



The Ascension, Bagong Kussudiardja

FIRST 
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Sixth Sunday
of Easter
Sunday, May 14, 2023
10:30 A.M.

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Our God gathers us here.

We have been tested, we have suffered, but God has brought us through.

Come, let us tell of what God has done for us!

We cried aloud to God, and God listened and answered.

Therefore, we will praise God with shouts of joy!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

*OPENING PRAYER

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you, that, loving you above all else, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen.

*HYMN 14

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

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

God does not reject our prayers. God does not withdraw love from us. Even when we fail to love others and struggle to love ourselves, God's love is steadfast. Let us lift our prayers to God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy One,

We love you imperfectly:

we do not always keep your commandments.

We love each other imperfectly:

we hurt those you call us to love through our actions and our inaction.

We love ourselves imperfectly:

we struggle to believe that we are truly your children, made in your image.

Forgive us. By the power of your Spirit, make us more faithful

that we might live as Christ has shown us, reflecting your love and grace.

Silence is kept.

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER

Remember your baptism and be thankful!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Because Christ lives, we also live. Not because of anything we have done, not because of our belief or faithfulness: we live because Christ lives.

This is the Christ who forgives us. This is the God who is in us.

This is the Spirit who is with us. Alleluia! Praise 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 288)

LIVING GOD

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Come, Holy Spirit, our helper and advocate: Open our hearts and minds this day, entice us with your presence. Spark us with a word of life—a message that we may share with others as we seek to live Christ’s love in the world. All this we ask in the name of God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Acts 17:22-31 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

John 14:15-31 The Gospel of the Lord. **May Jesus Christ be praised.**

SERMON

Jeff Moles

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from Paul’s Testimony in Athens; Acts 17:24-28

The God who made the world and everything in it, the one who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor does our God need the service of human hands, since God’s own self gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor The Holy One made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, allotting the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God, reaching out and finding the holy— though indeed God is not far from each one of us. For in God we live and move and have our being; for we too are the offspring of the divine.

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Online giving is available at fpcobky.com

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

Peace I Leave With You

Philip Young

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.
Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. (John 14:27)

*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 small 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

God Most High, we have lifted our hearts to you in this joyful meal with our risen Lord. Continue to sustain us with your power and draw us into your presence so that we may feast with you in glory at the wedding of heaven and earth; through Christ, who lives and reigns forever. Amen.

THE SENDING

*HYMN 536

Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen *Alternate Tune: LAUDA ANIMA*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

**Rise in body or spirit*

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher: *Jeff Moles*

Liturgist and Leading Communion: *Patrick Wallace*

Communion Servers: *Jerry & Glenda Price*

The Life of the Church

A Potluck Picnic and Kite Flying event will be held at Panther Creek Park next Sunday, May 21 at 1:00pm. Bring a dish to share and meet us at the Kuegel North shelter for an afternoon of fellowship. Conditions permitting, we will fly the kites we made in April as we anticipate Pentecost, our celebration of the Holy Spirit coming in the rush of wind.

FPC Pride T-Shirts are being sold as we look forward to participating in next month's Owensboro Pride Picnic in support of the LGBTQ+ community. The shirts feature the simple message "God is Love" in rainbow colors with our church logo. Shirts are \$17 and may be ordered by emailing office@fpcobky.com or using the form posted in our Facebook community group.

VBS is coming up June 20, 21, and 22 from 9:00am-12:00pm. Volunteers are needed to help make this a good experience for our 4 year olds-5th graders. Contact Stephanie Dube or Jeff Moles if you are interesting in helping out.

Tuesday Night Bible Study resumes this week at 6pm in the library. This group is geared toward those who are newer to studying the Bible and want to know more about how a book that can seem a little intimidating fits into our lives today. Jeff Moles leads the group, which is using podcasts, videos, and other freely available resources as tools for our exploration. Most of the group is on the young-ish (emphasis on the *ish!*) side of the congregation, but anyone is welcome!

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





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

Rev. Matt Curry, Pastor
Jeff Moles, Director of Christian Education & Mission
Stephanie Dube, Director of Children's & Youth Ministries
Dennis Jewett, Director of Music
Tyler Simpson, Organist
Sasha O'Bryan, Office Manager & Pastoral Assistant
Gabriel Lovelace, Staff Accountant
Dylan Schroader, Custodian
Emmy Voyles, Nursery Care Provider