Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 16, 2025



Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time February 16, 2025, 10:00 a.m. Service

WELCOME TO FPC

We are so glad you are with us on this day where we celebrate the gift of hope for ourselves and for our world. We invite you to follow us on Facebook, sign up for our weekly emails or check the website regularly to see the new things God is doing among us at FPC Findlay!

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

Little Ones: Infants and toddlers are welcome to join trained caregivers in Room 333 on the third floor during worship.

Children's Worship Bulletins: These are available along with activity packets in the Narthex.

Ask a Greeter for one.

Godly Play: Children in preschool through elementary school-age are invited to attend Godly Play worship in Room 340 following the Blessing of the Children.

WORSHIP VIA FACEBOOK LIVE

As the prelude begins, we invite you to share your prayer requests in the comments section beneath the Facebook Live video.

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LITURGICAL ART

First Presbyterian Church follows the liturgical calendar to mark the seasons of our life together as Christians. We are currently in the season of Epiphany or Ordinary Time, which lasts from Epiphany to Ash Wednesday. The color GREEN symbolizes the renewal of living things and the promise of new life and growth for the Church. The DOSSAL CURTAIN, behind the Cross, and the paraments on the pulpit and lectern visually depict a saying of Jesus: "Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living waters" -John 7:30. It also reminds us of the words "Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream" -Amos 5:24. The TREE OF LIFE, on either side of the Chancel depicts Revelation 22:2 "On either side of the river was the tree of life, and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations." The vision of artist Don Beck remains a formative influence on the worship life of First Presbyterian Church.

Honoring our heritage, we are a dynamic body welcoming all to Christ's spacious table, illumined to serve God with imagination and love.

Please turn off all mobile and electronic devices while in the Sanctuary.

*Indicates to rise in body or spirit.

GATHERING

We gather as a community and prepare our hearts to worship God.

At the sound of the bells, please prepare your hearts and Tolling of the Bells

Prelude

minds for

worship.

Prelude Jesus Loves Me

arr. Lloyd Larson

Choral Introit

Listen, God Is Calling

Listen, listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting, offering forgiveness, comfort, and joy.

*Call to Worship

We gather to worship with expectations:

God revealed in new and astonishing ways.

God comes to us in real time.

God comes to us in dreams.

Sometimes God's presence is hard to take in—difficult to believe.

O God, we long to believe.

Help our unbelief!

God is present here.

God is working in our midst.

Then our mouths are filled with laughter,

Our tongues shout out with joy!

And let us worship God.

*Opening Hymn 12

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise See page 10

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Living God, you came among us as Jesus, your Word made flesh.

We are grateful for your presence; your Love that underpins all things.

We admit we have shallow expectations of how you will act; a box you need to stay in; a system we can understand.

We confess we want you to follow our ways.

Forgive us when the job description we have written for you is too restrictive.

Forgive our narrow vision, our childish games that miss the point, while we ignore what you call us to do. Forgive our focus on ourselves, missing the good news you bring to those on whom we think you are wasting your grace.

Set us free from our need to figure everything out before we allow you to act, and give us the vision to recognize your kingdom at work, even in ways we do not understand.

Our prayer of confession appears each week to remind us that we really do need God's presence in our life.

(Silent Confession)

We pray this all in the name of Christ. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*Passing of the Peace

Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.



May be sung in call and response pattern.

TEXT: Anon. MUSIC: Peruvian melody MACHU-PICHU

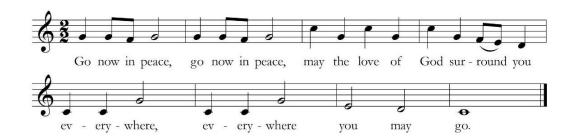
Following the Bible Milestone, children 3rd grade and younger may go to Room 340 for Godly Play.

Bible Milestone

Receiving Bibles today are: River Doseck, Londyn Courtney, Eastyn Courtney, and Arlo Baumgartner.

Congregational Prayer: God, your word is a lamp to our feet and a Light to our path. Encourage these disciples as each receives their Bible today. May they know the promise of your love and trust in the goodness of your grace. May they and their families follow your way, each and every day. Amen.

Blessing of the Children



BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson Psalm 146

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

- ⁸Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices; together they shout for joy, for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion.
- ⁹Break forth; shout together for joy, you ruins of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem.
- ¹⁰ The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!
- ²I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

³Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help.

⁴When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish.

⁵ Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God,

⁶who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever;

⁷who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry.

The Lord sets the prisoners free;

8 the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.
The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.

⁹The Lord watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

¹⁰ The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord!

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Scripture Anthem

JLM

Bradley Phillips

Jesus loves me, of this I know. Jesus loves me for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong, They are weak, but his is so strong. Yes, Jesus loves me: the Bible tells me so. Jesus loves me, Alleluia. Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so.

Second Lesson Luke 7:18-35

The disciples of John reported all these things to him. So John summoned two of his disciples ¹⁹ and sent them to the Lord to ask, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to expect someone else?" ²⁰ When the men had come to him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to you to ask, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to expect someone else?" ²¹ Jesus had just then cured many people of diseases, afflictions, and evil spirits and had given sight to many who were blind. ²² And he answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight; the lame walk; those with a skin disease are cleansed; the deaf hear; the dead are raised; the poor have good news brought to them. ²³ And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."
²⁴ When John's messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ²⁵ What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who put on fine clothing and live in luxury are in royal palaces. ²⁶ What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ²⁷ This

is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.'

²⁸ "I tell you, among those born of women no one is greater than John, yet the least in the kingdom of God is greater than he." ²⁹ (And all the people who heard this, including the tax collectors, acknowledged the justice of God, having been baptized with John's baptism. ³⁰ But the Pharisees and the experts in the law, not having been baptized by him, rejected God's purpose for themselves.)

³¹ "To what, then, will I compare the people of this generation, and what are they like? ³² They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling to one another, 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;

we wailed, and you did not weep.'

³³ "For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and you say, 'He has a demon'; ³⁴ the Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' ³⁵ Nevertheless, wisdom is vindicated by all her children."

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Sermon What's your messianic expectation?

Rev. Jessica Commeret

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

*Hymn 302

When Hands Reach Out and Fingers Trace

See page 11

Call for Offering

Offertory Anthem

Seek Ye First Desra Dabney, flute

arr. Joel Raney



*Prayer of Dedication

Concerns and Celebrations

Prayers of the People

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.

Prayer Response

Amen



SENDING FORTH IN MISSION

Messages for Our Life in Community

*Closing Hymn 32 I Sing the Mighty Power of God See page 12

*Benediction

Postlude Allegro Maestoso, from Sonata No. 2

Felix Mendelssohn

The flowers for worship are provided by Jim and Beverly Dowling in memory of Barbara A. Dowling.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor: Rev. Jessica Commeret

Director of Music: Clinton Miller

Lay Reader: Dave Healy

Director of

Connectional Ministry: Leslee Kirkconnell

Musicians: Chancel Choir; GatherRing Handbell Choir;

Desra Dabney, flute

FPC Choral Scholars: Joicy Carvalho, BK Riha,

Zach Sanford, Cassie Wilson

A/V Technician: Robbie Riffle



The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God's life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is well set to a Welsh melody shaped by many three-note units.

TEXT: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867, alt. MUSIC: Welsh folk melody; arr. *Caniadau y Cyssegr*, 1839 ST. DENIO 11.11.11.11



Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This hymn celebrates the breadth of human diversity and the variety of gifts and abilities through which God's people serve the church and world. Incorporating such diversity provides a vital witness to the hospitality of Christian community and to the inclusive nature of love.

TEXT: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2001

MUSIC: English folk melody; harm. John Weaver, 1988

Text © 2001 Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

Music Harm. © 1990 Hope Publishing Company

O WALY WALY

LM



With minimal revision this text brings together six of the eight four-line stanzas in an 18th-century hymn written for children and originally headed "Praise for Creation and Providence." The anonymous German tune provides a fitting sense of breadth and wonder.

12

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1715, alt.

ELLACOMBE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 16, 2025

TODAY

Fellowship

We have coffee, snacks, and conversations starting at 9:30 a.m. and again following worship every Sunday in the Parlor.

During worship

Today, we hold our Bible Milestone to present Bibles to five of our elementary children: River Doseck, Londyn Courtney, Eastyn Courtney, and Arlo Baumgartner. Yesterday, the group met with Leslee Kirkconnell to learn about the Bible, how to use it, what we can learn and more. It is just the beginning of their journey with our sacred text. Let's surround them and their families in prayer as we all continue to grow in faith!

Godly Play

Today's Bible story: Exploring the lives of the Saints of the Church.

Following Worship

Worship Explorers!

All children and youth meet with Clint in the Choir Room following worship.

Adult Faith Formation

Question and Answer Session regarding the New Code of Regulations (formerly Church By-Laws) Today, Following Worship, Fellowship Hall

Come with your questions and concerns about the new Code of Regulations (formerly known as the Church By-Laws) that will be voted on next Sunday. Printed copies were mailed and are available online.

Third Sunday Family Faith Formation Today, 5:00-7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall.

We begin with dinner at 5:00 p.m. following food and reflection, we divide up and enjoy a time of Christian Formation for ALL ages. Jessica Commeret will lead adults, Leslee Kirkconnell will lead youth, and Meg Ramlow will lead children K-5th grade. Childcare will be provided for those 4 years old and younger following dinner.

Contact: Leslee Kirkconnell

News & Views Newsletter Deadline: Tuesday, February 18

Information for the Lent edition of News & Views is due to the church office soon! Be sure your information is included. Email your information to communications@findlayfpc.org.

HIGHLIGHTS

FPC Nursery School Open House

Tuesday, February 18, 7:00 p.m., Great Room

Enrollment for the 2025-2026 school year has begun. Eligible children must be 3, 4, or 5 years old by August 1. Morning and afternoon classes are available. Registration forms are available on our website. The registration deadline is March 10.

Contact: Carol Smith

Congregation Meeting: Vote on the New Code of Regulations

Sunday, February 23, Following Worship, Sanctuary

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

The Rise of Bonhoeffer – Book Study Tuesdays, February 18, March 11 & 25, April 8 & 22, 7:00-9:00 p.m., Room 209

Discover how German theologian, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, dared to stand against the Nazis using his theological insights to inspire a generation of believers to act with courage and conviction.

Contact: Jessie Commeret

Women of Faith

Mondays, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Parlor

This group is open to all women. The only requirement is a desire to continue your faith journey. We discuss a variety of spiritual studies.

Contact: Mary Alice Patrickson

OLDER ADULTS

Onward and Upward

Thursday, March 13, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

March Program: Bob Ross and the Joy of Painting.

Nate Miller, a certified Bob Ross instructor, will share some of his background as well as how the Joy of Painting began. Join us for an engaging program followed by a delicious lunch. Invite friends, come and learn, and of course, enjoy lunch!

Contact: Pastor Jessie

MISSION

Community Dinner

Sunday, March 9, 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Great Room

The Community Dinner outreach provides a nutritious home-cooked meal on the 2nd Sunday of each month to the community. Volunteers meet at 9:00 a.m. on the 2nd Saturday to prep the meal. The Community Dinner is a great way to show God's love through the gift of food and fellowship. A sign-up sheet to help will be available outside the Church Office or contact Tracy Kennedy.

Darrel the Barrel

This month: Spices: salt, pepper, garlic powder, chili powder, onion powder, and cumin. Salad Dressings: Ranch, Italian, Thousand Island, and French

City Mission asks for donations for specific items each month to help feed, house, and care for the unhoused in our community. As we go deeper into partnership with them, particularly Martha's Home, filling Darrel will enable them to use their resources more efficiently for all those who seek their help. The Barrel is located in the Narthex.

Mobile Food Pantry

Saturday, May 17, 8:30-10:30 a.m., Great Room

FPC hosts four mobile food pantry distributions throughout the year in cooperation with Chopin Hall and other community service organizations to provide food for the hungry throughout our community.

Contact: Katie Abbott

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

Sunday Morning Faith Formation

First, Third, and Fourth Sundays, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Choir Room

The first Sunday of each month is *Motion & Movement*—having sat in worship for an hour this is an opportunity to move our bodies and expend some energy with exciting games and activities. The third and fourth (and fifth) Sundays, youth and children will join *Worship Explorers!* where children and youth will learn about parts of our worship experience, creating musical ventures in our worship service, leading prayers and readings, and help tell our Biblical stories in creative ways.

Contact: Clint Miller

Second Sundays, 11:00 a.m., Great Room

Children and youth have the opportunity to assist with preparing and serving the Community Dinner.

Third Sunday Family Faith Formation

Sunday, February 16, 5:00-7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall.

We begin with dinner at 5:00 p.m. following food and reflection, we divide up and enjoy a time of Christian Formation for ALL ages. Jessica Commeret will lead adults, Leslee Kirkconnell will lead youth, and Meg Ramlow will lead children K-5th grade. Childcare will be provided for those 4 years old and younger following dinner.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES (continued)

MomCo Meet Up Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, February 19, 9:00-11:30 a.m. Fellowship Hall; Child Care begins at 8:45 a.m. in Room 107C.

We continue our monthly meet up of moms of all-age children. Childcare is provided with RSVP by Monday, February 17. Refreshments, fellowship, and community. Join us!

Contact: Leslee Kirkconnell

MomCo Needs Loving Arms

Wednesday, February 19, 8:45-11:45 a.m., Room 107C

We need one volunteer willing to rock babies during our MomCo Meet Up. There is a sign-up sheet outside the office. Volunteers must have a current background check.

Contact: Leslee Kirkconnell

FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship "Hour"

Sundays, 9:30 a.m. and following worship in the Parlor.

Join us for coffee, water, treats, and social time to gather with friends and greet one another.

Contact: Suzi Healy

Men's Group

Second Sunday of the Month, 9:00 a.m., Room 211

This group is open to all men of our church. Let's get to know each other better and share our work and faith stories. Hope to see all of you there.

Contact: Curt Hugunin at 419-957-2038

Sarah Circle

Friday, February 21, 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Room 112-113

A "circle" is a women's group that meets for prayer, study, community building, giving and fellowship. Special projects raise funds for our church and mission work. Sarah Circle meets from September through May for fellowship and Bible study. They support local charities and mission and welcome new members.

Contact: Mary Alice Patrickson

Lunch Bunch

Thursdays, 12:00 p.m., Room 113

Bring your sack lunch and join the fellowship with one another for a casual lunch time every week! On the second Thursdays, this group joins Onward and Upward.

Contact: Beth Niemeyer

Knit Wits

Fridays, 9:30 a.m., Room 113

Bring your needles, yarn, and great spirit to share time together knitting prayer shawls and other crafts.

Contact: Deb Watson

WORSHIP

Sanctuary Flowers 2025

A sign-up sheet to provide Sanctuary flowers is posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. Please select the Sunday(s) you would like to provide Sanctuary flowers for worship.

Lay Readers Needed for Worship

A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board outside the church office for those who want to provide leadership in Sunday worship services.

GET CONNECTED

Scan the code to read our weekly E-News Connections. You can also read in your email.



MUSIC MINISTRY

Chancel Choir

Wednesdays, 7:00-8:30 p.m., Choir Room

Lend your voice to the chorus! The Chancel Choir sings at the 10:00 a.m. worship services during the program year. Contact: Clint Miller

GatherRing Handbell Choir

Tuesdays, 1:30-2:30 p.m., Sanctuary

All you need to know is how to read rhythms and know your right hand from your left hand. This is a great way to work together as a team to create beautiful music for our worship services.

Contact: Clint Miller

ONLINE GIVING

To the right is a QR Code. You can open the camera on your smartphone and be connected to our Giving page via a link pop up. We encourage you to use this method to give as we pass the offering plate. Thank you!



First Presbyterian Church Staff

Jessica Commeret, Pastor
Clinton Miller, Director of Music
Leslee Kirkconnell, Director of Connectional Ministry
Stephanie Bryan, Church/Financial Secretary
Kelly Sherrieb, Facility Manager
Carol Smith, Nursery School Director
Curt Hugunin, Evening Custodian
Marna Weaver, Church Accountant

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