

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 14, 2025



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

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 14, 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.

Godly Play: Children in preschool through elementary school-age are invited to attend Godly Play worship in Room 340 following the Blessing of the Children.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor:	Rev. Jessica Commeret
Director of Music:	Clinton Miller
Lay Reader:	Carol Dale-Joseph
Musicians:	Chancel Choir; GatherRing Handbell Choir; FPC Choral Scholars: Zo Povlsen, BK Riha, Zach Sanford
A/V Technician:	Robbie Riffle

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

Kum ba Ya (Come By Here)

arr. Charles Callahan

Choral Introit

Ask the Complicated Questions

David Bjorlin

*Ask the complicated questions, do not fear to be found out;
for our God makes strong our weakness, forging faith in fires of doubt.*

*Lift Every
Voice and Sing:
Initially a poem
for a school
assembly at
which Booker T.
Washington
spoke on
Lincoln's
birthday in
1900, this text
and tune have
gained national
recognition and
devotion, not
only within the
African
American
community, but
also among all
who seek
liberation from
oppression.*

*Call to Worship

We come to you, O God, to thank you for what is good.

We come to you, O God, to cry out for what is wrong.

We come to you, O God, to ask for help and restoration.

We come to you, O God, with aching hearts and glad souls.

Let us worship God.

*Opening Hymn 339

Lift Every Voice and Sing

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Forgiving God,

we confess that we are conformed to this world.

We conform to this world's frantic pace,

too hectic to notice all the blessings you provide.

We conform to this world's reckless waste,

exploiting what you entrust to our care.

We conform to this world's shallow values,

oblivious to the giftedness of people different from us.

We conform to this world's impatient attitudes,

preferring the latest instead of the lasting.

Forgive our conformity and transform us, O God.

(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**

GLORY TO GOD

Glory to God 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.

*Children are
invited to come
to the Chancel
steps for a brief
blessing.*

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

Blessing of the Children

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson

Genesis 9:18-28

Pew Bible page 7

¹⁸The sons of Noah who went out of the ark were Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Ham was the father of Canaan. ¹⁹These three were the sons of Noah, and from these the whole earth was peopled.

²⁰Noah, a man of the soil, was the first to plant a vineyard. ²¹He drank some of the wine and became drunk, and he lay uncovered in his tent. ²²And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father and told his two brothers outside. ²³Then Shem and Japheth took a garment, laid it on both their shoulders, and walked backward and covered the nakedness of their father; their faces were turned away, and they did not see their father's nakedness. ²⁴When Noah awoke from his wine and knew what his youngest son had done to him, ²⁵he said, "Cursed be Canaan; lowest of slaves shall he be to his brothers."

Babylon is both geographic and symbolic, the city where exiled Jews were taken and any place where people are forced to remain away from what is dear and holy to them.

²⁶ He also said,
 “Blessed by the Lord my God be Shem,
 and let Canaan be his slave.

²⁷ May God make space for Japheth,
 and let him live in the tents of Shem,
 and let Canaan be his slave.”

²⁸ After the flood Noah lived three hundred fifty years. ²⁹ All the days of Noah were nine hundred fifty years, and he died.

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

Scripture Anthem By the Waters of Babylon (Psalm 137) Trad. Jewish melody

By the waters of Babylon, we sat down and wept, and wept for Zion. We remember Zion. On the willows of Babylon, we hung up our harps, sweet harps of Babylon. Those who took us to Babylon, asked us for a song, some song of Zion. On the foreign soil, the foreign soil of Babylon, how dare we to praise the God of Zion? By the waters, the waters of Babylon, we sat down and wept, and wept for Zion. We remember, we remember, we remember Zion.

Second Lesson Philemon Pew Bible page 970

⁴ I thank my God always when I mention you in my prayers, ⁵ because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶ I pray that the partnership of your faith may become effective as you comprehend all the good that we share in Christ. ⁷ I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

⁸ For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ to command you to do the right thing, ⁹ yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. ¹⁰ I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. ¹¹ Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me. ¹² I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. ¹³ I wanted to keep him with me so that he might minister to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel, ¹⁴ but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. ¹⁵ Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for the long term, ¹⁶ no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷ So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸ If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me. ¹⁹ I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. ²⁰ Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹ Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

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

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

*Hymn 770

I'm Gonna Eat At the Welcome Table

Call for Offering

Offertory Anthem

Go Down, Moses

arr. David W. Music

When Israel was in Egypt land, let my people go! Oppressed so hard they could not stand, let my people go! Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt land. Tell old Pharoah, let my people go! "Thus saith the Lord," bold Moses said: let my people go! "If not I'll smite your first-born dead," let my people go! "No more shall they in bondage toil," let my people go! "Let them come out with Egypt's spoil," let my people go!

*Doxology

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise Christ, all

peo - ple here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er -

more; praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and 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

Amen

A - men, a - men.

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

SENDING FORTH IN MISSION

Messages for Our Life in Community

*Closing Hymn 346

For the Healing of the Nations

*Benediction

Postlude

Go down, Moses

arr. Geoffrey Nobes

ANNOUNCEMENTS

September 14, 2025

TODAY

Men's Group

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

Fellowship

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

Community Dinner Help is Needed

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

Today's Menu: Pasta Primavera, tossed salad, garlic bread, fresh fruit and cookies. The Community Dinner outreach provides a nutritious home-cooked meal on the 2nd Sunday of each month to the community. Volunteers are always welcome and needed to help provide food items, prepare the meals, and serve.

Youth Group

6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall

The Youth, grades 6-12 will gather for pizza, learning and fun. Contact Darcy Metcalfe or Lena Kennedy with questions!

THIS WEEK

September Sermon Series

Seriously, not Literally.

- **September 21:** Submissive Women or Leaders in the Early Church? Ephesians 5:21-33; I Timothy 2:8-15; I Corinthians 11:2-16.
- **September 28:** Revelation: Can we make any sense of it? (Variety of Texts).

Lay Readers Needed

If you are interested in being a liturgist/lay reader this fall, please sign up outside the Church Office.

New Website and Phone App Coming Soon

We are updating our website with a fresh new look and updated information. We will also soon have a phone app available which will allow you to watch services online, sign up for events, get reminders of events (like choir rehearsals, youth meetings, etc.), make contributions, and search for contact information of members.

Stay tuned for the roll out!

Sunday Morning Faith Formation

Sunday mornings following Worship, Fellowship Hall

- **September 21:** All things childcare: Join the FPC Childcare Task Force, our partners Advantage Early Learning Academy and the Childcare Working Group for an Update.
- **September 28:** Mission Committee Update.

Music Ministry Rehearsals Have Begun

GatherRing Handbell Choir

New Rehearsal Day & Time: Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

Chancel Choir

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

Join us as we prepare an exciting fall lineup of music.

Fall Newsletter

You should have received the Fall Newsletter in the mail and via email. Extra copies are located in the Narthex, the Entry way, and in the Parlor. Packed with lots of great information about our exciting fall activities and news, be sure to stay informed!

Updated Church Directories

Updated Directories are available in the Entryway, the Narthex and the Parlor.

Monthly Opportunities to Serve at City Mission

All are welcome at the table! Help us "share the bread" with our neighbors by joining members of the Mission Committee twice a month to serve meals at City Mission. Upcoming dates:

- September 25, 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.
- October 14, 10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Sign up outside the Church Office. Contact Lark McCormick about Tuesday lunches and Liz Wickard about Thursday evening dinners.

Building Usage

As we prepare for the childcare center to reside in the Great Wing, the session is asking the congregation to begin using the 1950s side of the building starting in October. Building and Grounds Committee has oversight. Along with Facility Manager Kelly Sherrieb, and the rest of the staff, we're getting things ready! Please contact Kelly with concerns about where your committee is being assigned to meet in October. Thanks for your flexibility as we make this transition! Contact: ksherrieb@findlayfpc.org

GET CONNECTED

Scan the code to read our weekly
E-News Connections.
You can also read in your email.

ONLINE GIVING

You can open the camera on your
smartphone and scan the QR code to 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

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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 Pentecost or Ordinary Time, which lasts from Trinity Sunday to the First Sunday of Advent. 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.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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419-423-2112

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[Facebook.com/findlayfpc](https://www.facebook.com/findlayfpc)



HYMNS FOR WORSHIP

Lift Every Voice and Sing

1 Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty.
Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies;
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
let us march on, till victory is won.

2 Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died.
Yet, with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our parents sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;
we have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

3 God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
thou who hast by thy might led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;
shadowed beneath thy hand may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.

Glory to God

1 Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

2 World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table

1 I'm gonna eat at the welcome table;
I'm gonna eat at the welcome table,
Alleluia.
I'm gonna eat at the welcome table;
I'm gonna eat at the welcome table,
Alleluia.

2 I'm gonna eat and drink with my Jesus; . . .

3 I'm gonna join with sisters, brothers; . . .

4 Here all the world will find a welcome; . . .

5 We're gonna feast on milk and honey; . . .

For the Healing of the Nations

1 For the healing of the nations,
Lord, we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing
of the things that earth affords;
to a life of love in action
help us rise and pledge our word.

2 Lead us forward into freedom;
from despair your world release,
that, redeemed from war and hatred,
all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness
fear will die and hope increase.

3 All that kills abundant living,
let it from the earth be banned:
pride of status, race, or schooling,
dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice
may we hallow life's brief span.

4 You, Creator God, have written
your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness,
bring the life of Christ to mind,
that by our response and service
earth its destiny may find.