



Loaves and Fishes. Artist: John August Swanson.²

Service for the Lord's Day

May 3, 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Gathering Around the Word of Worship

Gathering Music

Ruth Brown

Striking of the Hour

Prelude

Ballo del Granduca

Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck

Welcome

We Rise in Spirit and in Body

Call to Worship (responsive)

Psalm 100

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 246

Christ Is Alive!

TRURO

Call to Adoration and Confession

Prayer of Adoration and Confession (unison)

adapted from Psalms 36 & 51

O God, we praise your steadfast love. We feast on the abundance of your house and we drink from the river of your delights. With you is the fountain of life, and in your light we see light. Yet, against you, you alone, have we sinned and done what is evil in your sight. So wash us thoroughly from our transgressions and cleanse us from sin. Create in us clean hearts and put a new and right spirit within us. Do not cast us from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and uphold us with a willing spirit. Amen.

A Silence is observed for Personal Confession

Confessional Hymn 518

Your Only Son

LAMB OF GOD

Your only Son no sin to hide, but you have sent him from your side to walk upon this guilty sod and to become the Lamb of God.

Refrain: O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God! O wash me in his precious blood, my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

I was so lost, I should have died, but you have brought me to your side to be led by your staff and rod, and to be called a lamb of God. to **Refrain**

Declaration of Good News (responsive)

As we walk with Jesus Christ we discover the path of life and wholeness. Hear once more the good news of new life: In Jesus Christ you are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

Passing the Peace (responsive)

All the ways of Jesus Christ are truth and life. May the peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Young Christians are welcomed to the front to go to Children's Church

Hearing the Word

All Sit

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

Lord God, as we hear your word this morning, help us to know your ways and 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 Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Psalm Reading (responsive)

Psalm 35:1-5, 15-16

In you, O LORD, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me; Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily. Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me.

You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name's sake lead me and guide me; take me out of the net that is hidden for me, for you are my refuge.

Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God. My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.

Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

Anthem*Come My Way, My Truth, My Life*

Malcolm Archer

Come my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a Way as gives us breath; such a Truth as ends all strife: such a Life as killeth death. Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength; such a Light as shows a feast: such a Feast as mends in length; such a Strength as makes his guest. Come my Joy, my Love, my Heart; such a Joy as none can move; such a love as none can part; such a Heart as Joys in love.

*All Stand***Gospel Reading**

John 14:1-14

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

*All Sit***Sermon***The God of Prepared Places*

Rev. Kyle Otterbein

Responding to the Word*All Stand***Response Hymn 525***Let Us Break Bread Together*

LET US BREAK BREAD

*All Sit***Affirmation of Faith (unison)***from A Brief Statement of Faith*

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve....With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life and in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

*All Sit***Offering***Call to Offering***Offertory Hymn**

He's the Way, the Truth, the Life
Wayne Pope, guitar/vocal

Wayne Pope

*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, we give you thanks, for you are generous in steadfast love and mercy. You are the source of all good gifts. Receive now our tithes and offerings as our faithful response to your grace, and may they be a blessing to others in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Sealing the Word in the Sacrament

All Sit
The Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving (responsive)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Life up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

...Therefore, we join our voices with the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name....

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.*

Communion Anthem

O Bread of Life from Heaven

David Ashley White

O Bread of Life from Heaven, To saints and angels given; O Manna from above! The souls that hunger, feed thou, The hearts that seek thee, lead thou, With thy sweet tender love.

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

In Christ Alone

Special Presentation to the Otterbeins

Benediction

Postlude

Vita sanctorum decus angelorum, verse 4

Samuel Scheidt

Notes: For many years I sketched, and tried to work out in my imagination, how the scene of the LOAVES AND FISHES, with its multitude of people, could be painted. I wanted this image to honor native peoples in many parts of the world; those who work the land for their livelihood, and have lived for generations in small communities or villages...

The people in my painting are wearing garments with many colors and patterns, inspired by the creations of the makers of cloth, the weavers, and the dyers of Central America, Mexico, and parts of Africa and India...

My image of LOAVES AND FISHES emphasizes and reminds us of the basic needs of all humanity. We all share the need for food and for providing for our families and communities. If we take the cosmic view, that there currently exists enough of what we need to sustain the world; we urgently need to consider sharing the resources that have been entrusted to us.

In Christ Alone



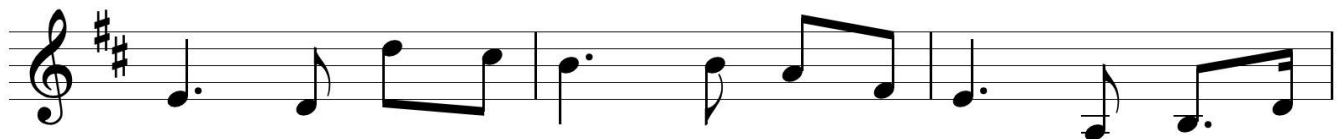
1. In Christ a-lone my hope is found, he is my light, my strength, my
2. In Christ a-lone! who took on flesh; full-ness of God in help-less
3. There in the ground his bod-y lay, light of the world by dark-ness
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in



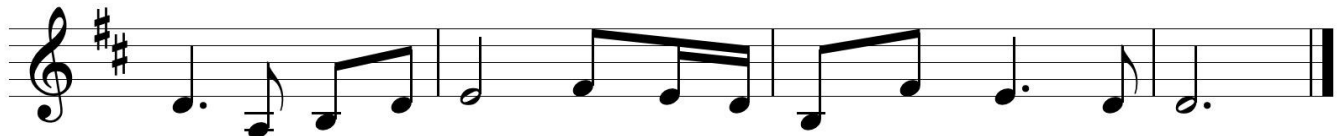
song; This cor-ner-stone, this so-lid ground, firm through the
babe! This gift of love and right-eous-ness, scorned by the
slain; then burst-ing forth in glo-rious day, up from the
me; from life's first cry to fi-nal breath, Je-sus com-



fierc-est drought and storm. What heights of love, what depths of
ones he came to save: 'til on that cross as Je-sus
grave he rose a-gain! And as he stands in vic-tor-
mands my des-ti-ny. No pow'r of hell, no scheme of



peace, when fears are stilled, when striv-ings cease! my com-fort-
died, the wrath of God was sat-is-fied; for ev-'ry
y, sin's curse has lost its grip on me; for I am
man, can ev-er pluck me from his hand; 'til he re-



er, my all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand.
sin on him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live.
his and he is mine—bought with the pre-cious blood of Christ.
turns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

Text + Music: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

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Announcements

USHERS: Hines and Kernohan families

COMMUNION SERVERS: Susan Howard, Debbie Trickey, and Larry Warden

COMMUNION PREPARER/CLEANUP: Frederica Kernohan

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

LAY READER: Larry Warden

MEDIA PERSONNEL: Laura Parkerson

NURSERY: Yamilet Bruno Sanchez & Maya Swartz

LECTIONARY FOR SUNDAY MAY 10: Acts 17:22–31; Psalm 66:8–20; 1 Peter 3:13–22; John 14:15–21

TODAY

DEACON OF THE WEEK this week will be Margaret Stein. 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 the Montreat Conference Center. 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 Anna's Greek Restaurant, 1202 State Street. Come and enjoy eating Mediterranean cuisine in this beautiful historic church venue for good food and fellowship! 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!

OTHER NEWS

NEIGHBORHOOD GROUP Neighborhood Small Group will meet on Monday, May 11, at 7:00 p.m. at Julia Robert's home. They will visit, share a devotional, pray for others, and do a project together. They welcome you to join them.

SAVE THE DATE Cecelia Memorial will be taking donations for the upcoming 7th Annual Spring Giveaway at 716 College Street. They will be accepting anything from clothing to household items to toys. The date for the event will be Saturday, May 16 from 9:00 a.m-1:00 p.m. Call or Text Lovelyn Williams at 619-368-2103 if you have or donation or questions regarding the event. Thank you for your help in advance.

SAVE THE DATE The Lane Celebration will take place on Sunday, May 31 at 12:00 p.m. after worship service in Fellowship Hall. Please come join us for this joyful celebration to warmly welcome our new pastor, Rev. Patrick Lane and his wife, Rev. Brittany Lane, as they begin their ministry with us, and to surround them with love, support, and gratitude as they join our church family. This will be a Bowling Green/Kentucky themed Potluck.

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).



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!



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
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Rev. Kyle Otterbein
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Dr. Wayne Pope
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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, May 3

9:15 a.m. Sunday School Gathering
9:15 a.m. Children's Music
9:30 a.m. Sunday School Starts
9:30 a.m. Sunday Morning Circle
9:45 a.m. Godly Play
10:30 a.m. Worship
12:00 p.m. After Church Eating Out Group

Monday, May 4

9:00 a.m. GOD/DOG is Love
12:00 p.m. Personnel Meeting
6:00 p.m. Deacons' Meeting

Tuesday, May 5

11:00 a.m. Special Care
12:00 p.m. Inspirational Meditation

Wednesday, May 6

7:00 a.m. Breakfast Group
5:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

Friday, May 8

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

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