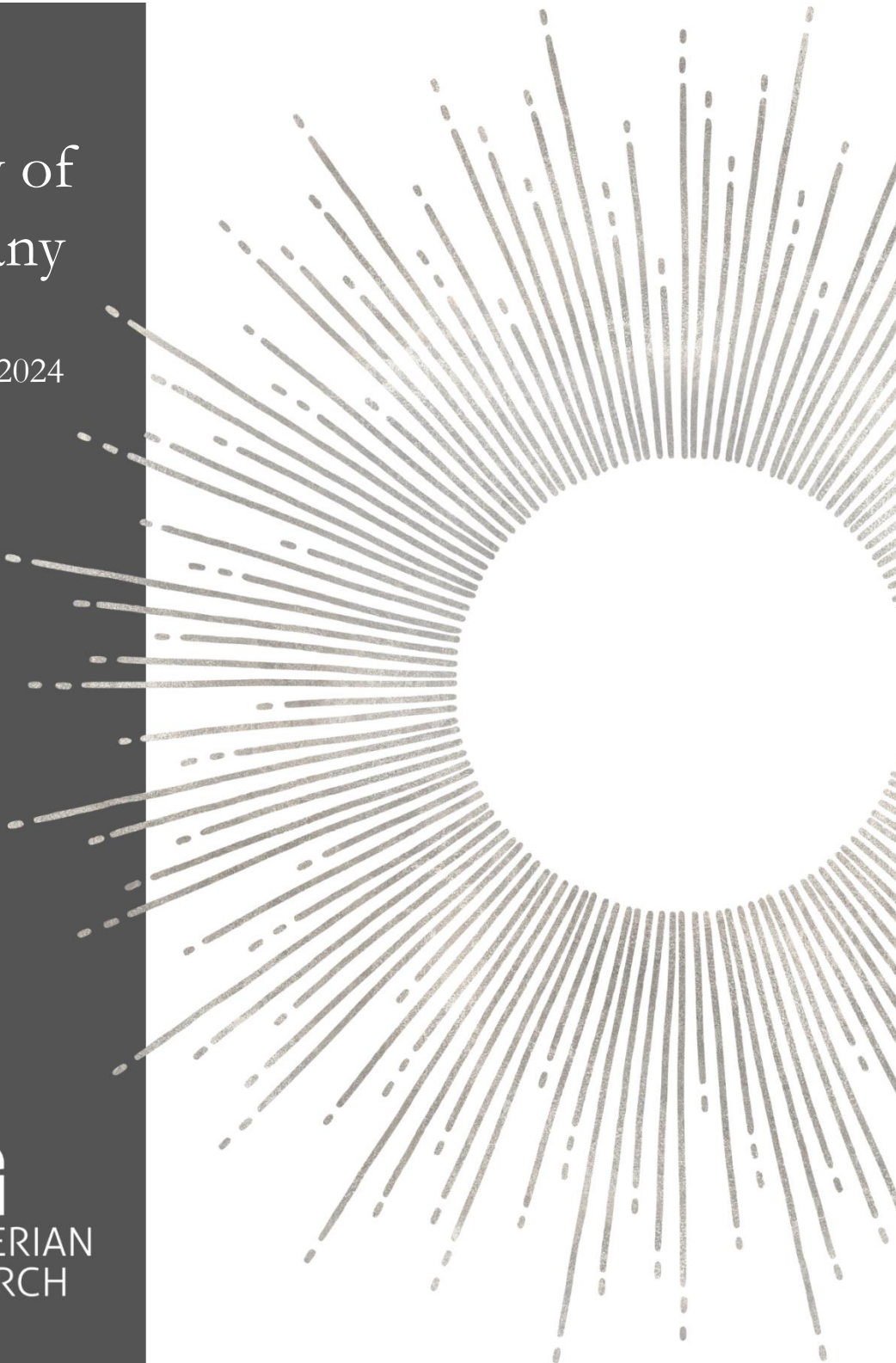


Fifth Sunday of Epiphany

February 4, 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. 40:21, 31

Have we not known? Have we not heard?

Has it not been told to us since the beginning?

Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength;

They shall mount up with wings like eagles;

They shall run and not be weary;

They shall walk and not faint.

*OPENING PRAYER

Faithful God, you have appointed us as your witnesses, to be light that shines in the world. Let us not hide the bright hope you have given us, but tell everyone your love, revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*HYMN 619

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven

LAUDA ANIMA

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Rev. Matt Curry

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

Is. 40:27-28

Nothing can be hidden from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth, whose wisdom is endless, whose mercy is great. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, you bring healing to our lives and comfort to our hearts. Forgive us, O Lord, when we contribute to the things that break your heart. You would have us share our gifts with the world, but we keep our resources close and our minds closed. You would have us live in faithful community, but we isolate ourselves and eye our neighbors with mistrust. You would have us see all people as our siblings, but we try to separate ourselves from anyone whose existence challenges our comfort. Forgive us, O God, by your grace, and free us to be agents of your healing.

A brief silence is kept for personal prayer.

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER

Remember your baptism and be thankful!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Isa. 40:31

Those who trust in the Lord will renew their strength. They will rise up to fly like eagles, they will run and not be weary, they will walk and not grow faint. 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.**

**You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in his shadow for life,
Say to the Lord, "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"**

Refrain:

**And he will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.**

**You need not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day;
Though thousands fall around you, near you it shall not come. *Refrain***

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Isa. 40:21

Holy God, speak to us what has been told from the beginning, your Word that is the foundation of the world. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 9:16-23 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Isaiah 40:21-31 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

"Have You Not Heard?"

Rev. Matt Curry

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from A Declaration of Faith

We declare that Jesus is Lord. His resurrection is a decisive victory over the powers that deform and destroy human life. His lordship is hidden. The world appears to be dominated by people and systems that do not acknowledge his rule. But his lordship is real. It demands our loyalty and sets us free from the fear of all lesser lords who threaten us. We maintain that ultimate sovereignty now belongs to Jesus Christ in every sphere of life. Jesus is Lord. He has been Lord from the beginning. He will be Lord at the end. Even now he is Lord.

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

There is a Balm in Gilead
Shelby Ratliff, Soloist

arr. William L. Dawson

There is a balm in Gilead, to make the wounded whole,
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.
("Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there?" -Jeremiah 8:22)

*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 *adapted from St. Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh, Northern Ireland*

Holy God, we give thanks for the faith, hope, and love of this family of faith. Renew our church so that we may be a place of grace for all, a place of growth for the young, a place of refreshment for the old, a place of renewal for families, a place of healing for the broken, a place of joy for the sorrowful, a place of forgiveness for the sinner, a place of strength for the virtuous and a place of welcome for those who have been away. We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son, in union with the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

THE SENDING

*HYMN 796

We Come to You for Healing, Lord

LAND OF REST

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

**Rise in body or spirit*

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher: *Rev. Matt Curry*

Liturgist: *Brad Smith*

Communion Servers: *Anna & CeCe Robinson*

Worship and Wonder: *Marsha Nash*

The Life of the Church

SpiritLifters will enjoy dinner together at Real Hacienda (Frederica Street) on Wednesday, February 7 at 5:30pm. Please contact Jerry Price if you plan to attend. All are welcome!

The Presbytery of Western Kentucky will be meeting at our church on Saturday, February 10. Many volunteers will be needed to help provide hospitality. There are sign up sheets in the main hallway with opportunities to serve.

An Extended Table Lunch will be served after worship on Sunday, February 11. We will enjoy a catered lunch from Moonlite Bar-B-Q. Please RSVP to the church office so we can be sure to have enough food. There will be a suggested donation of \$5 (\$25 max per family).

Ash Wednesday Worship will be held at 6:00 P.M. on February 14. This service which begins the Lenten season will include imposition of ashes and communion.

A Wednesday Night Lenten Series is planned for February 21-March 20.

5:00 P.M. | Dinner provided by groups in the congregation

5:40 P.M. | Worship in Fellowship Hall

6:00 P.M. | Classes for All Ages

The Adult Class will be exploring Barbara Brown Taylor's book *Learning to Walk in the Dark*. This book is available in the church and public libraries as well as online book retailers. Contact the church office if you would like help ordering it.

A Health Fair will be held on Saturday, February 24 from 1:00-3:00 P.M. at FPC. We plan to have healthy cooking and exercise demonstrations, a blood drive, representatives from community organizations, and lots of resources related to building an everyday lifestyle that improves health. Help us spread the word about this opportunity for the whole community!

Hearing Assistance Devices are available. Please see an usher if you would like to use one.

Financial Update

Our church is only able to do its ministry because of the generous giving of its members and friends. Thank you for your gifts.

Month of January 2024

Income: \$57,974.27

Expense: \$46,202.16

Balance: \$11,772.11



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.

FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

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FPCOwensboro



fpcobky

CHURCH STAFF

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Pastor

Jeff Moles
Director of Christian
Education & Mission

Stephanie Dube
Director of Children's &
Youth Ministries

Dennis Jewett
Director of Music

Sasha O'Bryan
Office Manager &
Pastoral Assistant

Dylan Schroader
Custodian