

... they glorified God, saying,  
"A great prophet has risen among us!"



Luke 7:16, NRSV



# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

February 16, 2025

10:50 a.m.

## ✠ We Gather in God's Name ✠

**Welcome**

*Rev. Bill Pollack*

**Prelude**

*Max Jackson*

*Ryan Whitman—trombone*

This Is My Father's World/He's Got The Whole World In His Hands

Brant Adams

## † Call to Worship

*Larry Wilson*

Leader: Come, gather together and let us give God praise.

**People: Let us sing of God's love and God's amazing grace.**

Leader: May we give God praise for God's forgiveness and mercy.

**People: Let us sing of God's justice and compassion.**

Leader: May we give God praise for all the wondrous acts from God to all the earth's people.

**People: Let us sing of our praises to God and worship God with our hearts and minds fully.**

**All: O God, we seek Your will for our lives. Amen.**

## † Hymn of Praise

#366

### Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down,  
fix in us Thy humble dwelling; all Thy faithful mercies crown.

Jesus, Thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love Thou art;  
visit us with Thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast;  
let us all in Thee inherit; let us find the promised rest.

Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;  
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all Thy life receive;  
suddenly return, and never, never more Thy temples leave.

Thee we would be always blessing, serve Thee as Thy hosts above,  
pray, and praise Thee without ceasing, glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish then Thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;  
let us see Thy great salvation perfectly restored in Thee:  
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before Thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

† **Call to Confession**

† **Prayer of Confession**

**Merciful Savior, it pains us to recognize ourselves as Pharisees, to see and acknowledge that we are better at talking about our faith than actually living it; that we are more concerned with our appearance before others than the purity of our hearts before You; that too often we are motivated by our need for appreciation, admiration and approval rather than by compassion and unconditional love. Forgive us, we pray. Free us from all that holds us captive to selfishness, fear, pride and greed, for these diminish the image of You that is in each of us. Instead, empower us to fully embody the joy of living as Your children; we ask for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Friend. Amen.**

† **Assurance of Pardon**

† **Response**

#150 (4)

As With Gladness Men of Old

Holy Jesus, every day keep us in the narrow way;  
and when earthly things are past,  
bring our ransomed souls at last  
where they need no star to guide,  
where no clouds Thy glory hide.

✠ **We Listen to God's Word** ✠

**Children's Message**

**Anthem**

*Chancel Choir*

Sing Praise To God Who Reigns Above

Robert C Bayley

Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,  
The God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation;  
With healing balm my soul He fills and every pain and sorrow  
stills: To God all praise and glory. The angel host, O King of Kings,

→

Thy praise forever telling, In earth and sky, all living things  
beneath Thy shadow dwelling, Adore the wisdom which could  
span, and power which formed creation's plan: To God all praise  
and glory. O ye who hear Christ's holy name, give God all praise  
and glory! All ye who own His power, proclaim aloud the  
wondrous story. Cast each false idol from His throne, the Lord is  
God and He alone: To God all praise and glory.

### **Prayer for Illumination**

#### **The Old Testament Lesson:** Micah 7:18–20 (NRSV)

Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity and passing over the  
transgression of the remnant of His possession? He does not  
retain his anger forever because He delights in showing  
steadfast love. <sup>19</sup> He will again have compassion upon us; He will  
tread our iniquities under foot. You will cast all our sins into the  
depths of the sea. <sup>20</sup> You will show faithfulness to Jacob and  
steadfast love to Abraham, as You have sworn to our ancestors  
from the days of old.

L: The Word of the Lord. **P: Thanks be to God**

### **Psalm 145**

#42

#### Your Faithfulness, O Lord, is Sure

Your faithfulness, O Lord, is sure  
in all Your words, Your gracious deeds.  
You gently lift all burdened souls  
and well provide for all our needs.

The eyes of all are fixed on You;  
by You their wants are all supplied.  
Your open hand is bountiful,  
and every soul is satisfied.

Lord, You are just in all Your ways,  
and kind in everything You do.  
Forever near You stand to hear  
and help all those who call on You!

My mouth shall speak Your praise, O Lord;  
my soul shall bless Your holy name.  
Let all things living join the song of praise,  
from age to age the same.

† **The Gospel Lesson:** Luke 7:11–17 (NRSV)

Soon afterward He went to a town called Nain, and His disciples and a large crowd went with Him. <sup>12</sup> As He approached the gate of the town, a man who had died was being carried out. He was his mother's only son, and she was a widow, and with her was a large crowd from the town. <sup>13</sup> When the Lord saw her, He was moved with compassion for her and said to her, "Do not cry." <sup>14</sup> Then He came forward and touched the bier, and the bearers stopped. And He said, "Young man, I say to you, rise!" <sup>15</sup> The dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. <sup>16</sup> Fear seized all of them, and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen among us!" and "God has visited his people!" <sup>17</sup> This word about Him spread throughout the whole of Judea and all the surrounding region.

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

**Sermon**

*Rev. Bill Pollack*

***This is Love – Compassion***

✠ **We Respond to God's Word** ✠

† **Hymn of Response**

#435

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea.

There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.

There is no place where earth's sorrows  
are more felt than up in heaven.

There is no place where earth's failings  
have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind.

And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more faithful,

we would gladly trust God's Word,

and our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.

† **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**

**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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**Offering Acknowledgement**

*Special Offering: Clean Start*

† **Doxology**

#394 (4)

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son,  
laud and honor to the Spirit, ever three and ever one:  
one in might and one in glory while unending ages run!

† **Prayer of Dedication**

✠ **We Are Sent in God's Name** ✠

† **Hymn of Sending**

#828

More Love to Thee, O Christ

More love to Thee, O Christ, more love to Thee!  
Hear Thou the prayer I make on bended knee.  
This is my earnest plea: more love, O Christ, to Thee;  
more love to Thee, more love to Thee!

Once earthly joy I craved, sought peace and rest.  
Now Thee alone I seek; give what is best.  
This all my prayer shall be: more love, O Christ, to Thee;  
more love to Thee, more love to Thee!

Then shall my latest breath whisper Thy praise;  
this be the parting cry my heart shall raise.  
This still its prayer shall be: more love, O Christ, to Thee;  
more love to Thee, more love to Thee!

## Postlude

### There's A Wideness In God's Mercy

Wilbur Held

## † Charge & Benediction

† *Standing if you are able.*

### SERVING TODAY

Head Usher: *Geri Willis*

Liturgist: *Larry Wilson*

### LAST WEEK'S RECAP

Attendance: 80

Backpack Ministry: \$20.00

Blooms: \$15.00

Organ Repair Fund: \$240.00

General Offering: \$1,769.31

Online Offering: \$450.00

**Total Offering: \$2,494.31**

### IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

#### ► Sunday, February 16

Sunday Morning Study, 9:28 a.m./cancelled

Armchair Theologians, 9:30 a.m.

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

Morning Worship, 10:50 a.m.

Genesis Bible Study, 5:30 p.m.

#### ► Monday, February 17

Sew Blessed, 6 p.m.

► **Tuesday, February 18**

Finance Ministry Team Meeting, 5:30 p.m.

► **Wednesday, February 19**

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

Bells Rehearsal, 5:45 p.m. | Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 6:45 p.m.

► **Thursday, February 20**

Paper Angels, 1 p.m.

Dames + Dinner, 5:30 p.m.

**Food Drive to Begin**

The Ashland Youth Service Center Food Pantry Drives begins **today**. We will

continue to collect food until **Sunday,**

**March 16.** Below is a list of items needed:



- Pop tarts
- Instant oatmeal
- Cereal bars
- Granola bars
- Mac n cheese
- Knorr's fiesta sides rice
- Spaghetti noodles
- Canned pasta sauce
- Peanut butter
- Cheez-its
- Cheese crackers
- Peanut butter crackers
- Gripz
- Trail mix
- Canned tuna
- Canned chicken
- Soup (w/beef, chicken or potatoes)
- Chef Boyardee
- Ramen Noodles
- Packaged cookies

**3rd Annual Spring Concert**



We are pleased to announce that FPC will host the 3rd Annual Spring Concert, **Saturday, March 1** beginning at **12:30 p.m.** This year's program includes Dr. Denine LeBlanc, Max Jackson, Calvin Riggs and members of the First Christian Church Choir. Come and let

your spirit be uplifted through song. We will gather in the upstairs choir room. See Bettie George with questions.





## BABY POOL MAKING A SPLASH 2025

JOIN US FOR A BABY SHOWER IN HONOR OF MOM-TO-BE

*Kara Adkins*

March 1st @ 2:00 PM  
First Presbyterian Church  
1600 Winchester Ave.  
Ashland, KY 41101

### *Diaper Raffle Delight*

DIAPER RAFFLE DELIGHT

BRING A PACK, TAKE A DIVE,

WITH EACH TICKET, YOU MIGHT THRIVE.

WIN A PRIZE THAT MAKES A SPLASH,  
A JOYFUL WAVE, A FUN-FILLED BASH!

*A Request from Mom-to-Be*  
INSTEAD OF CARDS, LET'S MAKE A SPLASH,  
BRING A BOOK, LET THE STORIES OUTLAST!

A TALE THAT YOU TREASURE,

A SWEET LITTLE LOOK,

WILL BE SHARED WITH THE BABY,

SO PLEASE BRING A BOOK.

*We can't wait to celebrate together!*

*Kara is Registered at Amazon and Walmart*



### **Clothing Swap Coming Soon!**

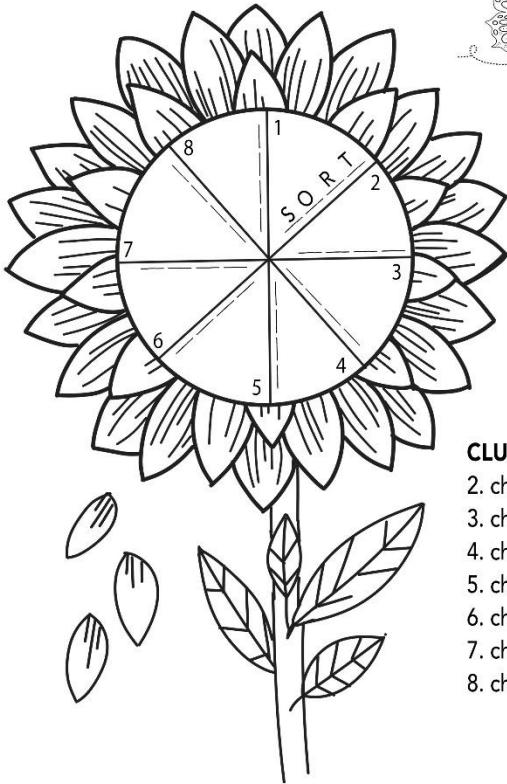
Winter days are a great time to clean out your closet! It's never too early to gather items for the **CLOTHING SWAP** scheduled for **Saturday, March 29, 1 p.m.** See Barb Payne with questions.



## THE LOVE CYCLE

In 1 John 4, God instructs us to love other people. Where does our love come from?

*Directions: Starting at #1 and going clockwise, solve each clue to create a new four-letter word. Then write the eighth word in both blanks below to complete 1 John 4:19, NIV.*



We \_\_\_\_\_  
because [God] first  
\_\_\_\_\_ d us.

1 John 4:19, NIV

### CLUES

2. change 1 letter: a tent to play in
3. change 2 letters: a crease in paper
4. change 1 letter: a precious metal
5. change 2 letters: a beautiful dress
6. change 1 letter: opposite of up
7. change 2 letters: a type of bird
8. change 1 letter: God is this  
(see 1 John 4:16).

## PRAYER CONCERNS

### **Week ending February 13, 2025**

Family of Lee Hogsten (Larry Wilson's cousin)  
Tim Shephard

### **Week ending February 6, 2025**

Family of Joyce Averill (Roger Potter's sister)  
Jimmy Hall

### **Week ending January 30, 2025**

Mattie Cooper (Natalie Robinson's mother)  
Judy Eby  
Carolyn Graber  
Don Lilly  
Mary Vanderhoof (John Ferguson's mother)

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

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

**Kingsbrook Care Center:** Barry Barbour

**The Lantern:** Carolyn Graber

**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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