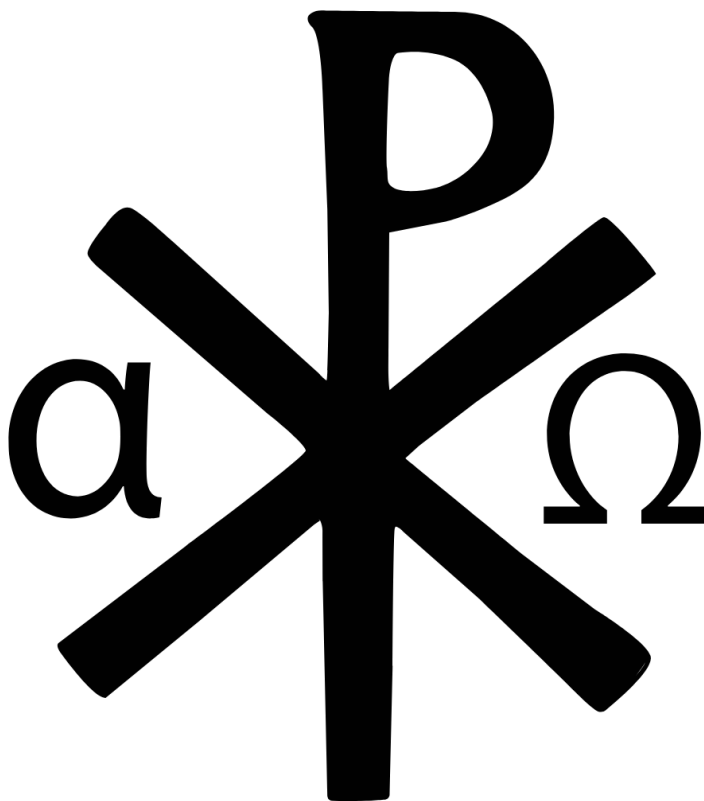


Twenty- Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 8, 2024
10:30 A.M.

FIRST 
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



The Chi-Rho is a monogram for the Greek word ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ, which means "Christ," or "anointed one." This symbol began being adopted by Christians around the 3rd century. Here, it is combined with the alpha and omega characters, the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet, symbolizing Christ being the beginning and end (Revelation 22:13).

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Our Lord has never met a stranger.

Even if we feel like strangers, God's mercies draw us in.

If we don't fit in, or do not know how to make a place,

The Lord pursues us, and the Gospel welcomes us in.

Let us worship God.

*OPENING PRAYER

Good and generous God, you bless and include. You welcome us and keep us. As your people, let us turn to welcoming others. Bless and guide us, in sharing bread, caring for the needs of others, receiving those you send, and making room for all who come. As we worship, we will feel your warmth and share your love, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*HYMN 610

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

AZMON

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

God's mercies exceed God's judgment. Jesus hears us, forgives us, and delivers us from evil.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace, we confess that we are too often graceless. We ignore the weak. We hide from the poor. We neglect our neighbors. Have mercy, O God. Renew us and rescue us, in Jesus' name.

A brief silence is kept for personal prayer.

CHORAL RESPONSE

“Kyrie” from *Communion Service in E*

Harold Darke

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison (ancient Greek): Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy.

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The bright water and the deepest pools speak of God’s restoring goodness.
Remember your baptism and be thankful!

*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

**Sisters and brothers, let God’s mercy be an example. Let us love one another,
and be at peace.**

*SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 772)

TRURO

**Live into hope of captives freed, of sight regained, the end of greed.
The oppressed shall be the first to see the year of God’s own jubilee.**

**Live into hope of captives freed, from chains of fear or want or greed.
God now proclaims our full release to faith and hope and joy and peace.**

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Diane Bowers

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.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O Lord, your Word surprises us. As we read and hear you now, enlighten our minds by your Holy Spirit, that we may see your grace and be moved to demonstrate it to others. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Psalms 146

The Psalms are Israel's songbook. **Thanks be to God.**

*HYMN 771

What Is the World Like

NEW WORLD

*Mark 7:24-30

The Gospel of the Lord. **May Jesus Christ be praised.**

SERMON

Rev. Matthew Covington

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

A Brief Statement of Faith

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

All good things come from God, who draws strangers in and meets the needs all of us share. In thanksgiving, let us come before God with our tithes and our offerings.

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

Grant Peace, We Pray

Felix Mendelssohn

Grant peace, we pray, in mercy, Lord. In our time, peace, O send us!
(Prayer for Peace, adapted by Martin Luther)

*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.**

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:

**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. Gluten free elements are available on the small plate near the baptismal font. Servers will come to those who prefer to remain in their seats.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Our generous God has blessed us and surrounded us with favor, so that we may love each other. God in Christ has fed us, so that our love can be strong. We come from the table, more ready to live in our world. Amen.

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE CREATED ORDER

*HYMN 733

We All Are One in Mission

ES FLOG EIN KLEIN
WALDVÖGELEIN

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

**Rise in body or spirit*

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher: *Rev. Dr. Matthew Covington*

Liturgist: *Jerry Price*

Communion Servers: *Creda Heffelfinger & Patti Price*

Kids' Kirk: *Susan Godthaab*

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
- Or by contacting the church office to set up automatic withdrawal



The Life of the Church

The Worship Committee meets today following worship.

Youth Group meets tonight at 5:00 P.M. in Fellowship Hall.

PrimeTimers, our fellowship group for adults who are 50 and up, will meet on Tuesday, September 17 at 10:30 A.M. This month, we will be treated to music from local Celtic/folk music ensemble Wild Mountain Thyme!

The Men's Sunday School Class is holding a cookout on Thursday, September 19 at 5:00 P.M. at Bill Helwig's home (5024 Veach Rd.). All men of the church are invited and are encouraged to bring a friend. Food and drink will be provided. In case of bad weather, the cookout will be held in Fellowship Hall.

Tacos and Trivia Night will be held Sunday, September 22 at 5:00 P.M. Plan to join us for an evening of fun together!

The FPC Golf Scramble will be held Sunday, September 29 beginning at 12:10 P.M. with dinner to follow at Old Hickory. Cost will be \$51 per person unless member with cart pass or volunteer which makes your price \$15. Please see PresbyNotes or Patti Price for more details.

Gluten-Free Communion Elements are available on the plate next to the baptismal font.

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

Year (through July)	Month of Aug (to date)	Week Ending August 24
Income: \$290,357.33*	Income: \$26,908.82	Income: \$ 3,956.84
<u>Expense: \$329, 172.32</u>	<u>Expense: \$21,496.90</u>	<u>Expense: \$ 7,411.51</u>
Balance: -\$38,814.99	Balance: \$ 5,411.92	Balance: -\$ 3,754.67

*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



FPCOwensboro



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

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
Linda Kabalen
Janice Odum
Beverly Swanson
Karen Taylor
Patti Burns Taylor

STAFF

Rev. Dr. Matthew Covington
Interim Pastor

Jeff Moles
Director of Christian Education
& Mission; Organist

Stephanie Dube
Director of Children's &
Youth Ministries

Patrick Ritsch
Music Director

Sasha O'Bryan
Office Manager &
Pastoral Assistant

Angie Hall
Custodian

Debbie Hutchinson
Bookkeeper