



Service for the Lord's Day

May 5, 2024

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Welcome

Prelude

Breathe on Me Breath of God

TRENTHAM

All Stand

Call to Worship

We come to join with all the earth in praise:

**to sing a new song to the Lord,
who has done marvelous things,
who has shown us steadfast love and faithfulness.**

We praise the Lord with joyful noises
joining the symphony of the earth:

**the roar of the ocean,
the call of the birds,
the wind across the hills,
people in every corner of the globe.**

On this sabbath day of rest and gladness,
we greet you with joy, our living God!

Opening Hymn 288

Spirit of the Living God

LIVING GOD

Call to Confession

*Lord have mercy upon us,
Christ, have mercy upon us,
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

Prayer of Adoration and Confession

Tender God, forgive us for our half-hearted faith that loves only when it is easy, and reaches out only to those who are like us, that ignores your less convenient commandments and fails to bear fruit anyone would rejoice in. How can a faith like that conquer the world? Nourish us again, to blossom with whole-hearted faith that abides in your love and shines forth with joy. Through the grace of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

A Silence is observed for Personal Confession

Confessional Hymn

KYRIE

*Lord, have mercy upon us,
Christ, have mercy upon us,
Lord, have mercy upon us*

Declaration of Good News (responsive)

Hear the Good News! The only one who could judge us calls us friends.

Jesus chose us over his own life, so let us choose Jesus in the life we have now.

By the power of the Spirit, our sins are washed away, and we are made new.

Let us live as God's forgiven children. Alleluia! Amen.

Passing the Peace of Christ

Wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here in this safe and sacred place.

So let us greet one another as a sign of God's peace. The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Hearing the Word

All Sit

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading (responsive)

Psalm 98

Sing to the LORD a new song

because he has done wonderful things!

His own strong hand and his own holy arm

have won the victory!

The LORD has made his salvation widely known;

he has revealed his righteousness

in the eyes of all the nations.

God has remembered his loyal love

and faithfulness to the house of Israel;

every corner of the earth has seen our God's salvation.

Shout triumphantly to the LORD, all the earth!

Be happy!

Rejoice out loud!

Sing your praises!

Sing your praises to the LORD with the lyre—

with the lyre and the sound of music.

With trumpets and a horn blast,

shout triumphantly before the LORD, the king!

Let the sea and everything in it roar;

the world and all its inhabitants too.

Let all the rivers clap their hands;

let the mountains rejoice out loud altogether before the LORD

because he is coming to establish justice on the earth!

He will establish justice in the world rightly;

he will establish justice among all people fairly.

Anthem

Antiphonal Psalm
Darci Merriman, tenor

Hal Hopson

All Stand

Gospel Reading

John 15: 9-17

Love Each Other

“As the Father loved me, I too have loved you. Remain in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I kept my Father’s commandments and remain in his love. ¹¹ I have said these things to you so that my joy will be in you and your joy will be complete. ¹² This is my commandment: love each other just as I have loved you. ¹³ No one has greater love than to give up one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ I don’t call you servants any longer, because servants don’t know what their master is doing. Instead, I call you friends, because everything I heard from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶ You didn’t choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you could go and produce fruit and so that your fruit could last. As a result, whatever you ask the Father in my name, he will give you. ¹⁷ I give you these commandments so that you can love each other.

All Sit

Sermon

The answer’s always God, Jesus, Love...

Tim Leigh

Responding to the Word

All Stand

Response Hymn 300

We Are One in the Spirit

THEY’LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

Affirmation of Faith (responsively)

from the Belhar Confession

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end.

We believe that Christ’s work of reconciliation is made manifest in the Church, as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another. that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the Church of Jesus Christ.

We believe that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways: in that we love one another, and that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another.

We believe that the variety of spiritual gifts, opportunities, backgrounds, convictions, as well as the various languages and cultures, are by virtue of the reconciliation in Christ, opportunities for mutual service and enrichment within the one visible people of God. Jesus is Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

Offering

Offertory

Balm in Gilead

African-American Folk Hymn/arr. B. Ware

Doxology

DOXOLOGY

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him, all creatures here below
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost
Amen*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sealing the Word in the Sacrament

Communion today is by Intinction. Please come down the center aisle, light a candle for someone you miss, and wish were here with us for this Holy meal and then move to the station closest to you for communion.

The Lord’s Supper

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Lift up your heart.

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.

.... So with all those in every time and place who have called upon you expectantly, we rejoice in your gracious presence, singing:

Sanctus

SANCTUS

*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.

Bearing and Following the Word into the Created World

Hymns at Communion 510 *We Gather Here* **DIVERNON**

507 *Come to the Table of Grace* **TABLE OF GRACE**

518 *Your Only Son* **LAMB OF GOD**

The congregation is invited to sing as communion is being served.

Closing Hymn 188 *Jesus Loves Me* **JESUS LOVES ME**

Benediction

Postlude *Lord, the Light of Your Love is Shining* **SHINE, JESUS, SHINE**

WELCOME VISITORS!

We invite you to pick up visitor's information on your way out, either in the narthex or on the table on the right in the downstairs entrance hall. Ushers will be standing by to help you find them. Always know that a cordial greeting is extended by ministers, officers, and congregation.

Clerk of Session: Debbie Trickey Treasurer: Steve Moore
Elders: Class of 2024-Frederica Kernohan, Tim Leigh, Bobby Rabold, Debbie Trickey, Larry Warden; Class of 2025-Karol Kirby Ahmed, Buzz English, Pamela Napier, Julia Roberts, Julie Wedge; Class of 2026-Pam Bratcher, Rachel Crocker, J.B. Hines, Susan Howard, Mike Kanan
Deacons: Class of 2024 Trudy Burkeen, Evan Goad, Linda Leigh, Catherine Reber, Susan Thomison; Class of 2025-Barbara Brindle, Craig Long, Teri Polen, Ernie Small, Dan Stelling, Fred Trickey; Class of 2026- Phil Burkeen, Kim Ferguson, Kathy Higgins, Brianna Trickey

The Presbyterian Church Staff

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|---|------------------------------|
| <i>Director of Music/Chancel Choir Director</i> | <i>Dr. Wayne Pope</i> |
| <i>Children's Music Director / Pianist</i> | <i>Beth Pope</i> |
| <i>Director of Youth Ministries</i> | <i>David Clarke</i> |
| <i>Financial Administrator</i> | <i>Terry Johnson</i> |
| <i>Secretary</i> | <i>Cheryl Gregory</i> |
| <i>Office Assistant</i> | <i>Robin Watkins Tolbert</i> |
| <i>Director, Preschool Learning Center</i> | <i>Kimberly Watkins</i> |
| <i>Custodian</i> | <i>Cedric Whitney</i> |
| <i>Clerk of Session</i> | <i>Debbie Trickey</i> |
| <i>Sunday Sexton</i> | <i>Sara Parkerson</i> |

Announcements

USHERS: The Polen and Thomison families

COLLEGIATE ENSEMBLE: Wyatt Edmunds, Hailey Goodwin,
Darcy Merriman, Jeremiah Simpson, Johnna Smith

LAY READER: Rob Hale

MEDIA PERSONNEL: David Clarke, Lillan Hargesheimer

NURSERY: Alisia Simmons, Yamilet Bruno Sanchez

LECTIONARY FOR SUNDAY, May 12: Acts 1:15–17, 21–26; Psalm 1; 1 John 5:9–13; John 17:6–19.

DEACONS OF THE WEEK this week will be Trudy and Phil Burkeen. Deacons assist the Pastor in caring for our congregation. You may contact them through the church office: 270-843-4707.

TODAY

THE AFTER CHURCH EATING OUT GROUP Join the After Church Eating Out Group for lunch at the Bistro on Sunday! Please email maryameliaevans@gmail.com or text Mary Evans at 270-791-7205 by noon on Friday so she can reserve a table for a large group at the Bistro!

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES begin at 9:15am.

- Preschool taught by Jimmy and Betsy Tyrie
- Godly Play taught by Mary Evans – Kindergarten through 5th grade
- Middle and high school taught by David Clarke
- The Coffee and Conversation Class is reading *Holy Envy; Finding God in the Face of Others* by Barbara Brown Taylor
- A Bible study class is studying the book of Mark

Calendar

Sunday, May 5

9:30 a.m. Fellowship
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
9:15 a.m. Children's Music
10:30 a.m. Worship
12:00 p.m. Eating Out Small Group
5:00 p.m. Youth Group

Monday, May 6

9:00 a.m. GOD/DOG is Love

Tuesday, May 7

9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga
11:00 a.m. Special Care
5:00 p.m. Deacons

Wednesday, May 8

7:00 a.m. Breakfast Group (Teresa's)
5:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

Friday, May 10

7:30 a.m. Mens' Breakfast (Lisa's)

COMING UP:

SPRING PICNIC AND FELLOWSHIP at Preston Miller Park on **Sunday, May 19th** at 4:30pm — Mark your calendars and plan to join us! We are having the picnic at shelter #1 of Preston Miller Park, but **ALSO** we will have a scavenger hunt prior to the picnic. Meet at the church at 3:00pm for the start of the Scavenger Hunt, then come for a cookout and picnic at the park, or just come later for the picnic. Bring along a lawn chair if you like, and your favorite side or dessert to share!

SPECIAL EVENT! Please mark your calendars for Wednesday, May 22. The Christian Education committee has invited Friends and Family Outreach at WKU College of Health and Human Services to teach their **course on basic CPR and defibrillator use** in our fellowship hall. The course is free. No previous experience is required for this basic course. Breakfast will be served at 8:15 AM, and the course will begin at 9, and last approximately 2 hours. Please see the sign-up sheet on the table across from the Chapel (below where our defibrillator is located), or call the church office at 270-843-4707 to do so. Looking forward to your attendance.

CECELIA MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 5th Annual Spring Giveaway – May 25, 2024 from 9am until 1pm. Household items, men's, women's, & children's clothing, toys, small appliances and much more! 716 College Street in Bowling Green. For more info, please call Lovelyn at 270-935-5110 (msg) or email ceceliamemorial1234@outlook.com.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN We have the date for the **PW Spring Gathering** - Wednesday, June 5th! We will be meeting at the Baker Arboretum/Downing Museum in Bowling Green. Please plan to join us! Heavenly Ham Boxed lunches will be available for purchase (Lunch at 12 noon). You may reach out to Donna Meredith for more info (270-791-9888 / donnawmeredith53@gmail.com). Please RSVP to her or to the church office if you plan to attend.

VBS Vacation Bible School will be June 9-12. We are partnering with the Episcopal and First Christian Church. We will be needing volunteers to help prepare dinner, work as group leaders, head craft stations and set up. If you are able to help, please contact Susan Howard at sfyusk@gmail.com or 270-303-1767.

MISSIONS - JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST on June 23. The meal will be served throughout the Sunday School hour 9:15 to 10:15 in the fellowship hall. If you do not want to miss your class, just take a plate with you! This will be a great time to honor those men in your life as a late Father's Day gift. There is no charge, but donations received will go toward our Habitat for Humanity benevolence.

SAVE THIS DATE: This year's **Pig Pickin'** church picnic will take place on Sunday August 18. Plan to join us for outdoor worship and fellowship, with good food and fun!

OTHER NEWS

THE SESSION WOULD LIKE TO INFORM YOU that, after some deliberation, the decision was made that the Church will no longer participate in the Matthew 25 initiative. Should you have any questions regarding this decision, please feel free to contact myself or one of the following Elders, Buzz English, Tim Leigh, Pamela Napier, Bobby Rabold, Julia Roberts, or Larry Warden. – Debbie Trickey, Clerk of Session

LAY READERS NEEDED FOR JUNE A signup page is online for upcoming lay readers in the coming weeks. If you are willing to serve on one Sunday, please visit this link and sign up for a date. Lay reader information will be emailed on the Friday prior to the date. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090e49acac23a7ff2-layreader> Thank you!



We express sympathy to the family and friends of June Rose Garrott, who died on April 29, 2024.

Donate Online: The church website accepts online donations. Just go to our website, and fill out the simple form. Donations can also be made from your smart phone. You may also scan this QR code.
<https://bgpres.org/give>

