



Name of Artwork and Artist: Unknown

Service for the Lord's Day

May 11, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Gathering Around the Word of Worship

Gathering Music

Mike Kanan

Striking of the Hour

Prelude

Primeiro tento do oitavo tom

Manuel Rodrigues Coelho

Welcome

We Rise in Spirit and in Body

Call to Worship (responsive)

selections from Psalm 92, 95

It is good to praise the LORD and make music to your name, O Most High; to proclaim your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night.

Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

Opening Hymn 701

Lord, Prepare Me (Sanctuary)
(Sing 3 times)

SANCTUARY

Call to Confession

We hear the voice of the Lord in Isaiah: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. For I am the LORD, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior." Confident in God's grace, let us confess our sin to God. Let us pray...

Prayer of Adoration and Confession (unison)

O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise. Yet we have turned our eyes away from your glory and majesty. We have ignored the witness of infants and children. We have replaced words of praise with complaints, lies, and insults. We fail to share your love with others. We refuse to care for your good creation and we abuse the creatures who reflect your glory. Forgive us and heal us we pray, through the mercy of the risen Lord we pray. Amen.

Silence is observed for Personal Confession

Confessional Anthem

KYRIE

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

Declaration of Good News (responsive)

Christ is now raised from the dead, and sits on the throne as the wholly human one, the prince of peace. Know that in Jesus Christ we have been forgiven and have peace with God and one another.

Praise to our Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia!

Passing the Peace of Christ (responsive)

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the peace of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you. Amen!

A Time with Young Christians (children welcomed to the front of the sanctuary)

Your Way Better
Children's Choir

Forrest Frank

Hearing the Word

All Sit

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

We are glad that you are a God who wants to be known and who speaks words of beauty and truth to your people. As we read and listen to your Word today, speak to us once more that we may faithfully follow Jesus.

Old Testament Reading (responsive)

selections from Ezekiel 1

As I looked, a stormy wind came out of the north: a great cloud with brightness around it and fire flashing forth continually....In the middle of it was something like four living creatures. This was their appearance: they were of human form. Each had four faces, and each of them had four wings. Their legs were straight...and they sparkled like burnished bronze.

And the four had their faces and their wings thus: their wings touched one another; each of them moved straight ahead without turning as they moved.

As for the appearance of their faces: the four had a face of a human being, the face of a lion..., the face of an ox..., and the face of an eagle....Their wings were spread out above....Each moved straight ahead; wherever the spirit would go, they went, without turning as they went.

In the middle of the living creatures there was something like burning coals of fire....the fire was bright, and lightning issued from the fire. The living creatures darted to and fro, like a flash of lightning.

As I looked at the living creatures, I saw a wheel on the earth beside the living creatures, one for each of them....Their appearance was like the gleaming of beryl...their construction being something like a wheel within a wheel....Their rims were tall and awesome, for the rims were full of eyes all around.

Wherever the spirit would go, they went, and the wheels rose along with them...for the spirit of the living creatures was in the wheels. When they moved, I hear the sound of their wings like the sound of mighty waters, like the thunder of the Almighty....And above the dome over their heads was something like a throne, in appearance like sapphire; and seated above the throne was something that seemed like a human form...and there was splendor all around.

This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD. When I saw it, I fell on my face...

Hymn 705

You Are Holy (Prince of Peace)

All Stand

New Testament Reading

Acts 9:1-19

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.' The men who were travelling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, 'Ananias.' He answered, 'Here I am, Lord.' The Lord said to him, 'Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.' But Ananias answered, 'Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.' But the Lord said to him, 'Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.' So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.' And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Responding to the Word

All Stand

Response Hymn 519

You Are My Strength When I Am Weak
(Sing 2 times)

JERNIGAN

Affirmation of Faith (unison)

The Apostles' Creed (traditional)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

All Sit

Offering

Call to Offering

Offertory

You Say

Johnna Smith, vocal and Beth Pope, piano

Lauren Daigle, Jason Ingram, and Paul Mabury

All Stand

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 (unison)

God of grace, we thank you for all your good gifts to us, gifts of life and love and hope. As we respond in faith with our offerings, may the church bless and protect the world you have made and rescued. Amen.

All Sit

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

A Moment of Silence

*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*

Bearing and Following the Word into the Created World

All Stand

Closing Hymn

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

Rick Founds

Lord, I lift Your name on high.
Lord, I love to sing Your praises.
I'm so glad You're in my life;
I'm so glad You came to save us.

You came from Heaven to earth
To show the way.
From the Earth to the cross,
My debt to pay.

From the cross to the grave,
From the grave to the sky;
Lord, I lift Your name on high.

Benediction

The Lord Bless You and Keep You
Chancel Choir

Peter C. Lutkin

Postlude

Vita Sanctorum decus Angelorum, verse 1

Samuel Scheidt

Sermon Notes

This image shows a full page of blank, lined paper. It features approximately 20 horizontal blue or grey lines spaced evenly apart, typical of notebook paper. The lines extend across the entire width of the page, leaving small margins at the top and bottom. There are no vertical lines, text, or other markings on the page.

USHERS: Polen and Thomison families

COLLEGIATE ENSEMBLE: Aletheia Burt, Blake Miller, Keelin Murrell, Mack Overfelt, Jeremiah Simpson and Johnna Smith

LAY READER: The Youth

MEDIA PERSONNEL/SEXTON: Laura Parkerson

NURSERY: Alisia Simmons, Yamilet Bruno Sanchez

LECTIONARY FOR SUNDAY MAY 18: Isaiah 55:1–9; Psalm 63:1–8; 1 Corinthians 10:1–13; Luke 13:1–9.

TODAY

DEACON OF THE WEEK this week will be Fred Tricky. Deacons assist the Pastor in caring for our congregation. You may contact them through the church office: 270-843-4707.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES will meet today at 9:15 a.m. It will conclude an hour later in time for 10:30 a.m. church service.

YOUTH SUNDAY/MOTHER'S DAY Our Youth will be leading service today. They will be honoring all mothers with a special token of love. The Youth are excited about honoring these special women of our church.

THE AFTER CHURCH EATING OUT GROUP will **NOT** meet today nor May 18 (Fellowship Picnic).

COMING UP:

FELLOWSHIP PICNIC Plan to join us on Sunday, May 18 for our Fellowship Picnic at Covington Woods Park, Shelter #1. There will be plenty of food, fun, and fellowship. Meats and drinks will be provided. Bring your favorite side dish or dessert to share. A Fellowship Picnic reminder card has been inserted in today's bulletin. Don't forget to place it on your refrigerator as your reminder.

2025 ANNUAL CPR/DEFIBRILLATOR COURSE sponsored by the Christian Education Committee, and taught by the Friends and Family Outreach Department of the College of Health and Human Services at WKU. The course will be held on Wednesday, May 21 in the Fellowship Hall. Breakfast will be served at 8:15 a.m. and the course will begin at 9:00 a.m. It will last approximately 2 hours. No experience necessary and repeat students welcome. Last year's course received rave reviews from attendees. Sign-up sheets will be placed on the landing table so we can make appropriate plans. This is an important skill for our church members to have, from teens to seniors. We look forward to your attendance.

OTHER NEWS

ART EXHIBIT We are pleased to exhibit *RHYTHM AND SHAPE: The Art of Laurin Notheisen*. Lauren Notheisen's art will be on display in the Fellowship Hall from March 28-May 22. Everyone is welcomed to come and enjoy this Spring Exhibit.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL will be June 8-11 from 5:00-7:30 p.m. The theme is Wild Wonder. Children will be invited to delight in God as creator, redeemer, and sustainer of all living things by immersing them in the wonders of the created world. A registration form is now available online for participants. Please scan the QR code to visit link:



If you are interested in volunteering for the 2025 Vacation Bible School, please scan the QR code to visit the link to sign up:



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN Sunday Morning Circle meets the second Sunday in each month at 9:30 a.m. in the Ladies' Parlor. Circle 9 meets the second Monday in each month at 12:00 noon at a member's home; Tuesday Evening Circle meets the second Tuesday in each month at 7:00 p.m. at Diane Simmons' home; Wednesday Morning Circle meets the second Wednesday in each month at 9:30 a.m. in the 10th Street Parlor. An exact location for Circle 9 meetings will be provided on the church bulletin's calendar and in the 60-second email.

LAY READERS NEEDED FOR MAY/JUNE A signup page is online for lay readers in the coming weeks. If you are willing to serve one Sunday, please scan the QR code to visit this link and sign up for a date. Lay reader information will be emailed on the Friday prior to the date. Thank you!



NEWSLETTER FOLDERS/SEALERS A signup page is online for upcoming months for Newsletter folders/sealers. If you are willing to volunteer to help in the office with this task, scan the QR code to visit this link and sign up for a date, contact Robin by phone at 270-843-4707, or email at info@bgpres.org.



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY The office staff would like to celebrate your role as mothers in the congregation. We express our gratitude, give honor and acknowledge the innumerable ways you contribute to the life and health of not just your own family but the church family as well. Today as you hear the message to honor your role as a mother and receive a flower in the celebration of Mother's Day, we identify you as a child of the most high- A Virtuous Mother.

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 the minister, officers, and congregation.

Clerk of Session: Debbie Trickey **Treasurer:** Steve Moore

Elders: 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; Class of 2027-Sam Evans, Nathan Love, Susan Thomison, Debbie Trickey, Larry Warden
Deacons: 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; Class of 2027-Trudy Burkeen, Georgeanna Capito, Sally Calkins, Nancy Carwell, Evan Goad, Frederica Kernohan

The Presbyterian Church Staff

*Transitional Pastor
Director of Music/Chancel Choir Director
Children's Music Director
Organist
Financial Administrator
Treasurer
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Director, Preschool Learning Center
Custodian
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Dr. Wayne Pope
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Calendar

Sunday, May 11

8:30 a.m. Fellowship
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
9:15 a.m. Children's Music
9:30 a.m. Sunday Morning Circle
9:45 a.m. Godly Play
10:30 a.m. Worship

Monday, May 12

9:00 a.m. GOD/DOG is Love
12:00 p.m. Circle 9
5:30 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting

Tuesday, May 13

9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga
11:00 a.m. Special Care
7:00 p.m. Sunny 16 Camera Club
7:00 p.m. Tuesday Evening Circle

Wednesday, May 14

7:00 a.m. Breakfast Group
9:30 a.m. Wed. Morning Young Mothers and Others Circle
5:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
6:30 p.m. Worship Committee Meeting

Friday, May 16

7:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast Group

The Presbyterian Church, 1003 State Street, Bowling Green, KY 42101

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