

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 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

Ps. 98:1-8

Sing to our God a new song.

God has done marvelous things!

Make a joyful noise to the Lord!

Break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

Let the sea roar and all that fills it.

Let the world and its people sing together for joy!

The Lord is risen! Alleluia!

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

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 lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

*HYMN 366

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

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 with their teacher for Worship & Wonder. They will return to the sanctuary before communion.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

John 15:12

We have been called to follow Christ by obeying his commandment: that we love one another as he has loved us. Let us confess how we have fallen short of that love.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways in the glory of your holy name. Amen.

A brief silence is kept for personal prayer.

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER

Remember your baptism and be thankful!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Acts 22:21

Christ loves us so much that he laid down his life for us and calls us his friends. If we can forgive our friends, how much more does Christ forgive us! **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.**

*SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 306)

DENNIS

**Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**

**Before our Maker's throne we pour our ardent prayers.
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.**

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Living God, with joy we celebrate the presence of your risen Word. Enliven our hearts by your Holy Spirit so that we may proclaim the good news of eternal and abundant life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

1 John 5:1-6 (NT p.241) The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 98 (OT p.551) A song of God's covenant people. **Amen.**

John 15:9-17 (NT p.109) The Gospel of the Lord. **May Jesus Christ be praised.**

SERMON

Rev. Matthew Covington

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Book of Order, F-1.0301

The Church is the body of Christ. Christ gives to the Church all the gifts necessary to be his body. The Church strives to demonstrate these gifts in its life as a community in the world:

- **The Church is to be a community of faith, entrusting itself to God alone, even at the risk of losing its life.**
- **The Church is to be a community of hope, rejoicing in the sure and certain knowledge that, in Christ, God is making a new creation.**
- **The Church is to be a community of love, where sin is forgiven, reconciliation is accomplished, and the dividing walls of hostility are torn down.**
- **The Church is to be a community of witness, pointing beyond itself through word and work to the good news of God's transforming grace in Christ Jesus its Lord.**

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

Love One Another

James Chepponis

Love one another, for love is of God. Love one another, for God is love. (1 John 4)

*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. Ushers 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

Thank you, O God, for giving us communion with our risen and glorious Lord. Now send us out to be a sign of the new life that has come into the world; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE SENDING

*HYMN 769

For Everyone Born

FOR EVERYONE BORN

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

**Rise in body or spirit*

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher: *Rev. Matthew Covington*

Liturgist: *Janice Odom*

Communion Servers: *Debbie McCoy & Brad Smith*

Worship & Wonder: *Marsba Nash*

We welcome **Rev. Matthew Covington** back to our pulpit today. Matthew recently retired after 21 years of serving as pastor of The Presbyterian Church of Bowling Green, Kentucky.

The Life of the Church

A Congregational Meeting will be held today in the Sanctuary immediately following worship for the purpose of approving a severance package for Rev. Matt Curry.

A Church Picnic will be held on Pentecost Sunday, May 19 at Yellow Creek Park at 2:00 P.M. We will be celebrating our high school and college graduates as well as enjoying some kite making and flying to remember the rushing wind of Pentecost.

Graduates from high school and college will be recognized in worship and at our church picnic on Sunday, May 19. We want to make sure nobody gets left out, so please contact the church office if you know of a graduate in our church family who should be recognized.

FPC101: We Are The Church Together is a class for people who are interested in learning more about what our church is all about. This might mean people who have visited a few times or people who have been members for many years! This class, led by Jeff Moles, will meet on Sunday evenings at 4:00 P.M, April 14-May 5. Tonight's final session is on Fellowship and Mission and will meet in the Gardenside Parlor.

A Card Shower to celebrate Laura Morris's birthday on May 9 will help her know that we are thinking of her during this time when she has been caring for family. You are invited to send her a birthday card to: Laura Morris, 8948 CR 386 N, Wewahitchika, FL, 32465.

"I am coming to you."

—JOHN 14:18b



PENTECOST
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS

The Pentecost Offering will be received on Sunday, May 19. This offering supports ministry with children, youth, and young adults. 40% will stay with our congregation to help our FPC youth participate in conferences such as next year's Presbyterian Youth Triennium.

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

Year (through April)

Income: \$159,372.71

Expense: \$180,135.71

Balance: -\$20,763.00

Month of April

Income: \$27,896.80

Expense: \$40,930.47

Balance: -\$13,033.67

Week Ending May 3

Income: \$3,668.95

Expense: \$12,448.09

Balance: -\$8,779.14



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
Janice Odom
Beverly Swanson
Karen Taylor
Patti Burns Taylor

STAFF

Jeff Moles
Director of Christian Education
& Mission; Organist
Stephanie Dube
Director of Children's &
Youth Ministries
Dennis Jewett
Director of Music
Sasha O'Bryan
Office Manager &
Pastoral Assistant
Dylan Schroader
Custodian
Mary Alice Carrico
Staff Accountant