



Reformation Sunday



THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Reformation Sunday

October 27, 2024

10:50 a.m.

✠ We Gather in God's Name ✠

Welcome

Rev. Bill Pollack

Prelude

*Max Jackson, Organist
Ryan Whitman, Trombone*

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

arr. Brent Adams

† Call to Worship

Larry Wilson

Leader: O God, once again we meet in your house,

**People: A house frequented by the spirits of Martin Luther,
John Calvin, John Knox and other spiritual ancestors.**

Leader: Let their love for you and their devotion to your
Word inspire our worship on the Reformation Day.

**People: In respect to them, let us recommit ourselves as
lifelong students of your Word.**

Leader: Prod us to become informed and dedicated
Protestants:

**People: Protesting against entrenched wrong wherever we
may find it, but also testifying on behalf of your free offer of
salvation through your divine Son.**

Leader: Let us reaffirm in our worship that we are justified by
faith in him,

**All: And help us prove the depth of our faith by working
effectively as messengers of his love and compassion.**

Amen.

† Hymn of Praise

#275

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
Our helper He, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.

For still our ancient foe does seek to work us woe;
His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,
Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing.

Doth ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He.
Lord Sabaoth His name, from age to age the same;
and He must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth
to triumph through us.

The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure,
For lo! his doom is sure; one little word shall fell him.

That Word above all earthly powers no thanks to them abideth.
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him who with us sideth.

Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also.
the body they may kill: God's truth abideth still.
His kingdom is forever!

† **Call to Confession**

† **Prayer of Confession** *(Adapted from the prayers of Martin Luther)*

Waken our hearts, O Lord, our God; make them ever watchful to
serve You and Your purposes. Trouble us with the smallness of
our vision and work. Rekindle in us a renewed desire for the
coming of Your glorious kingdom when all wrongs will be made
right, when everything that is broken will be made whole, and
when we will trade a cross for a crown. 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

I Know My Faith Is Founded

Mark Schweizer

I know my faith is founded on Jesus Christ , my God and Lord,
 and this my faith confessing unmoved I stand on His sure Word.
 Our reason cannot fathom the truth of God profound; Who trusts
 in human wisdom relies on shifting ground. God’s word is all
 sufficient, it makes divinely sure, And trusting in its wisdom, my
 faith shall rest secure. Increase my faith, dear Savior, for Satan
 seeks by night and day to rob me of this treasure and take my
 hope and bliss away. But, Lord, with You beside me, I shall be
 undismayed; And led by Your good Spirit, I shall be unafraid.
 Abide with me, O Savior, a firmer faith bestow; Then I shall bid
 defiance to every evil foe. In faith, Lord, let me serve You;
 Though persecution, grief and pain should seek to overwhelm
 me, let me a steadfast trust retain; And then at my departure
 Lord, take me home to You, And let me there inherit as all You
 said holds true. In life and death, Lord, keep me until Your
 heaven I gain, where I by your great mercy the end of faith
 attain.

Prayer for Illumination**The Epistle Lesson**

Romans 12:1–2 (NRSV)

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of
 God’s mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and
 acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ² Do
 not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the
 renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of
 God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

L: The Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God**Psalm 79** (tune: St. Thomas)

#430

Remember Not, O God

Remember not, O God, the sins of long ago;
 in tender mercy visit us, distressed and humbled low.

O Lord, our Savior, help, and glorify Your name;
 deliver us from all our sins and take away our shame.

Then, safe within Your fold, we will exalt Your name;
our thankful hearts with songs of joy Your goodness will
proclaim.

† **The Gospel Lesson**

Matthew 5:43–48(NRSV)

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’⁴⁴ But I say to you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,⁴⁵ so that you may be children of your Father in heaven, for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous.⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?⁴⁷ And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the gentiles do the same?⁴⁸ Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

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

Sermon

Rev. Bill Pollack

Reformed To His Image

✠ **We Respond to God’s Word** ✠

† **Hymn of Response**

#279

Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove

Come, Holy Spirit, heavenly Dove, with all Thy quickening powers;
kindle a flame of sacred love in these cold hearts of ours.

In vain we tune our formal songs; in vain we strive to rise.
Hosannas languish on our tongues, and our devotion dies.

Dear Lord, and shall we ever live at this poor dying rate?
Our love so faint, so cold to Thee and Thine to us so great!

Come, Holy Spirit, heavenly Dove, with all Thy quickening powers;
come, shed abroad a Savior's love, and that shall kindle ours.

† **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: CARES

† **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**

#662

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true and only Light,
Sun of righteousness, arise, triumph o'er the shade of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn unaccompanied by Thee;
joyless is the day's return, till Thy mercy's beams I see,
till they inward light impart, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine, pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, radiancy divine, scatter all my unbelief;
more and more Thyself display, shining to the perfect day.

Postlude

Max Jackson

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Diderik Buxtehude

† **Charge & Benediction**

† *Standing if you are able.*

SERVING TODAY

Head Usher: *Geri Willis*

Liturgist: *Larry Wilson*

LAST WEEK'S RECAP

Attendance: 57

General Offering: \$787.09

Clean Start: \$20.00

Hurricane Relief: \$470.00

Online Offering: \$235.00

Total Offering: \$1,512.09

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

• **Sunday, October 27**

Sunday Morning Study, 9:28 a.m. (cancelled, resume 11/3)

Armchair Theologians, 9:30 a.m.

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

Morning Worship, 10:50 a.m.

Table & Treat | Pastor and Staff Appreciation Lunch/Noon

Youth Group Meeting

• **Monday, October 28**

Empty Nesters, 5:30 p.m.

• **Wednesday, October 30**

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

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

Hurricane Relief

Today is the last day to submit donations for the hurricane relief fund. Please mark your check or envelope: Hurricane Relief and make it out to First Presbyterian Church. Thank you for the blessing!

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 for inclusion of his or her name in the bulletin.

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*

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**.

Collecting Donations for Ashland Youth Service Center



We are again receiving donations for the Ashland Youth Services Center Thanksgiving Baskets through **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

Unveiling of FPC Mural

Join us **Sunday, November 10** immediately following morning worship as we unveil the FPC mural on the floodwall. The artwork of our own First Presbyterian Church is simply amazing. Special thanks to the Presbyterian Women's Fellowship for providing the funding for this work. Visitors to the Ashland area will come to understand why FPC is "The Heart of Ashland."

Teachers Needed!

The elementary-aged children need some extra teachers. The lessons will be planned for you. If you can help with this important ministry, please contact Lee McCloud (606.331.1017).



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.



This snowflake picture is an example of one of the paper crafts that will be demonstrated by Jane Justice and Pam Potter. You don't want to miss this fun event!

PRAYER CONCERNS

Week ending October 24, 2024

Gail Frazier (Nanette)

Matt Dillon

Jimmy Hall

Trish Hall

Continued recovery efforts from Helene

Susan Martell (Pastor Bill's sister)

Week ending October 17, 2024

Don and Rebecca Ballard DiLoreto (Bettie George Frye)

Amy Crookes

Roberta DePriest (Dave & Judy Eby's friend)

Family of John Eby (Dave Eby's brother)

Nancy (Rick) Grace (Pastor Bill & Nanette)

Shirley O'Neal (Nanette)

Skip Saunders (Greg & Geri Willis' friend)

David Sargent (Kelly Hanni)

Week ending October 10, 2024

Family of Betty Kinner (Nanette)

Margaret Ruth (Kelly Hanni)

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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