



The Late-arriving Workers. Artist: JESUS MAFA

Service for the Lord's Day

September 20, 2026

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering Around the Word of Worship

Gathering Music

Mike Kanan

Striking of the Hour

Prelude

Ut re mi fa sol la in F

William Byrd

Welcome and Announcements

Minute for Mission

Rodney Goodman, Executive Director, Habitat for Humanity BG

We Rise in Spirit and in Body

Call to Worship (responsive)

Call all the laborers, O God,

Call Your laborers who woke early, call Your laborers who came late,

Call Your laborers who feel wronged, call Your laborers who feel overlooked,

Call Your laborers who know they are working in Your fields, call Your laborers who use their wage to increase Your love,

Call all your laborers, O God, for we know that we have work to do.

Let us find You in the praise and prayer we share here and now, in Christ's presence we pray.

Opening Hymn 719

Come, Labor On

ORA LABORA

Call to Adoration and Confession

Phil. 1:27

Because we do not always live our lives in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, we confess before God and one another our sins and shortcomings. In repentance, let us turn toward God's grace and mercy.

Prayer of Adoration and Confession (unison)

Feasting on the Word Liturgies

God of abundant goodness, we confess that we want Your grace for ourselves but often wish punishment or exclusion on others. We judge the efforts and motives of others while ignoring the faults of our own. Forgive us, we pray, when we let jealousy overtake us. Forgive us, we pray, when we are petty even in the presence of Your generosity. Forgive us, we pray, when we feel slighted by You. May we ask once again for Your mercy? Will you help us to be more merciful toward one another? We pray in the name of Christ Jesus, by whose grace we are saved.

Confessional Hymn

Lord, I Need You

C. Nichols, D. Carson, J. Reeves,
K. Stanfill, M. Maher

Lord, I come, I confess. Bowing here I find my rest
Without You I fall apart You're the One that guides my heart

Chorus

Lord, I need You, Oh, I need You, Every hour I need You
My one defense, my righteousness. Oh God, how I need You
Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more. Where grace is found is where You are
And where You are, Lord, I am free. Holiness is Christ in me

Repeat Chorus

Declaration of Good News (responsive)

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. May the God of mercy, who forgives you all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

Passing the Peace (responsive)

With the love of Christ in our hearts, let us greet one another saying, "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)

Gracious God, Your Word surprises, challenges, upsets, and overturns our way of seeing and thinking. Come and find us today wherever we are, however we are. By the power of Your Holy Spirit, open us to see as You see, and glimpse the kingdom you are bringing. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Psalm Reading (responsive)

Jonah 3:4-10

Going a days walk into the city of Nineveh, Jonah cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. Then he had a proclamation made in Nineveh: "By the decree of the king and his nobles: No human or animal, no herd or flock, shall taste anything. They shall not feed, nor shall they drink water.

Humans and animals shall be covered with sackcloth, and they shall cry mightily to God. All shall turn from their evil ways and from the violence that is in their hands. Who knows? God may relent and change his mind; he may turn from his fierce anger, so that we do not perish."

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it.

This is the Word of God for the people of God

Thanks be to God.

Anthem*Psalm 95*

Robert Clatterback

O come, let us sing for joy to the Lord, And joyfully shout to the rock of salvation, O come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; Give praise to the Lord with an "Alleluia." Sing to the Lord! Shout to the Lord! Enter His presence with psalms of thanksgiving. O come, let us sing for joy to the Lord! Give praise to the Lord with "Alleluia." Alleluia! God is our salvation, Alleluia! Magnify His name. Alleluia! Praise and adoration. Alleluia! Alleluia! Spread His fame. King of Kings, Lord of Lords; The depth, the height, the sea and the dry land are in His hand. O come, let us sing for joy to the Lord. And joyfully shout to the rock of salvation. O come, let us sing for joy to the Lord, Give praise to the Lord with an "Alleluia!" Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the Lord! Sing to Him, Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the Lord! Shout to Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the Lord! Worship Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen! Amen! Amen! Amen!

*All Stand***Gospel Reading**

Matthew 20:1-16

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received a denarius. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

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

Thanks be to God*All Sit***Sermon***Grace is There*

Rev. Patrick Lane

Responding to the Word*All Stand***Response Hymn 435***There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

IN BABILONE

*All Sit***Affirmation of Faith (unison)**

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 true God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives. Amen.

*All Sit***Offering***Call to Offering*

Feasting on the Word Liturgies, Matthew 20:1

Whether we have much or only a little, we can share our daily bread so that all will be fed. As we have received, so now we give, in the vineyard of the Lord, our tithes and offerings.

Offertory*Or sus, serviteurs du Seigneur*Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck
transcr. Nathaniel Brown*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)

Lord, giver of all good gifts, thank you for the resources gathered here. Accept, we pray, our thanksgivings and offerings, and may that which we give be used for the glory and purpose of your kingdom. 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 683***Lord of All Hopefulness*

COURTNEY

Benediction**Postlude***Christe, qui lux es & dies, verse 3*

Samuel Scheidt

¹*Note: Note: JESUS MAFA is a response to the New Testament readings from the Lectionary by a Christian community in Cameroon, Africa. Each of the readings was selected and adapted to dramatic interpretation by the community members. Photographs of their interpretations were made, and these were then transcribed to paintings.*

²*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

Prayer at the Completion of a Habitat for Humanity Home

Great, joyful God, we come with smiles and tears and with hearts beating faster and louder. Today we stand in awe that what was once rubble and earth is evidence of dreams come true. Thank you, kind Lord, for the joy of joining hearts and hands with courageous families who now call this home. For those who gave the most of body and strength and soul support, let them not be ashamed to feel satisfaction of worthy work and the sound of Your voice today saying, "good job, good job". Bless with special grace this family who now call this home. Let the days grow richer for them with their new responsibilities as homeowners, their nights filled with rest that comes from knowing that hope does thrive again. Teach us all something today, O Master Builder. Build us up where we are torn down. Hide us a while with You, so that seeing straight and nourished by Your life and Spirit we will feel all the more like walking Your way and doing Your will. In the name of Christ our Lord, who joins us together in one body with the Holy Spirit and the power of God Almighty, we pray and celebrate. Amen.

- Adapted from "A Book of Prayers", Arthur A.R. Nelson

[illegible]

Announcements

USHERS: Polen and Thomison families

CHOIR: Barbara Brindle, Trudy Burkeen, Tim Daniel, Craig Heller, Keelin Murrell, Beth Pope, Wayne Pope, Mack Overfelt, Sammy Del Ray, Diane Simmons, and Walker Woods

LITURGIST: Rob Hale

MEDIA PERSONNEL: Claire Ellington

NURSERY: Yamilet Bruno Sanchez and Gabby Treju-Hernandez

TODAY

DEACON OF THE WEEK this week will be Georgeanna Capito. 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 Living Water. 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 **NOT** meet today. We will join the Habitat for Humanity Brunch Potluck. We will reconvene next Sunday, September 27 at Thai Thai Restaurant, 712 Chestnut St. Thai dishes make good lunch options because they tend to be on the lighter side and incorporate fresh ingredients. Come join us!

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

COFFEE & CONVERSATION CLASS meets on Sunday mornings. This Fall, the class will be reading *The Universal Christ* by Richard Rohr. Join us in the 10th Street Parlor—there will be several copies of the book available to use there.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BRUNCH POTLUCK Potluck season begins! Please bring your favorite brunch potluck dish TODAY. The meal will be served after our worship service in the Fellowship Hall. We will have a few omelet stations set up to add to your brunch plate. We will have Rodney Goodman, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity BG/WC, in attendance to speak about current and future projects for our community.

YOUTH MEALS We need volunteers to provide home-cooked or purchased meals for our youth during Sunday group meetings. If you'd like to help, the sign-up sheet is available in the church landing.

OTHER NEWS

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY will begin at 6:00 p.m. 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.

THE JOYFUL NOISEMAKERS will be singing at Arcadia on Tuesday, September 22, at 10:30 a.m. It is a sing-along, not a performance. We welcome anyone who likes to sing the old familiar hymns to join us. Meet at Arcadia at 10:15 on Tuesday and bring joy to the Arcadia residents. We will be wearing blue shirts.

QUARTERLY MOVIE NIGHT Members and Friends, you are invited to join us in Fellowship Hall next Sunday, September 27, at 5:00 p.m. We'll be watching *Racing Stripes*, a fun and family-friendly film perfect for an evening of fellowship. Come enjoy good company, popcorn, and a great movie. All are welcome — bring a friend and settle in for a delightful night together.

JOINT MISSION WITH BRASS The Presbyterian Church is joining with Barren River Area Safe Space (BRASS) to help prepare one of their homes for new occupants on September 28, likely from 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. [this is subject to change]. We will likely be preparing the space by setting up to make the units more "homey" by unboxing new furnishing items, making beds, washing dishes, etc. We can't share the location, as it's confidential, so if you'd like to participate in this mission, please call the office or email Robin or Pastor Patrick.

CREATIVE CREATION Whether you love painting, knitting, crocheting, scrapbooking, card making, sewing, or any other craft, you're invited to join our *Creative Creations Small Group* on September 30 at 6:00 p.m. Come connect with others, share ideas, learn new skills, and enjoy a relaxing evening of creativity and fellowship. All are welcome — bring your favorite project or simply come to be inspired.

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS BOOK Christmas in October? Not quite, but that's when we'd like you to submit your devotional for this year's book! Michelle Fluit and Erika Solberg will again be collecting your words and pictures to help us prepare for Christmas. The sign-up sheet is available on the landing outside the chapel. The theme this year is "Until the Dawn." Please send your submission by October 2 to solberg770@gmail.com. For more information, a list of passages to choose from, and guidance on how to write a devotional, see the church website or contact Erika at the above email or at 270-202-5149.

SAVE THE DATE Get ready for an evening filled with joy, laughter, and community spirit! Our *Community Hoedown* will take place on Friday, October 16 in Fellowship Hall, and everyone is invited to join in the fun. This event is Sponsored by The Presbyterian Church of Bowling Green, and is open to the entire community—whether you're an experienced dancer or stepping onto the dance floor for the very first time.

BELLEWOOD & BROOKLAWN is working to strengthen connections with local families and community partners in the Bowling Green and surrounding areas. **Interested in learning more?** Complete the brief interest form, by scanning the QR Code.



OUR PRESCHOOL LEARNING CENTER 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!



LITURGIST NEEDED FOR OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 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 Leadership

Pastor
Director of Student Ministries
Director of Music/Chancel Choir Director
Organist
Financial Administrator
Treasurer
Office Coordinator
Director, Preschool Learning Center
Custodian
Clerk of Session
Sound Attendant

Rev. Patrick Lane
Mrs. Lilly Hunter
Dr. Wayne Pope
Dr. Nathaniel Brown
Mrs. Terry Johnson
Mr. Steve Moore
Mrs. Robin Watkins Tolbert
Ms. Kimberly Watkins
Mr. Cedric Whitney
Mrs. Debbie Trickey
Ms. Claire Ellington

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, September 20

9:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship
9:15 a.m. Sunday School Gathering
9:30 a.m. Sunday School Starts
Godly Play
10:30 a.m. Worship
11:45 p.m. Christian Ed. Meeting
12:00 p.m. Habitat for Humanity Potluck
1:00 p.m. Youth Group

Monday, September 21

9:00 a.m. God/Dog is Love

Tuesday, September 22

10:30 a.m. Joyful Noise Makers-at
Arcadia
11:00 a.m. Special Care
12:00 p.m. Inspirational Meditation
1:00 p.m. CUICHM

Wednesday, September 23

7:00 a.m. Breakfast Group
5:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
6:00 p.m. Wed. Evening Bible Study
6:00 p.m. Open Table-College Min.

Friday, September 25

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

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

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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.

