



Burning bush image from the seal of the United Presbyterian Church in the USA, 1958-1983

FIRST 
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Twenty-Second Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Sunday, September 3, 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

Ex. 3, Ps. 105

God calls us each by name as we gather on holy ground.

We come to this place, seeking to know the great I AM.

Give thanks to the Lord, call on God's name.

Make known God's deeds among the peoples.

Let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

Praise the Lord!

*OPENING PRAYER

O God, author and giver of all good things, plant in our hearts the love of your name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; 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 10

Sing Glory to the Name of God

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

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

Rom. 12:21

Jesus Christ overcame evil with good so that all people might be saved from sin. Let us then confess our need for grace, confident of God's forgiveness.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rom. 12:9-21

God of love, you ask us to love one another from the center of who we are, you tell us to bless one another, you encourage us to do good. But we have not listened to your words. Instead of loving we have practiced hatred. Instead of blessing, we have perfected cursing. Instead of doing good, we have sought to get even. Forgive us for giving up. Give us grace to try again and encouragement to make your ways our ways. We pray, we wait, and we hope.

Silence is kept for prayer and reflection.

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER

Remember your baptism and be thankful!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rom. 5:5

Hear the good news! Hope does not disappoint us, for God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us in baptism. Believe this good news and give thanks: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **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

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 749)

WE ARE CALLED

**Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom,
to live in the freedom of the city of God.**

Refrain:

**We are called to act with justice; we are called to love tenderly;
We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.**

**Come! Open your heart! Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless
so hatred and violence will be no more. (*Refrain*)**

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy Spirit, who spoke to Moses from the burning bush, speak to us now in the reading and proclaiming of your word. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Exodus 3:1-15 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Romans 12:9-21 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Burnin’ Love”

Rev. Matt Curry

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from the Confession of Belhar

We believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects, and nourishes the Church from the beginning of the world to the end. The Church is holy; the Church is universal; it is the fellowship of God’s children, called together from the whole of humanity and proclaim God’s wonderful deeds. We believe that the reconciling work of Christ gives birth to a uniting Church, because Church unity is a gift from God and a goal we need to strive for. The unity of the Church must become visible so that the people around us can see how separation and hatred are overcome in Christ.

WELCOME OF NEW MEMBERS

Linda Cole & Ted Tidwell

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

Go Down, Moses
Tevin Vincent, Baritone

arr. Smith

Tell old Pharaoh to let my people go! (African American Spiritual)

*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 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

Holy God, we give you thanks that you have made us one in the body and blood of Christ our Lord. Send us forth, in the power of your Spirit, to proclaim the peace of Christ and share your reconciling love; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE SENDING

*HYMN 307

God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

**Rise in body or spirit*

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher: *Rev. Matt Curry*

Liturgist: *Patti Price*

Communion Servers: *Creda Heffelfinger & Jerry Price*

The Life of the Church

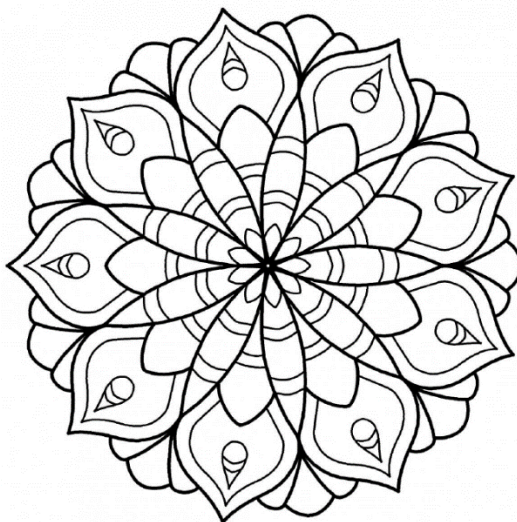
Promotion Sunday is September 10. We will mark the beginning of the school year by gifting Bibles to our first graders during worship.

Apple Cider Making is set for next Sunday afternoon at 2:00. Tina Temple has invited us to her farm for an afternoon of working together to make cider. Please bring a clean, empty jug so you can take some home. Bring a side dish so we can enjoy dinner when the work is done. Tina will be providing meat, so please RSVP to the church office so we will know how many to expect.

Tina's farm is located at 1124 State Route 657, Lewisport, KY 42351. From Owensboro, take Hwy 60 to Lewisport. At Jumpin' Jack's Truck Stop, turn right onto State Route 657. Follow the road for about a mile. The Temple's farm is the third home on the left, the driveway between white fences.

The Nominating Committee is beginning its work of discerning who it should present for election as church leaders for 2024. If you are interested in serving as an elder, deacon, or trustee, or know of someone who would be great for one of these roles, please contact Debbie Hutchinson or the church office.

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
fpcbky.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
Dylan Schroader, Custodian
Emmy Voyles, Nursery Care Provider