeremiah 17:5-10

Thus says the Lord:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the Lord.

⁶They shall be like a shrub in the desert and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

- ⁷Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord.
- ⁸They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green;

in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

⁹The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse—

who can understand it?

¹⁰ I the Lord test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Scripture Anthem

Hear My Prayer

Moses Hogan

O Lord, please hear my prayer, in the morning when I rise. It's your servant bound for glory. O dear Lord, please hear my prayer. O Lord, please hear my prayer, keep me safe within your arms. When my work on earth is done, and you come to take me home. Just to know I'm bound for glory, and to hear you say well done. Done with sin and sorrow, have mercy, mercy. Amen.

Second Lesson Luke 13:10-17

¹⁰Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. ¹¹And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. ¹²When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." ¹³When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. ¹⁴But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be

done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the Sabbath day." ¹⁵But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? ¹⁶And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?" ¹⁷When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Sermon Following the Rulebook Rev. Jessica Commeret

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

*Hymn 537 When at This Table

See page 9

Call for Offering

Offertory Anthem Kum Ba Ya arr. Charles Callahan

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

Concerns and Celebrations
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

Communion Music 530 Taste and See

Prayer After Communion

We are grateful, O God, for the promise in Christ of a new creation. Even as we join with your Spirit in recreating our own lives, help us to share in recreating the world about us. Where there is despair, let there be hope. Where there is devastation, renewal. Amen.

SENDING FORTH IN MISSION

Messages for Our Life in Community

*Closing Hymn 795 Healer of Our Every Ill

See page 11

*Benediction

Postlude Choral Prelude on If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee J.S. Bach

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor: Rev. Jessica Commeret

Director of Music: Clinton Miller

Lay Reader/

Communion Officiant: Dave Mast

Director of

Connectional Ministry: Leslee Kirkconnell

Musicians: Chancel Choir; GatherRing Handbell Choir;

Desra Dabney, flute;

FPC Choral Scholars: Joicy Carvalho, BK Riha,

Zach Sanford, Cassie Wilson

A/V Technician: Robbie Riffle

The flowers for worship are provided by the Chesebro Family in memory of Bob & Kay Chesebro.

*Opening Hymn 65

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM RHONDDA



Few Welsh hymns are as well known or loved as this 18th-century text that did not gain its popular tune until the early 20th century. In both its original text and in English translation, it is a stirring hymn of pilgrimage filled with vivid imagery from Hebrew Scripture.

TEXT: William Williams, 1762; stanza 1, trans. Peter Williams, 1771; stanzas 2–3, trans. William Williams, 1772 MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

*Hymn 537 When at This Table FEASTDAY



Though cast in an individual's voice, this prayerful text shows a strong communal awareness of the people gathered around the Lord's Table, their personal burdens, and matters of both local and global concern. The final two stanzas reflect renewed spiritual strength and resolve.



Verses sung by soloists

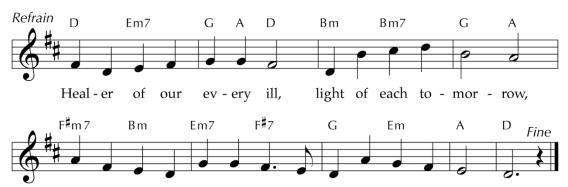
1 I will bless the Lord at all times. Praise shall always be on my lips; my soul shall glory in the Lord, for God has been so good to me. (Refrain)

2 Glorify the Lord with me. Together let us all praise God's name. I called the Lord, who answered me; from all my troubles, I was set free. (Refrain)

3 Worship the Lord, all you people. You'll want for nothing if you ask. Taste and see that the Lord is good; in God we need put all our trust. (Refrain)

Because the first half of verse 8 is the emotional high point of Psalm 34, this paraphrase fittingly uses it as a refrain. In the Christian context of the Lord's Supper, the invitation to participate ("taste") is joined with the promise of blessing ("see that the Lord is good").

TEXT and MUSIC: James E. Moore Jr., 1983 Text and Music © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc. TASTE AND SEE Irregular



give us peace be-yond our fear, and hope be-yond our sor - row.



- 1 You who know our fears and sad-ness, grace us with your peace and
- 2 In the pain and joy be-hold-ing how your grace is still un-
- 3 Give us strength to love each oth er, ev ery sis ter, ev ery
- 4 You who know each thought and feel-ing, teach us all your way of



glad - ness; Spir - it of all com - fort, fill our hearts. fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love. broth - er; Spir - it of all kind - ness, be our guide. heal - ing; Spir - it of com - pas - sion, fill each heart.

As soon becomes apparent, this sung prayer is not limited to personal physical healing. It deals with the larger and intangible gifts of peace and hope to vanquish fear and sorrow, and it is cast in the plural because it is concerned with the healing of a wounded community.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 2, 2025

TODAY

Fellowship

We have coffee, snacks, and conversations starting at 9:30 a.m. and again following worship every Sunday in the Parlor.

Motion & Movement

All children and youth meet with Clint in the Choir Room following worship.

Adult Faith Formation

Following Worship, Fellowship Hall

Kristy Szkudlarek, Read for Life Coordinator, will help us understand more about Read for Life – a program sponsored by the Findlay/Hancock County Library that facilitates ESL programs in Findlay.

Cabaret Silent Auction Begins Today

You can begin to bid on the wonderful items donated to help fund the Mission Trip to Appalachia. The items and bidding sheets are on the Fellowship Hall Stage and will be there all week. The deadline is Friday evening at the Cabaret.

HIGHLIGHTS

FPC Cabaret/Talent Show Fundraiser

Friday, February 7, 6:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Get your tickets today!!! Come join us for a night of fun, fellowship, and food as we support our Mission Trip this summer. Tickets are available in the Narthex, on our website, and in the Church Office during the week. Contact: Clint Miller or Leslee Kirkconnell

Silent Auction Begins Today!!

Building Access for Evening Meetings

If you are attending an evening meeting at FPC, we kindly ask you to enter and exit via the main entrance doors under the steeple. This will help ensure your safety in the evenings and helps keep our building secure. Thank you!

OLDER ADULTS

Onward and Upward

Thursday, February 13, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall.

February Program: Bob Ross and the Joy of Painting. Join us for an engaging program followed by a delicious lunch. Invite friends, come and learn, and of course, enjoy lunch!

Contact: Pastor Jessie

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

The Rise of Bonhoeffer – Book Study Tuesdays, February 18, March 11 & 25, April 8 & 22. 7:00-9:00 p.m., Room 209

Discover how German theologian, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, dared to stand against the Nazis using his theological insights to inspire a generation of believers to act with courage and conviction.

Contact: Jessie Commeret

Sunday Morning Adult Faith Formation Sunday, February 16, Following Worship, Fellowship Hall

Bring your questions to the new proposed FPC Code of Regulations (Bylaws).

Women of Faith

Mondays, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Parlor

This group is open to all women. The only requirement is a desire to continue your faith journey. We discuss a variety of spiritual studies.

Contact: Mary Alice Patrickson

MISSION

Community Dinner

Sunday, February 9, 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Great Room

The Community Dinner outreach provides a nutritious home-cooked meal on the 2nd Sunday of each month to the community. Volunteers meet at 9:00 a.m. on the 2nd Saturday to prep the meal. The Community Dinner is a great way to show God's love through the gift of food and fellowship. Sign up to help outside the Church Office or contact Tracy Kennedy.

City Mission Volunteers Needed

City Mission is looking for volunteers to help feed and house the hungry and homeless in our community. To get involved, visit findlaymission.org, scroll to "Volunteer," and begin your journey to learn the many ways in which you can assist the City Mission, Martha's Home, and Transformation Thrift Store.

Darrel the Barrel

This month: Children's Pull-Ups (all sizes)

City Mission asks for donations for specific items each month to help feed, house, and care for the unhoused in our community. As we go deeper into partnership with them, particularly Martha's Home, filling Darrel will enable them to use their resources more efficiently for all those who seek their help. The Barrel is located in the Narthex.

MISSION (continued)

Mobile Food Pantry

Saturday, February 15, 8:30-10:30 a.m., Great Room

FPC hosts four mobile food pantry distributions throughout the year in cooperation with Chopin Hall and other community service organizations to provide food for the hungry throughout our community.

Contact: Katie Abbott

FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship "Hour"

Sundays, 9:30 a.m. and following worship in the Parlor.

Join us for coffee, water, treats, and social time to gather with friends and greet one another.

Contact: Suzi Healy

Monthly Men's Group

Sunday, February 9, 9:00 a.m., Room 211

This group is open to all men of our church and meets on the second Sunday of each month. Let's get to know each other better and share our work and faith stories. Hope to see all of you there.

Contact: Curt Hugunin at 419-957-2038

Sarah Circle

Friday, February 21, 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Room 112-113

A "circle" is a women's group that meets for prayer, study, community building, giving and fellowship. Special projects raise funds for our church and mission work. Sarah Circle meets from September through May for fellowship and Bible study. They support local charities and mission and welcome new members.

Contact: Mary Alice Patrickson

Lunch Bunch

Thursdays, 12:00 p.m., Room 113

Bring your sack lunch and join the fellowship with one another for a causal lunch time every week! On the second Thursdays, this group joins Onward and Upward.

Contact: Beth Niemeyer

Knit Wits

Fridays, 9:30 a.m., Room 113

Bring your needles, yarn, and great spirit to share time together knitting prayer shawls and other crafts.

Contact: Deb Watson

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

Sunday Morning Faith Formation

First, Third, and Fourth Sundays, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Choir Room

The first Sunday of each month is *Motion & Movement*—having sat in worship for an hour this is an opportunity to move our bodies and expend some energy with exciting games and activities. The third and fourth (and fifth) Sundays, youth and children will join *Worship Explorers!* where children and youth will learn about parts of our worship experience, creating musical ventures in our worship service, leading prayers and readings, and help tell our Biblical stories in creative ways.

Contact: Clint Miller

Second Sundays, 11:00 a.m., Great Room

Children and youth have the opportunity to assist with preparing and serving the Community Dinner.

Third Sunday Family Faith Formation

Sunday, February 16, 5:00-7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall.

We begin with dinner at 5:00 p.m. following food and reflection, we divide up and enjoy a time of Christian Formation for ALL ages. Jessica Commeret will lead adults, Leslee Kirkconnell will lead youth, and Meg Ramlow will lead children K-5th grade. Childcare will be provided for those 4 years old and younger following dinner.

Contact: Leslee Kirkconnell

MomCo Meet Up Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, February 19, 9:00-11:30 a.m. Fellowship Hall; Child Care begins at 8:45 a.m. in Room 107C.

We continue our monthly meet up of moms of all-age children. Childcare is provided with RSVP by Monday, February 17. Refreshments, fellowship, and community. Join us!

Contact: Leslee Kirkconnell

MomCo Needs Loving Arms

Wednesday, February 19, 8:45-11:45 a.m., Room 107C

We need one volunteer willing to rock babies during our MomCo Meet Up. There is a sign-up sheet outside the office. Volunteers must have a current background check.

Contact: Leslee Kirkconnell

GET CONNECTED

Scan the code to read our weekly E-News Connections.

You can also read in your email.



MUSIC MINISTRY

Chancel Choir

Wednesdays, 7:00-8:30 p.m., Choir Room

Lend your voice to the chorus! The Chancel Choir sings at the 10:00 a.m. worship services during the program year. Contact: Clint Miller

GatherRing Handbell Choir

Tuesdays, 1:30-2:30 p.m., Sanctuary

All you need to know is how to read rhythms and know your right hand from your left hand. This is a great way to work together as a team to create beautiful music for our worship services.

Contact: Clint Miller

WORSHIP

Sanctuary Flowers for 2025

A sign-up sheet to provide Sanctuary flowers is posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. Please select the Sunday(s) you would like to provide Sanctuary flowers.

Lay Readers Needed for Worship

A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board outside the church office for those who want to provide leadership in Sunday worship services.

ONLINE GIVING

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. Thank you!



First Presbyterian Church Staff

Jessica Commeret, Pastor
Clinton Miller, Director of Music
Leslee Kirkconnell, Director of Connectional Ministry
Stephanie Bryan, Church/Financial Secretary
Kelly Sherrieb, Facility Manager
Carol Smith, Nursery School Director
Casey Risner, Head Custodian
Curt Hugunin, Evening Custodian

Marna Weaver, Church Accountant

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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