

Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024
10:30 A.M.



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Isa. 55:1, 12

Hear, everyone who thirsts; come to the waters.

And you who have no money, come, buy and eat!

For you shall go out in joy and be led back in peace;

**The mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.**

The Lord is risen! Alleluia!

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

*HYMN 14

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Diane Bowers

May God be with you in worship here.

May God be with you in worship there.

Children may depart the sanctuary with their teacher for Worship & Wonder. They will return to the sanctuary before communion.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Rev. 22:17

The Lord says: Come. Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak, and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.

A brief silence is kept for personal prayer.

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER

Remember your baptism and be thankful!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Acts 22:21

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with all the saints. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God.**

*GLORIA PATRI (Hymn 581)

GREATOREX

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen. Amen.**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Since we have been reconciled to God, let us also be reconciled to one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

*SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 435)

IN BABILONE

**There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea.
There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven.
There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given.**

**For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind.
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's Word,
and our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.**

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Living God, with joy we celebrate the presence of your risen Word. Enliven our hearts by your Holy Spirit so that we may proclaim the good news of eternal and abundant life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 55:1-13 (OT p.685) The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Romans 8:1-4 (NT p.157) The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rev. Matthew Covington

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *1 Cor. 15:1-6; Mark 16:1-9; Matt. 16:16; Rev. 22:13; John 20:28*

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God. Amen.

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Eric Nelson

Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. (Robert Robinson)

*THE DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

...who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Sung by all:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest! *The prayer continues.*

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All who seek God are invited to the table, regardless of church affiliation or any other condition or identity. Usbers will guide you forward to partake by taking a piece of bread and dipping it in the cup. Prepackaged gluten-free elements are available in the baskets near the communion stations. Servers will come to those who prefer to remain in their seats.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Here at this table we celebrate resurrection as you feed us with bread and wine. And as much as we might prefer to stay here in this protected place, you send us back to our work—only it is no longer the same work because we know you are with us and in us, shaping and transforming us to be your witnesses in the world. Nourished in body, mind, and spirit, may all that we say and do give you glory. Amen.

THE SENDING

*HYMN 401

Here In This Place

GATHER US IN

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

**Rise in body or spirit*

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher: *Rev. Matthew Covington*

Liturgist: *Debbie McCoy*

Communion Servers: *Mary Lou Taylor & Debbie Hutchinson*

Worship & Wonder: *Marsba Nash*

We welcome **Rev. Matthew Covington** back to our pulpit today. Matthew recently retired after 21 years of serving as pastor of The Presbyterian Church of Bowling Green, Kentucky.

The Life of the Church

A Used Book Fair will be held this Saturday, May 4, 9 A.M.-4 P.M. All funds raised will benefit our partners at the Boulware Mission. Thank you to everyone who has brought in book donations! Please help spread the word this week so we can have a good turnout and raise a lot of money for Boulware.

Mission Committee will meet today following worship in the Gardenside Parlor.

Youth Group meets tonight in Fellowship Hall from 5:00-7:00 P.M.

FPC101: We Are The Church Together is a class for people who are interested in learning more about what our church is all about. This might mean people who have visited a few times or people who have been members for many years! This class, led by Jeff Moles, will meet on Sunday evenings at 4:00 P.M, April 14-May 5. Remaining topics are:

- April 28: Discernment & Order (held in the Gardenside Parlor)
- May 5: Fellowship & Mission (held in Fellowship Hall)

Graduates from high school and college will be recognized at our church picnic on Sunday, May 19. We want to make sure nobody gets left out, so please contact the church office if you know of a graduate in our church family who should be recognized.



Financial Update Our ministry is funded by the giving of members and friends. Thank you for your generosity.

Year (through Mar 31)

Income: \$131,475.91

Expense: \$139,205.24

Balance: -\$ 7,729.33

Month of April (to date)

Income: \$23,787.85

Expense: \$28,482.38

Balance: -\$4,694.53

Week Ending Apr. 27

Income: \$4,857.00

Expense: \$2,006.22

Balance: \$2,850.78



First Presbyterian Church is an inclusive community of faith called to proclaim the good news of the love of Jesus Christ for all people, and to join God in the building of a just, peaceful, and compassionate world.

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FPCOwensboro



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FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

SESSION

Debbie McCoy, Clerk
Pat Corkran
Tom Furlong
Creda Heffelfinger
Debbie Hutchinson
Don Preuss
Jerry Price
Patti Price
CeCe Robinson
Brad Smith
Mary Lou Taylor

DEACONS

Susan Furlong
Judy Hughes
Janice Odom
Beverly Swanson
Karen Taylor
Patti Burns Taylor

STAFF

Jeff Moles
Director of Christian Education
& Mission; Organist
Stephanie Dube
Director of Children's &
Youth Ministries
Dennis Jewett
Director of Music
Sasha O'Bryan
Office Manager &
Pastoral Assistant
Dylan Schroader
Custodian
Mary Alice Carrico
Staff Accountant