



*A Visit*, 1995. Artist: Swanson, John August<sup>2</sup>

# ***Service for the Lord's Day***

**June 29, 2025**

**Third Sunday after Pentecost**

## ***Gathering Around the Word of Worship***

**Gathering Music**

Mike Kanan

**Striking of the Hour**

**Prelude**

*His Guiding Hand*

Bertha R. Frick

**Welcome**

***We Rise in Spirit and in Body***

**Call to Worship** (responsive)

Jesus said, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people."

**Lord, help us follow where you lead.**

Jesus said, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."

**Lord, help us put you first and follow you.**

Jesus said, "Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also."

**Lord, help us follow you that we may serve you.**

Jesus said, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you."

**Let us walk with Jesus Christ. And let us worship God with all our hearts!**

**Opening Hymn 412** *God, Reveal Your Presence*

ARNSBERG

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Adoration and Confession** (unison)

Eternal God, you are holy, good, and full of grace. In our baptism you claimed us as your own and called us to be your covenant people. We bless you. But we confess we do not live as people created in your image, nor do we lead lives worthy of the calling to which we have been called. Jesus still calls, "Follow me" and we offer excuses because we can't do that. Jesus calls us to new life in the Spirit, and we cling to our old habits and tired traditions. Gracious God, forgive our sins. Open our ears and hearts to hear Jesus' call and give us grace and strength to respond in faith and love. In Jesus' name 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)

Titus 3:4-7

When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, God saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to God's mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and reborn!

**Alleluia! Amen.**

## Passing the Peace of Christ (responsive)

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

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

### *Hearing the Word*

*All Sit*

## Prayer for Illumination (unison)

**Lord God, help us to know your ways; teach us your paths. Lead us in your truth, and teach us, for you are the God of our salvation; for you we wait all day long. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading (responsive)

Psalms 16

Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge. I say to the LORD, 'You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you.' As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble, in whom is all my delight. Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows; their drink-offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names upon my lips.

**The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage. I bless the LORD who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.**

I keep the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure. For you do not give me up to Sheol, or let your faithful one see the Pit.

**You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.**

## Anthem

*I Am Bound for the Kingdom*

Mark Hahn

*All Stand*

## Gospel Reading

Luke 9:51-62

When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; but they did not receive him, because his face was set towards Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, 'Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?' But he turned and rebuked them. Then they went on to another village.

As they were going along the road, someone said to him, 'I will follow you wherever you go.' And Jesus said to him, 'Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.' To another he said, 'Follow me.' But he said, 'Lord, first let me go and bury my father.' But Jesus said to him, 'Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.' Another said, 'I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.' Jesus said to him, 'No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.'

*All Sit*

**Sermon**

*Discipleship on the Road*

Kyle Otterbein

### ***Responding to the Word***

*All Stand*

**Response Hymn 726**

*Will You Come and Follow Me*

KELVINGROVE

**Affirmation of Faith** (unison)

excerpt from *A Declaration of Faith*

**We declare that Jesus is Lord. His resurrection is a decisive victory over the powers that deform and destroy human life. His lordship is hidden. The world appears to be dominated by people and systems that do not acknowledge his rule. But his lordship is real. It demands our loyalty and sets us free from the fear of all lesser lords who threaten us. We maintain that ultimate sovereignty now belongs to Jesus Christ in every sphere of life. Jesus is Lord!**

*All Sit*

**Offering**

*Call to Offering*

**Offertory**

*May Sunshine Light Your Way*  
Jeremiah Simpson, baritone

S. Albrecht and J. Althouse

*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)

**Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the undeserved blessings you give us. Most of all, we thank and praise you for your indescribable gift of your Son Jesus Christ. Give us grateful hearts and willing lives so we may follow our Lord where he leads us and serve our Lord as he calls us. 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 721**

*Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore*

PESCADOR DE HOMBRES

**Benediction**

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You*

Peter C. Lutkin

**Postlude**

Festival Piece on "*America, the Beautiful*"

James Denton

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<sup>1</sup>Some elements of today's liturgy are adapted from liturgy by Rev. Philip Gladden.

<sup>2</sup>Object Function: Print. City/Town: Los Angeles. JOHN AUGUST SWANSON makes his home in Los Angeles, California, where he was born in 1938. He paints in oil, watercolor, acrylic and mixed media, and is an independent printmaker of limited-edition serigraphs, lithographs and etchings.

His art reflects the strong heritage of storytelling he inherited from his Mexican mother and Swedish father. John Swanson's narrative is direct and easily understood. He addresses himself to human values, cultural roots, and his quest for self-discovery through visual images. These include Bible stories and social celebrations such as attending the circus, the concert, and the opera. He also tells of everyday existence, of city and country walks, of visits to the library, the train station or the schoolroom. All his parables optimistically embrace life and one's spiritual transformation.

## Sermon Notes

[illegible]



**USHERS:** Polen and Thomison families

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

**LAY READER:** Susan Thomison

**MEDIA PERSONNEL/SEXTON:** Margaret Stein and Claire Ellington/Sara Parkerson

**NURSERY:** Alisia Simmons, Yamilet Bruno Sanchez

**LECTIONARY FOR SUNDAY JULY 6:** Isaiah 66:10–14; Psalm 66:1–9; Galatians 6:[1–6] 7–16; Luke 10:1–11, 16–20.

## **TODAY**

**DEACON OF THE WEEK** this week will be Georgeanna Capito. 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.

**TODAY'S SOLOIST** Jeremiah Simpson, has been a Collegiate Ensemble member since December 2022. A recent graduate of WKU with a BA in Music (Voice) and emphasis in composition, his works have been featured on concerts, recitals, and in our recent *Lessons and Carols*. A lover of many types of music, he participated in The Big Red Marching Band, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, the select WKU Chorale and was Mr. March in the WKU production of *Little Women*. In July he will wed his high school sweetheart, Abby. He will stay with us through August before moving to Savannah, Georgia in September. He wishes to express his gratitude for his time with us. We are glad you were here, Jeremaiah. Blessings to you and Abby!

**SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER** Today, we have special guest speaker, Ben Guthrie visiting us. Ben grew up in the Bowling Green Presbyterian Church and attended from 2005 to 2010. He was baptized and confirmed in 2010. Ben has always been deeply religiously motivated to study physics, since it gives him a direct look at the rules God uses to make Creation. He majored in physics and math, and is now pursuing his physics PhD at the University of California, Davis. He had a piece of reader mail regarding '*how outer space has influenced your worldview*' published in *The Atlantic*. Ben decided to make a blog where he published some of his thoughts on physics and his faith. Sunday, Ben will be giving a presentation called '*Why Pythagoras Was Right*'. This presentation is how he teaches his non-physics-major students about quantum mechanics. While some people may think quantum mechanics is a deeply weird, alien subject, there are nonetheless incredible connections in it that resonate with the beliefs of ancient philosophers that the universe should be an orderly, beautiful place. There will be a potluck dinner at 5:00 p.m. and immediately afterwards, Ben Guthrie's presentation in the Fellowship Hall. The meats and drinks will be provided, and we ask all attendees to bring a side dish. Let's welcome Ben Guthrie back to our church.

**THE AFTER CHURCH EATING OUT GROUP** will **NOT** meet during the summer months. They will resume after Labor Day.

## **COMING UP:**

**LIVING WATERS CLASS** Want another way to experience growth in our resurrection life? Join Pastor Kyle in a special Bible Study on Wednesday, July 9. Living Water: Watershed Moments in the Scriptures will explore key passages in the Bible that help shape our central Christian understanding and life in Christ. You may choose to come at either 10:30 a.m. or 5:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.

## **OTHER NEWS**

**NEW SCULPTURED PIECES** We are pleased to announce new sculptured pieces in the Ladies Parlor. The Cock and Hen were sculpted by Grace Allan Smyth (GAS, Jr. 1907-1994), and were displayed at the Philadelphia School of Fine Arts in 1939. At the feet of the cock are coins symbolic of Judas' betrayal of Jesus. The key represents the Keys of the Kingdom of Heaven. Jesus told Peter before the cock crows today, you will betray me three times. The two pieces were gifted to the church by the niece of the Sculptor, Ruth Vardell Smyth Brown.

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S CIRCLES** will **NOT** meet during the Summer months but will reconvene in September. The Tuesday Evening Circle will **NOT** meet in July but will reconvene in August (this is the only Circle that will reconvene in August).

**CHAIR YOGA** will **NOT** meet July 1. It will resume the Tuesday after Fourth of July.

**ART EXHIBIT** We are pleased to announce a new exhibit of watercolors by seven local artists: Misha Ambrosia, Betsy Patel, Delare Rowe, Chandra Carter, Margaret Ann King, Sylvi Alexander and Belinda Settlemoir. Soft or bold, always vibrant, watercolor produces stunning artworks with an ethereal quality. The church exhibit space in the fellowship hall is greatly appreciated by artists and our privilege to enjoy. The art will be on display in the Fellowship Hall from May 23-Jul 17. Everyone is welcomed to come and enjoy this Exhibit.

**SAVE THE DATE** August 9, 6:00-9:00 p.m. with concert starting at 7:00 p.m.— **Sunset Jazz** featuring **Jazz West**. The Peggy and Larry Pack concert series is partnering again with Traveler's Cellar Winery located off Fuqua Road in Rockfield. We are excited to offer another great night of jazz, food, and refreshments at this beautiful venue. Bring lawn chairs and a lot of friends as we reach out to our community. Food trucks will be available from 6:00-9:00 p.m.

**SAVE THE DATE** Our church's annual Pig Pickin' picnic will take place on Sunday, August 17, at the Beard pavilion. Ribs and Pulled Pork are less than six months away!

**LAY READERS NEEDED FOR JULY/AUGUST** 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](mailto:info@bgpres.org).



**OFFICE CLOSED** The office will be closed on July 4 in observance of Fourth of July. Please have an enjoyable but safe holiday.

## 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, 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  
Office Coordinator  
Director, Preschool Learning Center  
Custodian  
Clerk of Session  
Sound Attendant/Sunday Sexton*

*Rev. Kyle Otterbein  
Dr. Wayne Pope  
Mrs. Beth Pope  
Dr. Nathaniel Brown  
Mrs. Terry Johnson  
Mr. Steve Moore  
Mrs. Robin Watkins Tolbert  
Ms. Kimberly Watkins  
Mr. Cedric Whitney  
Mrs. Debbie Trickey  
Ms. Laura Parkerson*

### Calendar

#### Sunday, June 29

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

#### Monday, June 30

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

#### Tuesday, July 1

9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga-CANCELLED  
11:00 a.m. Special Care

#### Wednesday, July 2

7:00 a.m. Breakfast Group

#### Friday, July 4

**FOURTH OF JULY-Office  
Closed**

Visit Our Church Website: <https://bgpres.org>



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



**The Presbyterian Church, 1003 State Street, Bowling Green, KY 42101**  
270-843-4707 • [www.bgpres.org](http://www.bgpres.org)

**Pastor Kyle Otterbein • [kyle.otterbein@bgpres.org](mailto:kyle.otterbein@bgpres.org) • 319-400-6546**