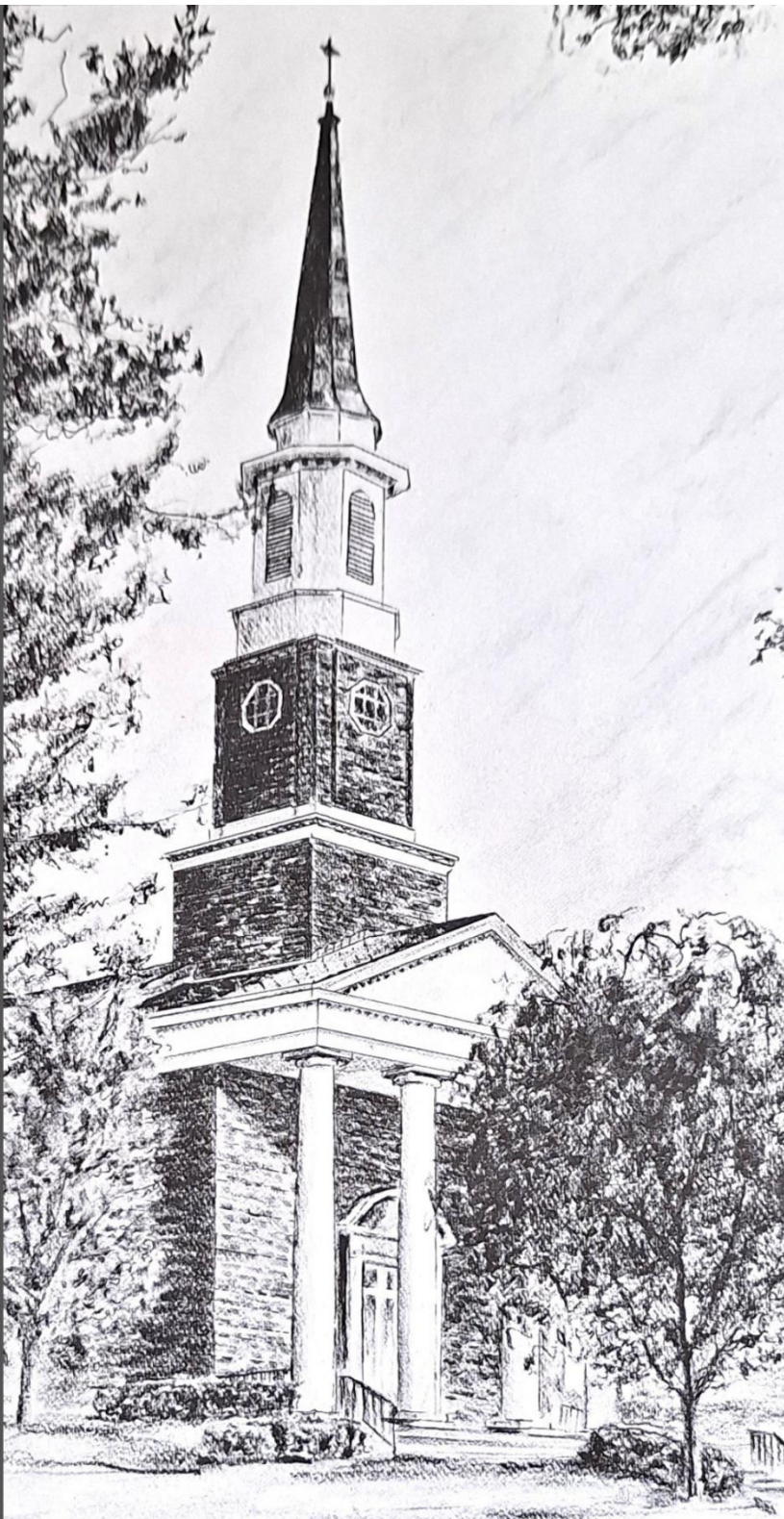


# Baptism of the Lord

January 12, 2025  
10:30 A.M.

FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH



# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

---

## THE GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

*Adagio in D-flat*

Franz Liszt

INTROIT

*O Come, Ye Faithful Servants of the Lord*

Christopher Tye

GREETING

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

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Based on Isaiah 43:1-3

We begin a new year remembering God's Word:

Don't be afraid, I've redeemed you. I've called your name. You're mine.

Remembering:

**The Lord has been there from our beginning. God got us started. God's blessing continues.**

Remembering:

**When we have been in over our heads, God has been there. Even in rough waters, we will not go down.**

Remembering:

**We are baptized!**

OPENING PRAYER

Loving God, who called Jesus your beloved son and touched him with your Holy Spirit at his baptism: Grant that all who are baptized into his name may keep the covenant-promise they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

\*HYMN 475

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

NETTLETON

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Based on Isaiah 43:4-7

The Lord says to the north, "Let them go," and to the south, "Do not hold them back; bring my beloved children home from far away." "Do not hold them any longer; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth--

everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made." Let us turn to God who frees us from evil, confessing our sins in the name of Christ.

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, you promise forgiveness and new life, but we confess that we remain preoccupied with old ways. We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges, and show reluctance to welcome one another; we allow the past to hold us hostage. In your loving kindness, have mercy on us, and free us from sin. Remind us of the promises you make in baptism so that we may rise to new life and live together in grace. Amen.**

*A brief silence is kept for personal prayer.*

#### CHORAL RESPONSE

*Kyrie (from Service in E)*

Leo Sowerby

#### POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

O Christ, by your Epiphany your light shines on us, giving us salvation. Help us to show your light.

**Lord have mercy.**

O Christ of glory, you humbled yourself, showing us the way of humility. Strengthen us to serve you in humility.

**Lord have mercy.**

O Christ, by your baptism you cleansed us from all sin, making us children of your Father. Give us the grace to be as a child of God to all who seek you. You sanctified creation and opened the door of repentance. You revealed the glorious Trinity when the voice from heaven proclaimed, "This is my beloved Son," and the Holy Spirit descended like a dove.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, we turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world. Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior.

**We will be His faithful disciples. We will obey His Word, and show His love. Amen.**

#### \*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

The peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

\*SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 490)     *Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters*     BEACH SPRING

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.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THE WORD**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, as we come to the reading and hearing of your Word, help us to claim your glory and worship you in holiness. Your voice is over the waters; your Word thunders. Let your voice be powerful for us, full of majesty and truth. In Jesus' name. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 43:1-7     The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

\*Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 and Acts 8:14-17  
The Gospel of the Lord. **May Jesus Christ be praised.**

SERMON     Rev. Matthew Covington

\*HYMN 177     *I Will Come to You*     YOU ARE MINE

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH     From A Declaration of Faith

**The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets**

and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

#### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, and offering and a sacrifice before God. Let us come before God with our tithes and our offerings

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

*Come to the Water*

arr. J. Schrader

\*THE DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

### 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: (Hymn 552)*

**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.*

***As you come forward, please take an Epiphany Star.***

COMMUNION MEDITATION

*At the River*  
Shelby Ratliff, soprano

Aaron Copland

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**We are fed at the Lord's Table; we are full of the Lord's bounty. We have received a star to celebrate God's lighting our way. We have heard good news, and now we will share what we have. Thank you for blessing us, O Lord! Amen.**

**BEARING THE WORD INTO THE CREATED ORDER**

\*HYMN 485

*We Know That Christ Is Raised*

ENGELBERG

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

*Carillon du Longpont*

Louis Vierne

---

*\*Rise in body or spirit*

**LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY**

Preacher: *Rev. Dr. Matthew Covington*

Liturgist: *Debbie McCoy*

Communion Servers: *Tom Furlong & Patti Price*

Kids' Kirk: *Marna Loucks*

**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](http://fpcobky.com/give)
- Or by contacting the church office to set up automatic withdrawa



## The Life of the Church

**Year End Giving:** The end of the year is quickly approaching. All 2024 donations need to be sent to the office no later than Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>.

If you are currently using **ACH (direct debit)** for your offering and would like to make any changes for 2025, please contact the office immediately to let us know what changes need to be made. The current setup for your ACH will continue in 2025 unless we hear from you.

**Annual Reports** from each church committee are due to the church office no later than **Monday, January 13, 2024.**

**2025 Giving Envelopes** are located on the table in the hallway outside of the library. The boxes are no longer numbered. Please reach out to Debbie Hutchinson if you have any questions.

**2025 Pledge Update:** 64 pledges received for a total of \$308,660. Please be sure to turn in your pledge card so we can make our goal of \$450,000.

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

<b>Year End (Preliminary)</b>	<b>Month of Dec. (Prelim.)</b>	<b>Week Ending Jan. 11</b>
Income: \$512,328.30*	Income: \$ 69,049.12	Income: \$ 0.00
<u>Expense: \$533,638.41</u>	<u>Expense: \$ 39,807.65</u>	<u>Expense: \$ 9,663.40</u>
Balance:(-\$ 21,310.11)	Balance: \$ 29,241.47	Balance:(-\$ 9,663.40)

\*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



[fpcobky.com](http://fpcobky.com)



FPCOwensboro



[fpcobky](https://www.instagram.com/fpcobky)

FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

#### SESSION

Debbie McCoy, Clerk  
Allison Bates  
Pat Corkran  
Marilyn Ericksen  
Tom Furlong  
Debbie Hutchinson  
Don Preuss  
Jerry Price  
Patti Price  
CeCe Robinson  
Mary Lou Taylor

#### DEACONS

Marilyn Baker  
Rayma Bramschreiber  
Susan Furlong  
Judy Hughes  
Linda Kabalen  
Karen Taylor  
Patti Burns Taylor

#### STAFF

Rev. Dr. Matthew Covington  
Interim Pastor

Stephanie Dube  
Director of Children's &  
Youth Ministries

Patrick Ritsch  
Music Director & Organist

Sasha O'Bryan  
Office Manager &  
Pastoral Assistant

Angie Hall  
Custodian

Debbie Hutchinson  
Bookkeeper