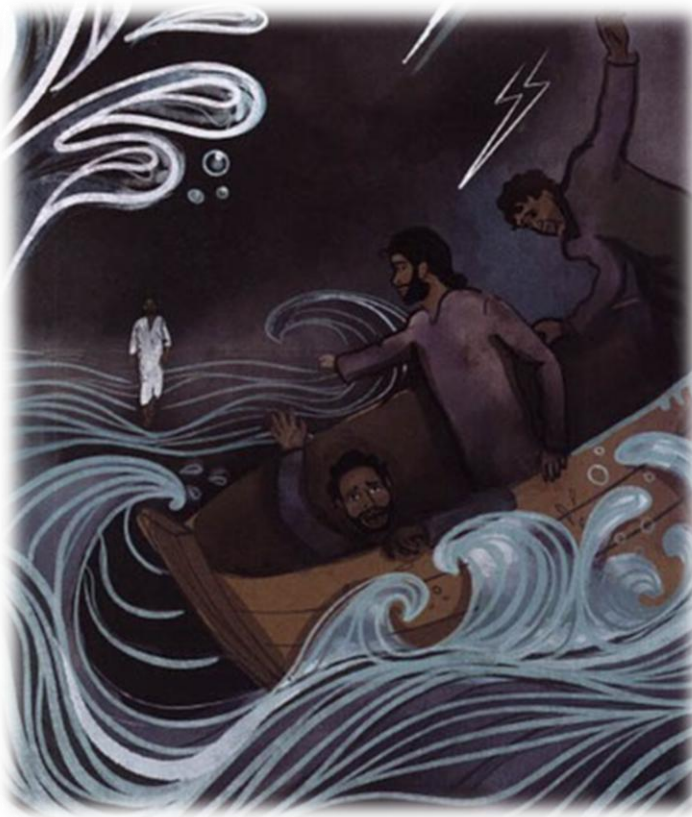




God's Story as told by God's Children. Illustrated by Tessa Stultz

Service for the Lord's Day

August 9, 2026

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering Around the Word of Worship

Gathering Music

Mike Kanan

Striking of the Hour

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

We Rise in Spirit and in Body

Call to Worship (responsive)

Lord, we rejoice in your presence and your promise. We ask you to move among us as we worship together, and that your Spirit be within us in all we do and say.

You know our cares and our concerns; You know our trials and tribulations; You know our joys and our sorrows. And in all that we are, we are nothing without You.

So today we come to you in worship from a multitude of moments, from a variety of backgrounds, from all walks of life, yet one in the Spirit.

And we humbly give thanks, that the promises we count upon remain true today, as they have for generation upon generation.

Your mercies are great and everlasting, O Lord, and we give you thanks!

For this is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it! Let us worship God Almighty!

Opening Hymn 462

I Love to Tell the Story

HANKEY

Call to Adoration and Confession

Romans 10:12-13

God makes no distinctions among us - the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous. Indeed, everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. Confessing our sins, we depend on God's generosity and grace. Therefore, let us join in confession.

Prayer of Adoration and Confession (unison)

Feasting on the Word

Gracious God, You call us to step out in faith, trusting in You for all things. We respond to Your command but then sink in doubt and fear. We hide from challenges of discipleship. We are not able to fulfill Your commandments, for our purposes are never in full accord with Yours. Forgive us, we pray, when we confess with our lips but do not believe in our hearts. Help us to practice our faith in all circumstances. Lift us out of sin into the arms of your mercy. Though we are distracted by noise all around, allow us to hear Your voice even when it is the sound of sheer silence...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)

Romans 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 teachings of Christ state: A new command I give you, that you love one another as I have loved you. Now, as we have been loved, let us share the love of Christ with one another. The peace of Christ be with you all.

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)

Feasting on the Word

Gracious God, Your word is very near, on our lips and in our hearts. As this Word is read and proclaimed, by the power of Your Holy Spirit, make it become in us the word of faith. Then send us in joy to bring this word to others, so that all the world may know the good news of God's loving grace found in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Epistle Reading (responsive)

Romans 10:5-13

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?' " (that is, to bring Christ down) "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Anthem

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands
Caitlin Miles, soprano Beth Pope, piano

Spiritual/arr. Joel K. Boyd

All Stand

Gospel Reading

Matthew 14:22-33 (Common English Bible)

Right then, when the feeding of the 5000 was complete, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go ahead to the other side of the lake while he dismissed the crowds. When he sent them away, he went up onto a mountain by himself to pray. Evening came and he was alone. Meanwhile, the boat, fighting a strong headwind, was being battered by the waves and was already far away from land. Very early in the morning he came to his disciples, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified and said, "It's a ghost!" They were so frightened they screamed. Just then Jesus spoke to them, "Be encouraged! It's me. Don't be afraid."

Peter replied, "Lord, if it's you, order me to come to you on the water." And Jesus said, "Come." Then Peter got out of the boat and was walking on the water toward Jesus. But when Peter saw the strong wind, he became frightened. As he began to sink, he shouted, "Lord, rescue me!" Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him, saying, "You man of weak faith! Why did you begin to have doubts?" When they got into the boat, the wind settled down. Then those in the boat worshipped Jesus and said, "Truly you are the Son of God".

All Sit

Sermon

Rev. Patrick Lane

Responding to the Word

All Stand

Response Hymn 817

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

DUNLOP'S CREEK

Affirmation of Faith (unison)

This is the good news that we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God. To all of this we confess and believe. Amen.

All Sit

Offering

Call to Offering

Because God cares for all without distinction and is generous to all beyond measure, so we, God's people, are to care for all with generosity and gladness. We bring our offerings to be used for God's good purposes in the church and in the world.

Offertory

How Can I Keep from Singing
Caitlin Miles, soprano Beth Pope, piano

American Tune/arr. Christopher Ruck

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)

Generous God, we thank You for Your call and claim upon our lives. Because there is so much more we can become, and so much more we can do, we pray that our faith will increase; that our practice of generosity will grow; and that our joy in believing will encourage others as we share the good news of Christ Jesus. It is in his holy name that we pray all things, 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 159

O Sing a Song of Bethlehem

KINGSFOLD

Benediction

Postlude

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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

for courage when you don't feel brave

God, I have no idea what courage is or how to muster it, but I know I need it. Fear is taking up too much space and I have so little bandwidth left. God, if courage is a gift, then please give it. And if it is a thing for me to learn, then show me how.

For blessed are the brave. Those who perform big courageous acts of sacrifice. Those who move toward fear and danger so the rest of us feel a little more safe.

May we also learn bravery in small acts of great love. We who grieve, even if we feel like we are doing it all wrong. We who have received bad news and take the next right step toward what must be done. We who sit in the shards of a life that has come undone. We who hold another's hands on their hardest days. We who serve and pour out and keep loving, no matter the cost. We who live still, brave and scared at the same time.

Perhaps fear is not something to be vanquished, but rather that strange friend who tells us who we love, and what we can't live without.

So bless us, God. In our fear. In our shaky hop. Because brave looks like that too, sometimes.

- from *The Loves We Actually Have: 100 Blessings for Imperfect Days* by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie

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, Sammy Del Rey, and Johnna Smith

LITURGIST: Lilly Hunter

MEDIA PERSONNEL: Claire Ellington

NURSERY: Kathy Green

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 DRITI. 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.

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. Contact Margaret Stein at 270-779-2579 with any questions.

THE AFTER CHURCH EATING OUT GROUP will pause gatherings until after *Pig Pickin'* (August 16). They will resume their usual scheduled gathering once the event is over.

THE FLOWERS AT THE ALTER are given to the glory of God. The flowers were hand-picked from the flower garden of Ron Shrewsbury, offered as a beautiful reminder of God's creation and care.

OTHER NEWS

PAINTING OF THE CHURCH has begun. During this time, all worship services will be held in the Fellowship Hall. This temporary change allows the work to be completed safely and efficiently while ensuring our gatherings continue without interruption. Thank you for your patience, flexibility, and continued support as we make these improvements. Your understanding helps us create a more beautiful and welcoming space for everyone.

GOAD FAMILY MEAL TRAIN We have set up a Meal Train Volunteers signup for the Goad family for the next couple of weeks. As Evan is recovering and Sheryl prepares for surgery on August 11, this a meaningful opportunity for us to surround their family with care, love, and support through the simple but powerful gift of a prepared meal. If you feel led to volunteer and provide a meal, please scan the QR code to sign up. Every dish offered is a reminder to the Goads that their church family is walking beside them in this season.



WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY will begin on August 26th at 6pm. We will be studying: N.T. Wright and Michael Bird's book "The New Testament You Never Knew: Exploring the Context, Purpose, and Meaning of the Story of God", which is both a personal study alongside a group study. This study is designed to enrich both your personal walk with Christ and your growth within the community, offering insight that deepens understanding and strengthens faith. It will be 8 weeks long, and YOU DO NOT HAVE TO ATTEND EVERY CLASS TO JOIN! If you'd like to receive a study guide book, please sign up by scanning the QR code so that the church knows how many to order for the class. I truly hope you'll gather with me as we dive deeper into Scripture and discover more of God's story—and our place within it. There is something powerful that happens when God's people open His Word together, and I believe these weeks will be both meaningful and transformative. -Pastor Patrick



PIG PICKIN is next Sunday, and we couldn't be more excited. Our church family will gather on Sunday, August 16, at the Beard Farm 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! Please take a postcard to share from the resource table in the lobby.

PRESCHOOL LEARNING CENTER (PLC) has an amazon wish list. "*Teachers shape little minds but we can't do it without your help*" Each item helps support our teachers and students by providing classroom materials, learning tools, and supplies that make a big difference in our daily activities. To view the list and choose an item, visit the PLC Wish List today by scanning the QR code—every contribution, no matter the size, helps our little learners thrive!



CECELIA MEMORIAL – The date has been set for the fall giveaway!! The 7th Annual Fall Giveaway will be held on September 19, 2026, and we are now gratefully accepting donations. Many individuals and families in our community have reached out with specific needs. Small furniture, household items, small appliances, and clothing are especially requested, but truly, anything you believe someone could put to good use is welcome. Your generosity makes a real difference. Thank you for helping us care for our neighbors in such a meaningful way. You can contact me at lovelynab@yahoo.com; ceceliamemorial1234@outlook.com, text or call 619-368-2103. Thank you so much for whatever help you can give. Lovelyn

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).



LITURGIST NEEDED FOR AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 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

Calendar

Sunday, August 9

9:15 a.m. Sunday School Gathering
9:30 a.m. Sunday School Starts
9:45 a.m. Godly Play
10:30 a.m. Worship
12:00 p.m. Mahjong Small Group
5:00 p.m. Youth Group

Monday, August 10

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

Tuesday, August 11

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, August 12

7:00 a.m. Breakfast Group
9:30 a.m. PLC Open House
5:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
6:00 p.m. Worship Ministry Meeting

Thursday, August 13

PLC Open House

Friday, August 14

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

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:



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.

