

Twenty-First
Sunday in
Ordinary
Time

August 25, 2024
10:30 A.M.

Put on the whole
ARMOR
of God

THE BELT OF TRUTH
THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS
THE SHOES OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE
THE SHIELD OF FAITH
THE HELMET OF SALVATION
THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT

Ephesians 6

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

Psalm 111:9-10

God is strong and wants us to be strong.

God gives us righteousness, peace, prayer, and the Word of God.

This is our armor, our helmet and our shield.

Let us take up our defense and stand firm against every darkness.

Let's use everything we've been given.

God is strong and wants us to be strong. Let us worship God!

*OPENING PRAYER

O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show your saving power, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*HYMN 2

Come Thou, Almighty King

ITALIAN HYMN

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Stephanie Dube

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

We struggle not only against the evils we know but also against hidden powers, distractions, and fears. Longing for help and protection, let us turn to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, the risen Christ testifies to your defeat of death and evil. Raise our spirits and lift our hearts now. Let us put away every sin and weakness. Strengthen us to follow our Lord who rescues and redeems us. Amen.

A brief silence is kept for personal prayer.

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The mercies of Almighty God flow like welcome streams of 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 614)

GREAT IS THE LORD

**Great are you, Lord: you are holy and just;
by your power we trust in your love.
Great are you Lord: and worthy of glory!
Great are you, Lord and worthy of praise.
Great are you, Lord. We lift up our voice; we lift up our voice:
Great are you, Lord! Great are you, Lord!**

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O Lord, by your Word prepare our feet to walk in the gospel. In your strength, we will stand firm. We will put on truth and righteousness. We will see through to the salvation you offer, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Psalms 84

Here ends the Psalm. **Thanks be to God.**

Ephesians 6:10-20

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

SERMON

Rev. Matthew Covington

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Philippians 2:5-11

**Jesus the Lord, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!
Therefore, God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Let us be generous with what we have been given. Let us come before God with our tithes and our offerings.

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING *Now Let Us All Praise God and Sing*

Gordon Young

*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. Gluten free elements are available on the small plate near the baptismal font. Servers will come to those who prefer to remain in their seats.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious and loving God, you set food and drink before us and ask us to live for you. This gift is our strength. With this strength, we will flourish now, and some day join with you and all your saints in the great eternal feast. Amen.

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE CREATED ORDER

*HYMN 394

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

**Rise in body or spirit*

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher: *Rev. Dr. Matthew Covington*

Liturgist: *Patti Price*

Communion Servers: *Mary Lou Taylor & Jerry Price*

Kids' Kirk: *Linda Morris*



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

Mission Committee meets following worship today in the Gardenside Parlor.

Youth Group meets this evening at 5:00 P.M. in Fellowship Hall.

Kid's Kirk Volunteer Needed – Kid's Kirk, formerly known as Worship and Wonder, is part of our Sunday worship that is tailored to elementary aged children who depart the Sanctuary following the time with young disciples and return for communion. They participate in liturgy, read a story from the Bible, and reflect together through a brief activity. A volunteer is needed to lead Kids' Kirk on the second Sunday of the month. The lesson plan and supplies are provided. Please speak to Stephanie or Jeff if you are interested in helping.

Wednesday Book Group resumed this past 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.

Tacos and Trivia Night will be held Sunday, September 22 at 5:00 PM.

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.

Gluten-Free Communion Elements are available on the plate next to the baptismal font.

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

Year (through July)	Month of Aug (to date)	Week Ending August 17	Week Ending August 24
Income: \$290,357.33*	Income: \$26,908.82	Income: \$13,281.98	Income: \$ 3,956.84
<u>Expense: \$329,172.32</u>	<u>Expense: \$21,496.90</u>	<u>Expense: \$ 0.00</u>	<u>Expense: \$ 7,411.51</u>
Balance: -\$38,814.99	Balance: \$ 5,411.92	Balance: \$13,281.98	Balance: -\$ 3,754.67

*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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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