



Temptation in the Wilderness, 1898. Artist: Rivière, Britton, 1840-1920*

Service for the Lord's Day

**February 22, 2026
First Sunday in Lent**

Gathering Around the Word of Worship

Gathering Music

Mike Kanan

Striking of the Hour

Prelude

Trivium, mvt. I

Arvo Pärt

Welcome

We Rise in Spirit and in Body

Call to Worship (responsive)

based on Isaiah 55:2, 11-12 & John 4:24

Let us worship God, for whom our souls thirst and our bodies long.

Listen, listen to me, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare.

We have come to hear the Word God has sent.

God's Word will not return empty but will accomplish through us his holy purpose.

Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

Then we will go out with joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills will sing; the trees of the field will clap their hands.

Opening Hymn 415

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

RESTORATION

Call to Confession

Prayer of Adoration and Confession (unison)

O God, in creation you fashion us in your image, in Christ you reveal to us your love, through the Holy Spirit you welcome us into the fellowship of believers; we praise you and we bow in gratitude before you. We constantly distort your image, but still you restore it. We daily betray your love, but still you extend it. We often disrupt fellowship, but still you bless it. Forgive us, we pray. Come to us at this time and in this place, O Lord, that your image in us might be revealed, your love for us returned, and our fellowship in Christ renewed. 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)

O Israel, put your hope in the LORD, for with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full redemption. He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins. Know that in the Messiah of Israel, Jesus our Lord, our sins are forgiven and we are restored.

Glory to God for God's mercy and grace. Amen.

Passing the Peace (responsive)

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. Jesus has descended into the valley of shadows with us, bringing peace. The peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

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)

God of call, God of transformation, God of the Lenten journey, help us to discern your still, small voice. Open us to change and growth, that we may walk with Christ. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Old Testament Reading (responsive)

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7

The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die." Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'"

The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'"

But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

Anthem

The Earth is the Lord's

Carl Nuygard

All Stand

Gospel Reading

Matthew 4:1-11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

All Sit

Sermon

Choices

Kyle Otterbein

Responding to the Word

All Stand

Response Hymn 166

Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days

ST. FLAVIAN

Affirmation of Faith (unison)

from the *Heidelberg Catechism*, Q&A 56

I believe that God, because of Christ's atonement, will never hold against me any of my sins nor my sinful nature, which I need to struggle against all my life. Rather, in his grace God grants me the righteousness of Christ to free me forever from judgment.

Minute for Mission

All Sit

Offering

Call to Offering

Offertory

Trivium, mvt. III

Arvo Pärt

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)

O God, by your good gifts you draw us into your fellowship. Within this renewing relationship of love, we respond this day with thanksgiving and with gratitude. We now return the substance of our souls, our tithes, and offerings to continue the ministry of Christ. May they bear witness to the glory of your mercy and love. 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 816

If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

Benediction

Postlude

Trivium, mvt. II

Arvo Pärt

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**Building: Guildhall Art Gallery, London, England.*

Announcements

USHERS: Polen and Thomison families

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

LAY READER: Dillon Miller

MEDIA PERSONNEL: Laura Parkerson

NURSERY: Yamilet Bruno Sanchez and Maya Swartz

LECTIONARY FOR SUNDAY March 1: Genesis 12:1–4a; Psalm 121; Romans 4:1–5, 13–17; John 3:1–17 or Matthew 17:1–9

TODAY

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

BUCK IN A BASKET for today will go to support Gloves for Love. Buck in a Basket Offering is a weekly opportunity to consider contributing during the offering for a particular mission not included in our regular budget.

THE AFTER CHURCH EATING OUT GROUP will meet today at 12:00 p.m. at Boca Taco, 2549 Mt. Victor Lane. 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 for delicious food and great conversation!

THE BIBLE STUDY CLASS is studying The Book of Psalms. Come join us in the Conference Room on Sunday mornings at 9:30. All are welcome.

COFFEE & CONVERSATION CLASS meet on Sunday mornings. The class is reading *The Screwtape Letters* by C. S. Lewis (We read about 3 letters a week, so anyone can quickly catch up.) Join us in the 10th Street Parlor—there are several copies of the book available to use there.

OTHER NEWS

YOUTH MEALS Are you interested in providing a home-cooked meal or purchasing a meal for our youth? We are seeking volunteers for meals for our youth during our Sunday group meeting. If you are interested in volunteering, a sign-up sheet is available in the church landing.

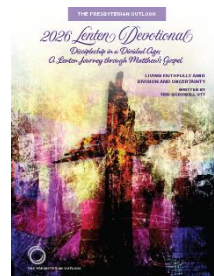
LENTEN DINNERS AND PROGRAM The church will present a Lenten program for Wednesday evenings in Fellowship Hall. On Wednesday, February 25, dinner will begin at 6:00pm followed by the program in Fellowship Hall. The menu for this Wednesday's Lenten Dinner is poppy-seed chicken, green beans, salad, rolls, and for dessert, lemon pie.

Lenten programs are designed to deepen spiritual growth, inspire encourage reflection, and aid in strengthening your relationship with God. Please RSVP with Robin in the church office by phone (270-843-4707) or email (officeasst24@bgpres.org) if you will attend dinner, so we may plan for numbers.

THE PRESBYTERIAN COOKING CLUB will again be preparing Wednesday dinners for the Lenten season. Join us each Wednesday at 4:00 p.m. in the church kitchen as we chop, stir, and simmer our way toward a delicious meal—enjoying plenty of good conversation along the way.

We'll gather on the following Wednesdays: February 25, March 4, March 11, March 18, and March 25. You're welcome to help for one, two, or join us for them all! If you're interested in joining the Cooking Club, please contact Mary Evans or Connie McGehan to express your interest. We look forward to cooking—and sharing fellowship—with you!

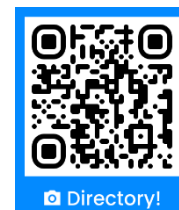
2026 LENTEN DEVOTION—You are invited to join us in a congregation-wide practice of Lenten devotion. Together we will read and pray our way through *Discipleship in a Divided Age: A Lenten Journey through Matthew's Gospel*, by the Rev. Teri McDowell Ott. Through this journey we will be invited to discover how Jesus leads us toward humility, courage, compassion, and faithful discipleship. Each Sunday in Lent we will send out the readings and prayers for the week. There will also be a link on our website.



OUR NEW DIRECTORY—You can now access our church directory through an app on your



cell phone or tablet. Just scan the QR code to go directly to the app to download it on your phone or tablet. Once you download the app, you will be directed to search for the directory of The Presbyterian Church of Bowling Green. Just use your email address to gain entry to our directory (you must have your email address that is in the directory to gain access).



COOKING CIRCLE OF GRACE Make Sourdough Bread with Matthew Crocker-Saturday, February 28 at 10:00 a.m. Ever wondered what makes sourdough sour? Love good bread? Let's learn how to make it.

Our sourdough class covers sourdough starters, fermentation science, and hands-on bread making from start to finish. Come ready to learn—and get a little floury. Please contact the church office to let us know you plan to attend so we have ingredients for everyone.

GLOVES WITH LOVE Our 10th Street fence will be dressed in gloves, socks, hats, and scarves after Christmas and during the DRITL season. Your donations of items to hang on the fence will be greatly appreciated. All donations can be dropped off in the church office.

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 Simmon's 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 MARCH/APRIL 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!



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, Dan Stelling, Brianna Trickey; Class of 2027-Trudy Burkeen, Georgeanna Capito, Sally Calkins, Nancy Carwell, Evan Goad, Frederica Kernohan; Class of 2028-Nancy English, Sharon Hendrix, Jan Morgan, and Margaret Stein.

The Presbyterian Church Staff

Transitional Pastor
Director of Student Ministries
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
Mrs. Lilly Hunter
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, February 22

9:15 a.m. Sunday School Gathering
9:15 a.m. Children's Music
9:30 a.m. Sunday School Starts
9:45 a.m. Godly Play
10:30 a.m. Worship
11:45 a.m. WKU Topper Student
Ministry Luncheon &
Discussion
12:00 p.m. After Church Eating Out
Group
5:00 p.m. Youth Group

Monday, February 23

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

Tuesday, February 24

7:00 a.m. Lion's Club Pancake Day
11:00 a.m. Special Care
12:00 p.m. Inspirational Meditation
1:00 p.m. CUICHM

Wednesday, January 25

7:00 a.m. Breakfast Group
9:30 a.m. Crisis and New Creation
Class
5:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
6:00 p.m. Lenten Dinner & Program

Thursday, January 26

6:00 p.m. David's Room in the Inn

Friday, January 27

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

Saturday, January 28

10:00 a.m. Cooking Circle of Grace-
Sourdough Making Class

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

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