



The Sower, 1888. Artist: Van Gogh, Vincent

Service for the Lord's Day

July 12, 2026

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering Around the Word of Worship

Gathering Music

Mike Kanan

Striking of the Hour

Prelude

Fantasia primi toni

Christian Erbac

Welcome and Announcements

We Rise in Spirit and in Body

Call to Worship (responsive)

Come, children of God, rejoice in your Maker!

Sing songs and hymns, old and new; celebrate with voices and instruments, with praise and prayers!

Our God seeks to plant us on the banks of hope, watered by the rivers of joy and grace.

Let us open our hearts and minds to the ways of the Lord, that we may hear the Word and grow strong roots.

Open your eyes to the life-giving presence of Jesus Christ.

For God is already here, among us and within us, bringing new life to all who believe. Let's praise God together!

Call to Adoration and Confession

As much as we try not to stray: we do. As much as we try to follow God's word: we don't. As we continue on this journey, let us seek God's forgiveness as we join in confessing together.

Prayer of Adoration and Confession (unison)

God of steadfast love, seeds of justice and peace cannot be sown where there is nothing but hearts of dry, hard rocks. We confess that our hearts may need tilling and the digging out of the deeply rooted sins that crowd out seedlings planted with divine compassion. Change bitter tears of remorseful hearts into raindrops of mercy, let us germinate a new life, growing with integrity, sprouting into new life, growing with honesty! God of all, You change the stony edges of repentant hearts into landscapes of mercy, now let us branch out into new life, growing with generosity! For this mercy and grace, we pray...A Silence is observed for Personal Confession

Confessional Hymn 443*There Is a Redeemer*

Green

There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son; precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.

Refrain: Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son,
and leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.

Jesus, my Redeemer, name above all names, precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
hope for sinners slain. **To Refrain**

Declaration of Good News (responsive)

Rom. 8:34; 2 Cor. 5:17

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life is gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven in Christ, and be at peace.

Thanks be to God.

Passing the Peace (responsive)

The one who is known as the Prince of Peace has invited us to join together as one body and one people. Let us join together and greet each other with signs of love and fellowship. The peace of 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)**

Open our eyes and ears to the presence of Your Holy Spirit. May the seeds of Your Word scattered among us this morning fall on fertile soil. May they take root in our hearts and lives, and produce an abundant harvest of good words and deeds. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, our teacher and our Lord. Amen.

Old Testament Reading (responsive)

Isaiah 55:8-13

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout,

giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose

and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out in joy and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle, and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Simple Song from Mass
Keelin Murrell, soprano

Leonard Bernstein

Sing God a simple song: Lauda, Laude. Make it up as you go along: Lauda, Laude... Sing like you like to sing. God loves all simple things, for God is the simplest of all, for God is the simplest of all. I will sing the Lord a new song. To praise Him, to bless Him, to bless the Lord. I will sing His praises, while I live all of my days. Blessed is the man who loves the Lord, blessed is the man who praises Him. Lauda, Lauda, Laude... and walks in His ways. I will lift up my eyes to the hills from whence comes my help. I will lift up my voice to the Lord singing Lauda, Laude. For the Lord is my shade, Is the shade upon my right hand, and the sun shall not spite me by day nor the moon by night. Blessed is the man who loves the Lord. Lauda, Lauda, Laude, and walks in His ways. Lauda, Lauda, Laude. Lauda, Lauda, di, da, di, day. All of my days.

All Stand

Gospel Reading

Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. If you have ears, hear!"

"Hear, then, the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

The grass withers and the flowers fade, but the word of the Lord endures forever.

Thanks be to God.

All Sit

Sermon

Seed, Soil, and Sowing

Rev. Patrick Lane

Responding to the Word

All Stand

Response Hymn 250

In the Bulb There Is a Flower

PROMISE

Affirmation of Faith (unison)

The Apostle's Creed

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

God demands nothing of us, but instead invites us to inhabit the infinite ocean of grace poured out through our savior, Jesus Christ. It is this generosity that gives us life, and it is in our own acts of generosity that we join in this larger life. So let us give joyfully, thanking God for the wonders of Christ's love.

Offertory

Altra Sonata

Ercole Pasquini

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 sea and sky, we give You thanks for all that has been sown in our lives and has beared fruit. We give You thanks for that which is still growing in our lives, and that one day it may bear fruits. We give You thanks for the seeds that you have given to us to sow out in the world. With thanks and praise, may the gifts we give to You this day be used as seeds in good soil to bring to life the ways of the Kingdom here in our community. In Christ's name we pray, 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 546

Lord Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

SICILIAN

Benediction

Postlude

Messe à l'usage des Couvents - Premier Kyrie

Franois Couperin

**Note: Today, Rev. Lane would like to offer you a Prayer to Carry As You Go—a simple, grounding blessing to hold onto as you step into the week ahead. Each Sunday, as you leave worship and return to your daily rhythms, use this short prayer to steady your spirit, remind you of God's presence, and accompany you wherever the*

week leads. Today's prayer is not just a closing thought; it's an invitation to walk with purpose, hope, and peace. May it become a rhythm that strengthens you, encourages you, and keeps your heart aligned with what matters most.

Prayer to Carry As You Go

Give me a candle of the Spirit, O God, as I go down into the deeps of my being. Show me the hidden things, the creatures of my dreams, the storehouse of forgotten memories and hurts. Take me down to the spring of my life, and tell me my nature and my name. Give me freedom to grow, so that I may become that self, the seed of which you planted in me at my making. Out of the deeps I cry to you, O God.

- George Appleton, England, "Prayers Encircling the World"

Sermon Notes

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Announcements

USHERS: Polen and Thomison families

COLLEGIATE ENSEMBLE Jacob Carr, Wyatt Edmonds, Keelin Murrell, Mack Overfelt, and Johnna Smith

LITURGIST: Ernie Small

MEDIA PERSONNEL: Laura Parkerson

NURSERY: Sam Evans and Sara Parkerson

TODAY

DEACON OF THE WEEK this week will be Evan Goad. 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 Habitat. 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.

SMALL GROUP ROUND TABLE Do you have an idea or interest for a church small group? Want to learn about what small groups are, or what groups are available? Come gather after worship today in the fellowship hall to chat with Mary Evans and Pastor Patrick!

MAHJONG SMALL GROUP Summer of Mahjong! Want to play? Want to learn? Bring your lunch and invite your friends! We will gather after worship service today, immediately after the Small Group Round Table. Contact Margaret Stein at 270-779-2579 with any questions

THE AFTER CHURCH EATING OUT GROUP will meet today, immediately after Small Group Round Table, at Wild Eggs, 804 Campbell Lane, Bowling Green, KY 42103. Come join us after church for amazing food, big laughs, and the kind of conversation that leaves you smiling the rest of the day.

YOUTH GROUP will meet today at 5:00 p.m. for a picnic and Pickleball at Basil Griffin Park.

OTHER NEWS

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME You're invited to join in fellowship on July 17th at the Hotrods Faith and Family night (*and there's a firework show after the game!*). We have a block of 50 tickets reserved. Tickets are \$10 per ticket, and you can sign up outside the sanctuary on the landing! Information about the ballgame can be found on the Hot Rods website.

TOUGH QUESTIONS NIGHT Join us on July 22nd at 6pm for tough questions night! Ask our panel anything anonymously through the QR code below or bring your questions for in person discussion. Questions on scripture, theology, life, culture, etc. are all welcome. Let's work out our faith together as we wrestle with tough questions!



SATURDAY MEALS On July 25, please consider assisting in our week to prepare and deliver meals to shut-ins around our Bowling Green/Warren County area. Many hands make light work and more smiles. The contact person is Frederica Kernohan, 270-991-7904. There are several ways you can volunteer:

Vehicle Loading: 8:00-9:30 a.m.

We need **2** to assist in loading the items into the cars.

Delivery: 8:30-9:30 a.m.

We need **11** drivers for this shift.

Pull in to the queue at First Baptist Church, and the crew will load your car and give you instructions on delivery. Most folks are finished within 1 hour.

BLOOD DRIVE On Thursday, July 23, Blood Assurance will be in Fellowship Hall from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. When you donate locally, you're helping ensure lifesaving blood is available before an emergency happens. Right now, Blood Assurance is seeing increased demand from local hospitals across our region. From trauma patients and cancer treatments to premature babies and new moms, blood is needed every day.

PAINTING OF THE CHURCH will begin around July 27. Please be on the lookout for more updates. We appreciate everyone's patience and support during this time. Your understanding helps ensure the work can be completed safely and efficiently.

SAVE THE DATE We are less than two months away from Pig Pickin 2026, and we couldn't be more excited. our church family will gather on Sunday, August 16 for one of our most joyful traditions. We'll begin with a 10:00 a.m. worship service and the picnic lunch immediately afterward... and yes, it's going to be *delicious*...Yummm!

PRESCHOOL LEARNING CENTER (PLC) is currently seeking volunteer substitute teachers for our 2-, 3-, and 4-year-old classes. This is a wonderful opportunity to support young learners, gain hands-on experience in early childhood education, and make a meaningful impact with children. If you enjoy working with children, have a heart for service, or simply want to lend a helping hand, we would love to hear from you. Training and guidance will be provided to ensure you feel confident and supported in the classroom. For more information or to express your interest, please contact PLC Director Kimberly Watkins at plcdirector@bgpres.org.

ART EXHIBIT The Sunny 16 Photography Exhibit, now featured in the fellowship hall, will remain on display until July 31. This vibrant collection showcases Summer Nature as seen through the lenses of members of the Sunny 16 Camera Club. Each photograph highlights the unique artistry, skill, and perspective of local photographers who capture the season's beauty in striking detail. If a particular piece speaks to you, you can purchase it directly from the photographer using the email address provided on the artwork's label. It's a wonderful way to support local artists and bring a bit of summer's inspiration into your home.

CHURCH 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 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!



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

Pastor

Rev. Patrick Lane

Director of Student Ministries

Mrs. Lilly Hunter

Director of Music/Chancel Choir Director

Dr. Wayne Pope

Children's Music Director

Mrs. Beth Pope

Organist

Dr. Nathaniel Brown

Financial Administrator

Mrs. Terry Johnson

Treasurer

Mr. Steve Moore

Office Coordinator

Mrs. Robin Watkins Tolbert

Director, Preschool Learning Center

Ms. Kimberly Watkins

Custodian

Mr. Cedric Whitney

Clerk of Session

Mrs. Debbie Trickey

Sound Attendant/Sunday Sexton

Ms. Laura Parkerson

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



Calendar

Sunday, July 12

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
12:00 p.m. Small Group Round Table

Immediately after Small Group Round Table

Mahjong Small Group
After Church Eating Out Group

Monday, July 13

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

Tuesday, July 14

11:00 a.m. Special Care
12:00 p.m. Inspirational Meditation
7:00 p.m. Sunny 16 Camera Club
7:00 p.m. Tuesday Evening Circle

Wednesday, July 15

7:00 a.m. Breakfast Group
11:00 a.m. Celebration of Life-Patricia "Patty" Greninger

Friday, July 17

7:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast Group
6:30 p.m. Baseball Game Night-Hot Rods

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

Pastor Patrick Lane • Patrick.Lane@bgpres.org • 364-999-4885

MEET AND CHAT If you would like to schedule a call or meet up with Pastor Patrick Lane, he has made the process simple and convenient. Just scan the QR code with your phone, and you'll be guided directly to his appointment page. It only takes a moment, and it ensures you can connect with him at a time that works best for you.

