



**"And because of the increase  
of lawlessness, the love of  
many will grow cold."**

**Matthew 24:12, NRSV**



# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

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October 20, 2024

10:50 a.m.

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## ✠ We Gather in God's Name ✠

**Welcome**

*Rev. Bill Pollack*

**Prelude**

*Max Jackson*

### Benedictus

Dom Paul Benoit

## † Call to Worship

*Jimmy Hall*

Leader: In You, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.

**People: In Your righteousness rescue and deliver me; incline Your ear to me.**

Leader: Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress, to save me, for You are my rock and my fortress.

**People: Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of the unjust and cruel.**

Leader: For You, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O Lord, from my youth.

**People: Upon You I have leaned from my birth.**

**ALL: Our praise is continually of You. Amen.**

## † Hymn of Praise

#363

### Rejoice, the Lord is King!

Rejoice, the Lord is King: Your Lord and King adore!

Rejoice, give thanks and sing, and triumph evermore.

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!

Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Our Savior Jesus, reigns, the God of truth and love;  
When He had purged our stains, He took his seat above,

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!

Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

His kingdom cannot fail, He rules o'er earth and heav'n;  
The keys of death and hell are to our Jesus given.

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!

Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope! For Christ, the Judge shall come  
And gather all the saints to their eternal home.  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!  
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

† **Call to Confession**

† **Prayer of Confession**

**Holy God, we live such cluttered lives. Society deluges us with messages that we need and deserve and find status in more stuff. We do not realize that to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly doesn't require us to own one material thing. Forgive us. Help us turn from our destructive patterns of accumulation and seek first your kingdom and righteousness. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

† **Assurance of Pardon**

† **Response**

#581

Glory Be to the Father

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.

✠ **We Listen to God's Word** ✠

**Children's Message**

**Anthem**

*Chancel Choir*

Rejoice!

Joseph M Martin

Come and lift glad songs to the heavens; come and give your praise to the Lord. Come and sing a glad alleluia; rejoice forever more. Rejoice, again I say rejoice. Come and lift glad songs to the Father; come and give your praise to the Son. Come and sing your praise to the Spirit, forever Three in One. Rejoice, let songs go forth; fill the earth with praise. Rejoice, for he is God. Sing alleluia! Come and lift glad songs to the Lord. Rejoice, alleluia!

**Prayer for Illumination**

## The Epistle Lesson

2 Thessalonians 2:1–12 (NRSV)

As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to Him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, <sup>2</sup> not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. <sup>3</sup> Let no one deceive you in any way, for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. <sup>4</sup> He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. <sup>5</sup> Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you? <sup>6</sup> And you know what is now restraining him, so that he may be revealed when his time comes. <sup>7</sup> For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work, but only until the one who now restrains it is removed. <sup>8</sup> And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will destroy with the breath of His mouth, annihilating him by the manifestation of His coming. <sup>9</sup> The coming of the lawless one is apparent in the working of Satan, who uses all power, signs, lying wonders, <sup>10</sup> and every kind of wicked deception for those who are perishing because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. <sup>11</sup> For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion, leading them to believe what is false, <sup>12</sup> so that all who have not believed the truth but took pleasure in unrighteousness will be condemned.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**P: Thanks be to God**

## Psalm 5

#665

### As Morning Dawns

As morning dawns, Lord, hear our cry.  
O sovereign God, now hear our sigh.  
As first light brings the sun's warm rays,  
Accept our sacrifice of praise.  
  
Before You, Lord, the wicked fall,  
And none shall dwell within Your hall.  
The proud shall never gain a place,  
Nor evil live to see Your face.

Your steadfast love shall welcome all  
Who seek Your house and on Your call.  
O lead us, Lord, in righteousness,  
As through this day Your name we bless.

Let all who seek You then rejoice,  
And sing to You with joyful voice.  
For You shall bless the righteous, Lord.  
Forever be Your name adored.

† **The Gospel Lesson**

Matthew 24:3–14 (NRSV)

When He was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, “Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign of Your coming and of the end of the age?” <sup>4</sup> Jesus answered them, “Beware that no one leads you astray. <sup>5</sup> For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Messiah!’ and they will lead many astray. <sup>6</sup> And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars; see that you are not alarmed, for this must take place, but the end is not yet. <sup>7</sup> For nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places: <sup>8</sup> all this is but the beginning of the birth pangs. <sup>9</sup> “Then they will hand you over to be tortured and will put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name. <sup>10</sup> Then many will fall away, and they will betray one another and hate one another. <sup>11</sup> And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. <sup>12</sup> And because of the increase of lawlessness, the love of many will grow cold. <sup>13</sup> But the one who endures to the end will be saved. <sup>14</sup> And this good news of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the world, as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.

L: This is the Holy Gospel of Christ! **P: Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon**

*Rev. Bill Pollack*

***A Spirit of Lawlessness***

✠ **We Respond to God's Word** ✠

† **Hymn of Response**

#362

Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers

Rejoice, rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear;  
the evening is advancing, and darker night is near.  
The Bridegroom is arising and soon He will draw nigh.  
Up, watch with expectation; at midnight comes the cry.

See that your lamps are burning; replenish them with oil.  
Look now for your salvation, the end of sin and toil.  
The marriage feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand,  
Arise, O heirs of glory; the Bridegroom is at hand.

Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear;  
arise, Thou Sun so longed for, above this shadowed sphere.  
With hearts and hands uplifted we plead, O Lord, to see  
the day of earth's redemption and ever be with Thee.

† **Affirmation of Faith**

*Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come again to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Pastoral Prayer | The Lord's Prayer**

**Offering Acknowledgement**

*Special Offering: Clean Start*

† **Doxology**

#606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Him, all creatures here below;  
praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

† **Prayer of Dedication**

✠ We Are Sent in God's Name ✠

† Hymn of Sending

#693

Though I May Speak

Though I may speak with bravest fire,  
and have the gift of all inspire,  
and have not love, my words are vain,  
as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess,  
and striving so my love profess,  
but not be given by love within,  
the profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control,  
our spirits long to be made whole.  
Let inward love guide every deed;  
by this we worship, and are freed.

Postlude

Max Jackson

Jesus My Joy

Johann G Walther

† Charge & Benediction

† *Standing if you are able.*

**SERVING TODAY**

Head Usher: *Geri Willis* | Liturgist: *Jimmy Hall*

**LAST WEEK'S RECAP**

Attendance: 76

General Offering: \$12,760.62

Backpack Ministry: \$120.00

Building Rent: \$150.00

Clean Start: \$100.00

Hurricane Relief: \$1,600.00

Operation Christmas Child: \$150.00

Organ Repair Fund: \$25.00

Online Offering: \$701.13

YSC Thanksgiving Baskets: \$100.00

**Total Offering: \$15,706.75**

## IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

- **Sunday, October 20**

Sunday Morning Study, 9:28 a.m.

Armchair Theologians, 9:30 a.m.

Harmony of the Gospels, 9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship, 10:50 a.m.

- **Monday, October 21**

**Sew Blessed, 6 p.m.**

- **Tuesday, October 22**

**Session Meeting, 5:30 p.m.**

- **Wednesday, October 23**

Men's Bible Study, 7 a.m./Bob Evans

Bells Rehearsal, 5:45 p.m.

Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 6:45 p.m.

- **Thursday, October 24**

**Men's Lunch Bunch, 11:30 a.m.**

### **Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry**

During the month of October, we will collect small stuffed animals, craft kits, yo-yos, kaleidoscopes, Slinkys, and balls. You may also take a box and fill it. Please return your box(es) to the church by **November 10**. If you can provide \$10 for the shipping cost per box; we would be grateful. If you are unable to provide the money, please bring your box and we will make sure shipping is covered. Thank you for your generosity! The church will bless the boxes on Sunday, November 10.

### **Pastor & Staff Appreciation Month AND Table & Treat**

FPC Staff Appreciation Luncheon and Table & Treat is **Sunday, October 27** following morning worship. The menu is taco/salad bar with desserts and drinks. Appreciate our staff by gifting a "a bag of LOVE" with handwritten notes, small treats and gift cards. The red paper packages will be available every Sunday in October.

**\*\*\*We are collecting candy for Table & Treat\*\*\***



**WE ARE RECEIVING A SPECIAL OFFERING FOR HURRICANE RELIEF THROUGH OCTOBER. PLEASE MARK YOUR CHECK OR ENVELOPE: HURRICANE RELIEF AND MAKE IT OUT TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. THANK YOU FOR THE BLESSING!**

### **Collecting Donations for Ashland Youth Service Center**

We are again receiving donations for the Ashland Youth Services Center Thanksgiving Baskets, **October 13—November 10**. This is a wonderful outreach to many in our area who are struggling to make ends meet. Thank you for your giving spirit!



*Instant Mashed Potatoes; Gravy; Stuffing; Biscuit or Roll Mix; Cranberry Sauce; Canned Green Beans; Cream of Mushroom Soup; Crispy Onion Straws; Canned Sweet Potatoes; Brown Sugar; Marshmallows; Pecans; Canned Corn; Pumpkin Pie Filling; Canned Milk; Coffee; Tea; Hot Cocoa Mix; Clothes Baskets*

### **Stewardship Campaign for 2025**



We are excited to announce that our Stewardship Emphasis for 2025 is **November 3—24, 2024**. Our theme for this year is Hope in the Lord, based on Jeremiah 29:11: “*For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.*” Please be in prayer for your response. You will receive a letter/commitment card in the mail by **November 1**. God continues to move within our congregation. May each of us give cheerfully this coming year and watch how God blesses us all!

#### **Stewardship Speakers:**

Sunday, Nov. 3—*Pam Potter*

Sunday, Nov. 10—*Jimmy Hall*

Sunday, Nov. 17—*Andrew Wheeler*

Sunday, Nov. 24—*Blythe Weston*

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

cordially invites you to our

# Crafternoon Party

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3  
12:15—2:30 P.M.

We will have craft demonstrations and stations to make & take:

- \* Wreaths for Christmas or other holidays (*Kay Ferguson & Kelly Hanni*)
- \* Paper Christmas Crafts (*Jane Justice & Pam Potter*)
- \* Making homemade salad dressing (*Melissa Rigsby*)

Lunch: Pizza, Salad, Fruit, Cookies and Drinks  
Childcare provided

**Please RSVP by Friday, November 1**

Bettie George Frye (606.831.8579) or Cathy Wilson (606.922.6425)

First Presbyterian Church Bethesda Community Hall  
1600 Winchester Avenue, Ashland

*A love offering will be received at the door to help with the cost.*

## **All Saints Sunday**

All Saints' Sunday is **November 3**. Please join us as we pay homage to our dearly departed saints and loved ones. If you have a loved one who has passed into the kingdom **within this last year**, please notify the Church office by **Sunday, October 27** for inclusion of his or her name in the bulletin.

## PRAYER CONCERNS

### **Week ending October 17, 2024**

Don and Rebecca Ballard DiLoreto (Bettie George Frye)

Amy Crookes

Roberta DePriest (Dave & Judy Eby's friend)

John Eby (Dave Eby's brother)

Nancy (Rick) Grace (Pastor Bill & Nanette)

Shirley O'Neal (Nanette)

Skip Sanders (Greg & Geri Willis' friend)

David Sargent (Kelly Hanni)

### **Week ending October 10, 2024**

Family of Betty Kinner (Nanette)

Margaret Ruth (Kelly Hanni)

### **Week ending October 3, 2024**

Darryl Akers (Heather Whitman's father)

Dave Eby

Gail Frazier (Nanette)

Max & Lois Jackson

Continued recovery efforts from Helene

***Prayer requests will rotate off after three weeks. If you have an ongoing concern, please contact the church office.***

**Ongoing:** Pastor Bill; Gretchen Dillon; Bill Gesling; Charlie Holbrook; Kenny McGill; Derek Payne; Nancy Payne; Bonnie Pettijohn; Tim Shephard; Kim Whitman; Jan Winans; Ann Wiseman

**The Lantern:** Barry Barbour, Carolyn Graber

**Woodland Oaks:** Bob Miller

**Military:** Erik Adkins (USAF Reserves, son of Kris Adkins); Cadet Katie Brown (West Point, granddaughter of Kim & Mike Whitman); Greg Weston (Kuwait); Major Kaitlin Whitmore (US Army, niece of Don & Judy Lilly)

## STAFF

Minister: *Rev. William Pollack*  
Choirmaster/Organist: *Max Jackson*  
Administrative Assistant: *Nanette Pollack*  
Facilities Manager: *Glen Thomas*  
Nursery Attendant: *Kara Adkins*

## SESSION MEMBERS

President of Congregation: *Mitch Hall*  
Secretary of Congregation/Clerk of Session: *Kelly Hanni*  
Treasurer: *Cathy Wilson*

2025	2026	2027
<i>Kelly Hanni</i>	<i>Mitch Hall*</i>	<i>Jimmy Hall</i>
<i>Kim Whitman</i>	<i>Jan Holbrook</i>	<i>Lee McCloud *</i>
<i>Geri Willis</i>	<i>Ryan Whitman*</i>	<i>J.T. Norris *</i>
	*2nd term of service	

## MINISTRY TEAMS

Building & Grounds: <i>Glen Thomas</i>	Membership: <i>Kim Whitman</i>
Christian Education: <i>Lee McCloud</i>	Mission: <i>Geri Willis</i>
Congregational Life: <i>Cathy Wilson</i>	Personnel: <i>Janet Holbrook</i>
Finance: <i>Trish Hall</i>	Worship: <i>Ryan Whitman</i>

To visit the church website, scan the code below.



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Contact Pastor Bill: 606.547.1802 or pastor@fpcaky.org