



Photo: Taken from the Areopagus in Athens, Greece - May 2026.¹

Service for the Lord's Day

July 5, 2026

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering Around the Word of Worship

Gathering Music

Mike Kanan

Striking of the Hour

Prelude

Beach Spring

Wilbur Held

Welcome and Announcements

We Rise in Spirit and in Body

Call to Worship (responsive)

Psalm 145

O Lord, you are gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**You are good to all people,
with compassion for all of your creation.**

All your works give thanks to you, O Lord,
and all your faithful people bless you.

**They speak of the glory of your realm
and tell of your wondrous deeds.**

You are faithful in your words, O Lord,
and gracious in all your deeds.

**You uphold all who are falling
and raise up those who are bowed down. We lift our praise to you O God.**

Opening Hymn 331*God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand*

NATIONAL HYMN

This hymn was written in 1876 in celebration of the centennial of the United States Declaration of Independence.

Call to Adoration and Confession

Let us open our lives to God's healing presence, seeking peace with God and reconciliation with our neighbors. Let us be mindful not only of personal faults but also of our communal sins. Let us confess to God whatever has wounded us, or brought injury to others, that we may receive mercy and become for each other ministers of God's grace. Let us join in confessing together.

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

Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer. We confess that it is still all too easy for us to sacrifice our convictions for convenience, Your standards for status, Your principles for promotion, Your absolutes for our ambition, our souls for shallow and unsatisfying success. How easily we are seduced by power, prestige, pleasure, or possessions - seduced into violating our integrity or harming our fellowship with You. From the bliss of earthly things, we turn to You again. Forgive us for our half-hearted devotion and our double-minded spirit. In the name of him who refused to save himself, 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)

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 has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

Thanks be to God.

Passing the Peace (responsive)

With the grace and mercy of Christ in our hearts, let us share the love of Christ with one another by sharing the peace of our teacher and salvation. The peace of 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)

O God, O Christ, O Holy Spirit, You have promised Your abiding presence among Your people. Lord Jesus, You have said where two or three are gathered in your name, You will be there. Holy Spirit, break in on our behalf. Open our hearts and minds to receive all You desire to give, as we unite in Your presence now.

Psalm Reading (responsive)

Psalm 67

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, *Selah*. That your way may be known upon the earth, your saving power among all nations. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us. May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere him.

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

Thanks be to God.

Anthem*This We Pray*

Jay Althouse

Mack Overfelt, soprano

When at dawn the glow of morning light brings a new and wondrous day. Then we see Your spirit everywhere. Help us know You, Lord, this we pray. When at night a songbird sings a tune from a hill so far away, then we hear Your spirit everywhere. Help us know You, Lord, this we pray. Lord show us now Your strength and understanding, Your power and compassion and Your might. And may Your love impart a kindness in our heart, that we may do what's true and right. When the wind is whistling through the trees and the sky is dark and gray. Then we feel Your spirit everywhere. Help us know You, Lord, this we pray. Help us know You, Lord, this we pray.

*All Stand***New Testament Reading**

Acts 17:22-28

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we, too, are his offspring.'

*All Sit***Sermon***Freedom*

Rev. Patrick Lane

Responding to the Word*All Stand***Response Hymn 340***This Is My Song*

FINLANDIA

Written between world wars in the early twentieth century, this hymn is a prayer for peace and humility among nations.

All Sit

Affirmation of Faith (unison)

The Confession of 1967, 9.32-33

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong. The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord.

All Sit

Offering

Call to Offering

Freely it has been given to us, so may we be at peace giving freely in return. Let us give back what we are able through our time, talents and tithes.

Offertory Hymn

Wedlock

Wilbur Held

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)

Prayer of Saint Boniface

Eternal God, the refuge and help of all your children, we praise you for all you have given us, for all you have done for us, for all that you are to us. In our weakness, you are strength, in our darkness, you are light, in our sorrow, you are comfort and peace. We cannot number your blessings, we cannot declare your love: For all your blessings we bless you. May we live as in your presence, and love the things that you love, and serve you in our daily lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.

Lift 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.*

All Sit

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving (continuation) 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.*

Words of Institution

Hymns at Communion 510

We Gather Here

DIVERNON

507

Come to the Table of Grace

TABLE OF GRACE

518

Your Only Son

LAMB OF GOD

The congregation is invited to sing as communion is being served.

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray...A Moment of Silence...

Bearing and Following the Word into the Created World

All Stand

Closing Hymn 338

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

MATERNA

This hymn praises God for the beauty of America, but it also prays for God's grace and correction when we go astray. The song became immensely popular during World War One and afterwards.

Benediction

Postlude

Detroit

Wilbur Held

¹Note: Looking up towards the Acropolis, the city of Athens continues down below as the hill where Paul preached creates a cliff overlooking the ancient city center.

²Note: 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

God, source of all freedom, this day is bright with the memory of those who declared life and liberty are your gift to every human being. Help us to continue a good work begun long ago. Make our vision clear and our will strong: that only in human solidarity will we find liberty, and justice only in the honor that belongs to every life on earth. Turn our hearts toward the family of nations: to understand the ways of others, to offer friendship, and to find safety only in the common good of all. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

– from Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers

Announcements

USHERS: Polen and Thomison families

COMMUNION SERVERS: Claire Ellington, Larry Warden, and Julie Wedge

COMMUNION PREPARER/CLEANUP: Sally Calkins and Ray Elms

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

LAY READER: Larry Warden

MEDIA PERSONNEL: Laura Parkerson

NURSERY: Sam Evans & Sara Parkerson

TODAY

DEACON OF THE WEEK this week will be Nancy Carwell. 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 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.

THE AFTER CHURCH EATING OUT GROUP will meet today at Olive Garden, 3220 Scottsville Road. The Chicken Parmigiana or Fettuccine Alfredo are delicious! We hope you can join us for delicious food and great conversation. This group is for people who like to go out to eat after church and enjoy visiting with others.

OTHER NEWS

PAINTING OF THE CHURCH the estimated start date is July 6. 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.

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 on July 12th 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 on Sundays, starting July 12, immediately after the Small Group Round Table. Contact Margaret Stein at 270-779-2579 with any questions.

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. 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.

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.

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
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. Patrick Lane
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

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:



Calendar

Sunday, July 5

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. After Church Eating Out Group

Monday, July 6

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

Tuesday, July 7

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

Wednesday, July 8

7:00 a.m. Breakfast Group
6:00 p.m. Worship Ministry Meeting

Friday, July 10

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

Saturday, July 11

11:00 a.m. Celebration of Life-Catherine Reynolds

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.

