

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 18, 2024
10:30 A.M.

FIRST 
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



The logo for this year's Owensboro Multicultural Festival, designed by Dime Pierson

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 111:9-10

The Lord sends redemption to the people.

God has commanded divine promises forever.

Holy and awesome is God's name!

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who practice it have a good understanding.

Praise for God who endures forever.

Let us worship God.

*OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be a sacrifice for our sin, and an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*HYMN 652

A Grateful Heart

ROCKINGHAM

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 for Kids' Kirk. They will return before communion.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

The proof of God's amazing love is this: that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us; Christ rose for us; Christ reigns in power for us; Christ prays for us. With such assurance, we need not fear confession, but simply draw near to our maker in trust and candor.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, you raised Jesus from death to life and sent his Spirit to be with us. And yet, we have not trusted the Spirit to enliven our hearts, to set us in the ways of justice, or to free us from fear. We have turned away from Christ and his presence. Forgive us! Turn our hearts back to you. Restore us as your faithful and loving people. Guide us to walk in the footsteps of the One who came to transform the world. Amen.

A brief silence is kept for personal prayer.

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Water being poured reminds us of what God can do. God washes, refreshes, excites, and splashes with grace. By this water, remember your baptism and be thankful!

*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

Sisters and brothers, God forgives us and strengthens us for love.
Let us love one another! And let us be at peace.

*SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 440)

ABERYSTWYTH

**Plenteous grace with thee is found, grace to cover all my sin.
Let the healing streams abound; make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art; freely let me take of thee.
Spring thou up within my heart. Rise to all eternity.**

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O Lord, our God, give your servants understanding to discern what is right, to choose between good and evil. By your Word, show us how to walk in your ways, keeping your commandments and serving your people. We will listen for that Word now, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

1 Kings 3:3-14 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

John 6:51-58 The Gospel of the Lord. **May Jesus Christ be praised.**

SERMON

Rev. Matthew Covington

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

A Declaration of Faith

Jesus was God in the flesh. We recognize the work of God in Jesus' power and authority. He did what only God can do. We also recognize the work of God in Jesus' lowliness. When he lived as a servant and went humbly to his death the greatness that belongs only to God was manifest. In both his majesty and lowliness Jesus is the eternal Son of God, God himself with us. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Because of all that God does in Jesus Christ, our full generosity is the right response. Let us come before God with our tithes and our offerings.

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

*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.**

SEALING THE WORD WITH THE SACRAMENT

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. Ushers will guide you forward to partake by taking a piece of bread and dipping it in the cup. Servers will come to those who prefer to remain in their seats.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious and loving God, you have fed us with the bread of wisdom and the wine of renewal. Because Jesus is the living bread come down from heaven, we will look for blessing in this life and joy in the life to come. The promises you have made now will form our greatest feast. Amen.

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE CREATED ORDER

*HYMN 743

O God, You Are My God

STEP BY STEP

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

**Rise in body or spirit*

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher: *Rev. Dr. Matthew Covington*

Liturgist: *Pat Corkran*

Communion Servers: *Patti Price & Don Preuss*

Kids' Kirk: *Kim Lashbrook*



You are invited to make a gift to support our church's ministry of sharing God's love:

- As the offering plate is passed
- By scanning the QR code to the right
- Online at fpcobky.com/give
- Or by contacting the church office to set up automatic withdrawal



The Life of the Church

Thank you to everyone who played a role in yesterday's Multicultural Festival! Mark your calendars for the 27th Annual Owensboro Multicultural Festival on August 16, 2025.

Welcome, Patrick Ritsch, our new music director! Patrick is no stranger to us, as he previously served as our organist from 2013 until 2022, when he went to Eastern Carolina University where he recently graduated with a Master of Music in choral conducting. While there, he served as organist and choirmaster at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Goldsboro, NC. Patrick has many years of experience as a teacher and church musician. This fall, he is joining the music faculty of Kentucky Wesleyan College.

Choir Rehearsal resumed this morning and is held at 9:00 A.M. each Sunday morning. Come lend your voice as we begin this new season of music making at FPC!

Wednesday Book Group resumes this week, studying the book *Elusive Grace: Loving Your Enemies by Working for Social Justice* by Scott Black Johnson. This group, led by Mary Lou Taylor, meets each Wednesday at 10:00 A.M. in the Gardenside Parlor.

The FPC Golf Scramble will be held Sunday, September 29 beginning at 12:10 P.M. with dinner to follow at Old Hickory. More details to come.

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

Year (through July)

Income: \$290,357.33*

Expense: \$329,172.32

Balance: -\$38,814.99

Month of July (final)

Income: \$57,553.09

Expense: \$35,642.58

Balance: \$21,910.51

Week Ending August 10

Income: \$ 9,895.00

Expense: \$13,785.39

Balance: -\$ 3,890.39

*This includes \$20,000.00 from Permanent Funds

Want to help? If you are writing or renewing your will, please remember the church.



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.

1328 Griffith Avenue | Owensboro, Kentucky | 270.684.1467



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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
Linda Kabalen
Janice Odom
Beverly Swanson
Karen Taylor
Patti Burns Taylor

STAFF

Rev. Dr. Matthew Covington
Interim Pastor

Jeff Moles
Director of Christian Education
& Mission; Organist

Stephanie Dube
Director of Children's &
Youth Ministries

Patrick Ritsch
Music Director

Sasha O'Bryan
Office Manager &
Pastoral Assistant

Angie Hall
Custodian

Debbie Hutchinson
Bookkeeper