



God's Hands and the Holy Spirit

Service for the Lord's Day

October 5, 2025
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering Around the Word of Worship

Gathering Music Ruth Brown

Striking of the Hour

Prelude *Betrübet ist zu dieser Frist*
Heinrich Scheidemann

Welcome

We Rise in Spirit and in Body

Call to Worship (responsive)

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us and we are his;

We are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Opening Hymn 267

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

MADRID

Call to Adoration and Confession

Prayer of Adoration and Confession (unison)

Almighty God, we praise you as the creator of all people. You are full of mercy and grace. You call us to lives of service, but we confess that we ignore our neighbors in need right outside our door. You call us to share our abundance, but we confess that we choose our own comfort over generosity to others. You call us to build community, but we confess that we push others away. Forgive us, Lord. May we reflect your purposes of compassion and mercy to the world. Amen.

A Silence is observed for Personal Confession

Confessional Hymn 695

Change My Heart, O God

CHANGE MY HEART

Refrain: *Change my heart, O God; make it ever true*

Change my heart, O God; May I be like you.

You are the Potter; I am the clay.

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

to Refrain

Declaration of Good News (responsive)

Relentlessly God seeks us out. With abundant grace and boundless mercy, across time and space and through the generations, God seeks us out. This is good news! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

God is good! Alleluia!

Passing of the Peace of Christ (responsive)

God is full of mercy and grace. May the peace of God in Christ be with you.

And also with you.

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

Mary Evans

Hearing the Word

All Sit

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

Gracious God, illumine these words by your Spirit that we might hear what you would have us hear and be who you would us be, for the sake of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.

Old Testament Reading (responsive)

Lamentations 3:22-24

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end;

They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him."

Anthem

Blessing and Benediction

Ruth Elaine Schram

New Testament Reading

Titus 3:1-7

Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show every courtesy to everyone. For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, despicable, hating one another. But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Sermon

Tender Mercies

Larry Gildersleve

Responding to the Word

All Stand

Response Hymn 31

Let Us with a Gladsome Mind

MONKLAND

Affirmation of Faith (unison)

based on Belgic Confession, Art. 1

We all believe in our hearts and confess with our mouths that there is a single and simple spiritual being, whom we call God—eternal, incomprehensible, invisible, unchangeable, infinite, almighty; completely wise, just, and good, and the overflowing source of all good.

All Sit

Offering

Call to Offering

Offertory

Give Me a Faith

Roberta Bitgood

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)

Lord, we respond to your goodness in this act of giving because we have been given so much. Lord, take these offerings and use them to faithfully transform the world into your realm of love and righteousness. May your work continue in the world that all people may know life. 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 475

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

Benediction

Postlude

Fugue in B-flat

Knecht



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Announcements

USHERS: Polen and Thomison families

COLLEGIATE ENSEMBLE Sammy DelRey, Blake Miller, Keelin Murrell, Mack Overfelt, and Johnna Smith

LAY READERS: Rob Hale and Larry Warden

MEDIA PERSONNEL: Margaret Stein

SEXTONS: Claire Ellington and Pamela Napier

NURSERY: Yamilet Bruno Sanchez

LECTIONARY FOR SUNDAY OCTOBER 12: 2 Kings 5:1–3, 7–15c; Psalm 111; 2 Timothy 2:8–15; Luke 17:11–19

TODAY

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

THE AFTER CHURCH EATING OUT GROUP will meet today at 12:00 p.m. at Mission Barbecue, 2631 Scottsville Road. We have heard great reviews about the pulled pork, tender brisket, collard greens, and sweet cornbread. This group is for people who like to go out to eat after church and enjoy visiting with others. We hope you can join us!

OTHER NEWS

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY we are updating our database to get ready for a new Church Directory. If you haven't recently updated your information, please pick up a communication card outside the office doors, at the entrance of the sanctuary or simply scan the QR code to update your information. You can return your card to the office Monday-Friday during office hours or hand it to an usher after worship.

Directory Form



MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE Cecelia Memorial Presbyterian Church is celebrating its 178th anniversary October 18, 2025, from 3:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m., and Cecelia Memorial invites all to join in the celebration.

The Gospel Troops and Levis & the Levites will be bringing some old-time gospel music. There will be personal testimonies and speakers testifying to the "Joyful Noise" experience when they surrendered to the Lord. So mark your calendars: Saturday, October 18, 2025, 3-4:30 p.m. at 716 College Street, Bowling Green, Kentucky. If you would like more information, please contact Lovelyn Williams at 619-368-2103 (leave a text or message if there is no answer), lovelyab@yahoo.com, or Ceceliamemorial1234@outlook.com. We look forward to seeing you there. God bless you and keep you.

FALL FESTIVAL AT ROB BYRD'S FARM will take place on Sunday, October 19. Rob Byrd is inviting our congregation to have a Fall Festival at his farm from 3:30-6:30 p.m. This is a family event, and all church members, family, and friends are welcome. Activities being planned include a hayride, fishing in the pond, volleyball, games, painting pumpkins and gourds, s'mores around a bonfire, and more. We are asking attendees to bring a side dish to eat with hamburgers!

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL BOOK FOR 2025 Please scan the QR code, review the available scriptures, and consider signing up for a scripture verse. After you sign up for a verse, share a personal message or what this verse means to you in writing, and send your draft to Erika at solberg770@gmail.com by Sunday, October 19th. Drafts can be in the body of the email, in a Google Document, or in a Word Document. Any questions please contact Erika Solberg or Michelle Fluit (fluitmichelle@gmail.com). With your permission, and after finalization, we would like to share your message in the 2025 Advent Devotional Book.



INSPIRATIONAL MEDITATION The Tuesday morning yoga class has a new name. It is now Inspirational Meditation. Class meets here at the church on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. If you would like the opportunity to learn how integrate your mind, body, and spirit to align with God's Spirit, please come join this class. Instructor: Trudy Burkeen.

HELP WITH TOPPER CAMPUS MINISTRY Interested in providing lunch or giving students a ride? Let Margaret Stein (270-779-2579) or Donna Wolbe know. Email us at topper@bgpres.org. There will be more opportunities to serve this ministry in the near future. We would love for you to get to know these special young people and help make our congregation their church family away from home.

LAY READERS NEEDED FOR OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 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.



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 2026- Pam Bratcher, Rachel Crocker, Claire Ellington, J.B. Hines, Susan Howard, Mike Kanan; Class of 2027-Sam Evans, Nathan Love, Susan Thomison, Debbie Trickey, Larry Warden; Class of 2028-Clark Carthrae, Buzz English, Julia Roberts, Julie Wedge; **Deacons:** Class of 2026-Phil Burkeen, Kim Ferguson, Kathy Higgins, Laura Parkerson, Brianna Trickey; Class of 2027-Trudy Burkeen, Georgeanna Capito, Sally Calkins, Nancy Carwell, Evan Goad, Frederica Kernohan; Class of 2028-Sharon Hendrix, Jan Morgan, and Margaret Stein.

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*

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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:



Calendar

Sunday, October 5

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
12:00 p.m. After Church Eating Out Group
5:00 p.m. Youth Group

Monday, October 6

9:00 a.m. GOD/DOG is Love
11:00 a.m. No Personnel Meeting*
Moved to October 13
5:00 p.m. No Deacons Meeting*
Moved to October 13

Tuesday, October 7

9:30 a.m. Inspirational Meditation
11:00 a.m. Special Care

Wednesday, October 8

7:00 a.m. Breakfast Group
9:30 a.m. Wednesday Morning
Young Mothers and
Others Circle
10:30 a.m. Crisis and New Creation
Class
5:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
6:30 p.m. Worship Committee
Ministry

Friday, October 10

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

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

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