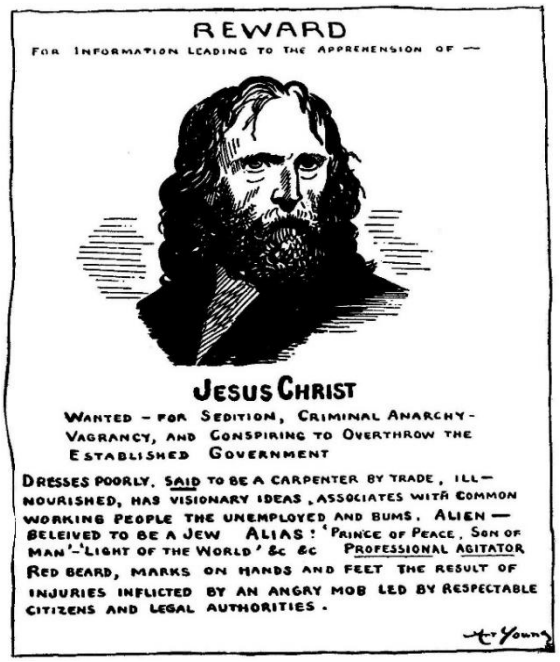


Jesus Wanted Poster. Artist: Art Young

Service for the Lord's Day

September 27, 2026
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Gathering Around the Word of Worship

This morning, a rose has been placed on the communion table in celebration of the birth of Sophia Anne Max, born on September 14, 2026. Sophia is the daughter of Kate and Caleb Max and the granddaughter of Kathryn and Mark Bigler. The Presbyterian Church has a long tradition of placing a rose on the communion table to mark the birth of a child within the church family. Following the service, the rose is traditionally taken home by the family or delivered to the family.

Gathering Music Mike Kanan

Striking of the Hour

Prelude *Fantasia in C* William Byrd

Welcome and Announcements

We Rise in Spirit and in Body

Call to Worship (responsive) Written by Katherine Hawker, 2002

Come to hear the Word.
Come to do the Word.
Come to experience Comfort.
Come to experience Challenge.
Come to find Love.
Come to find Joy.
Come to find Humanity.
Come to find Community.
Come to find Church.
Come to find God.

Opening Hymn 23 *Praise the Lord! God's Glories Show* LLANFAIR

Call to Adoration and Confession Ezekiel 18:31

The Lord spoke through Ezekiel, saying, cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. Therefore, let us confess our sins against God and neighbor, trusting in the promise of forgiveness.

Prayer of Adoration and Confession (unison)

adapted from *Contemporary Prayers for Public Worship, 1967*

God our Father, we have sinned against you in thought, in word and in deed: we have not loved You with all our heart; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. We confess to You, Lord, the unrest of the world, to which we contribute. Forgive us that so many of us are indifferent to the needs of others. Forgive our reliance on weapons of terror, our discrimination against peoples, and our preoccupation with material things. Have mercy on us; strip us of all that is un-Christlike; and help us to live up to our calling; through Christ Jesus our Lord…*A Silence is observed for Personal Confession*

Confessional Hymn *Lord, I Need You* C. Nichols, D.Carson, J.Reeves, K. Stanfill, M. Maher

Verse 1

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*)

Verse 2

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. (*chorus*)

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.

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.

Thanks be to God.

Passing the Peace (responsive) James 3:18

A harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace. Let us be peacemakers as we 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)

Loving God, fountain of every blessing, open us to your life-giving word, and fill us with your Holy Spirit so that living water may flow through our hearts - a spring of hope for a thirsty world; through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Old Testament Reading (responsive) 2 Samuel 12:1-9

The Lord sent Nathan to David. He came to him and said to him, "There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. The rich man had very many flocks and herds, but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb that he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meager fare and drink from his cup and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb and prepared that for the guest who had come to him." Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, "As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; he shall restore the lamb fourfold because he did this thing and because he had no pity."

Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; I gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your bosom and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah, and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more. Why have you despised the word of the Lord, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites.

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

Thanks be to God

Anthem *Psalm 91* Craig Courtney

Megan Puckett, Oboe

You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High, Who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, Say to the Lord, “My refuge, my fortress, my God in whom I trust.” He will deliver you from the fowler’s snare, And under His wings you will find refuge. His faithfulness shall be your shield and rampart. You shall not fear the terror by night or the arrow that flies by day, Or the pestilence that stalks in darkness or ravages at mid-day. A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but you will not be harmed. If you make the Most High your dwelling even the Lord, who is my refuge, Then no harm will befall you, no scourge will approach your tent. He will give His angels charge over you, On their hands they will lift you up, Let you strike your feet upon a stone.

All Stand

Gospel Reading Matthew 21:23-32

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why, then, did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the toll collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.

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

Thanks be to God.

All Sit

Sermon *God Sent Mirror* Rev. Patrick Lane

Responding to the Word

All Stand

Response Hymn 182 *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say* KINGSFOLD

All Sit

Affirmation of Faith (unison) Apostles’ 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

In love, God made flesh in Christ promised to give us the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, to continually fill us and connect us. Just as God has given us the Spirit through Christ, so shall we give back that which we are able of our time, our talents and our tithes. Let us lift what we have before the LORD.

Offertory *Psalm 23* David Ashley White
Megan Puckett, Oboe

The Lord my God my shepherd is; how could I want or need? In pastures green, by streams serene, he safely does me lead. To wholeness he restores my soul and does in mercy bless, and helps me take for his Name's sake the paths of righteousness. Yes, even when I must pass through the valley of death's shade, I will not fear, for you are here, to comfort and to aid. You have in grace my table spread secure in all alarms, and filled my cup, and raised me up in everlasting arms. Then surely I can trust your love for all the days to come, that I may tell your praise, and dwell forever in your arms.

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)

Almighty and merciful God, from whom comes all that is good. We praise You for Your mercies, for Your goodness that has created us, Your grace that has sustained us, Your discipline that has corrected us, Your patience that has borne us, and Your love that has redeemed us. Help us to love You, and to be thankful for all Your gifts by serving You and delighting to do Your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 263 *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* CORONATION

Benediction

Postlude Fantaisie "Duretez" Louis Couperin

[1]*Note: Art Young was a well-known American cartoonist and writer. First published in "The Masses" in 1917. Used with permission, citation: Art Young, Jesus Wanted poster. http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=59079*

[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

Loving Shepherd, You lead and guide, You walk alongside, You prepare, you feed, you call, all of your sheep, even those of us who are lost, those of us who stray constantly, those of us who stay close to your comforting staff. We are grateful for the lush green pastures of our lives, and we pause now to offer our thanksgivings for the goodnesses in our lives… There are so many who walk in the shadows of fear and suffering and despair, and we pause now, to offer our prayers for the broken and bleeding places in this world… We also offer our prayers for the sheep of our own flocks, in our families and friends, in this our church and our community…(pause) O Loving Shepherd, we have all we need, as we live in You. Amen.

~ written by Rev. Karla

Sermon Notes

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: Dillon Miller
MEDIA PERSONNEL: Claire Ellington
NURSERY: Yamilet Bruno Sanchez and Gabby Treju-Hernandez

TODAY

DEACON OF THE WEEK This week will be Phil Burkeen. Deacons assist the Pastor in caring for our congregation. You may contact them through the church office: 270-843-4707.

TODAY'S GUEST MUSICIAN Megan Puckett is the wife of Troy Puckett and the mother of Dean and J.T. An accomplished musician and educator, Megan has taught in the public school system for 16 years and has more than 20 years of experience teaching private music students. She holds a Master of Music degree in Choral Conducting and a Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education (Oboe) from Western Kentucky University. In addition to her teaching career, Megan is an active performer who frequently appears with Orchestra Kentucky, performing on both oboe and keyboards. Her dedication to music education and performance has enriched the lives of countless students and audiences throughout our community. Please join us in welcoming Megan and thanking her for sharing her talents with us today.

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 meet today 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!

QUARTERLY MOVIE NIGHT Members and Friends, you are invited to join us tonight at 5:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. 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 a lawn chair, and settle in for a delightful night together.

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.

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**.**

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.

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY If you are interested in baking or purchasing bread for World Communion Sunday on **October 4**, a sign-up sheet is available in the landing area.

OTHER NEWS

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.

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.

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.

THE FILM CREW will meet on **October 9** at The Great Escape Regal Cinema for the showing of The Avengers.

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.

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. We are asking all participants to bring a side dish and comfortable shoes.

SAVE THE DATE Housing Authority Halloween Trunk or Treat will take place **Wednesday, October 28** at 5:30 p.m. at First Christian Church.

SAVE THE DATE A Fall Festival at Rob Byrd's farm will take place on **Sunday, November 1** from 3:30-6:30 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE We will have a WKU Tailgate and Watch Party**, November 7** at 1:30 p.m.

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 sign-up 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	*Rev. Patrick Lane*
Director of Student Ministries	*Mrs. Lilly Hunter*
Director of Music/Chancel Choir Director	*Dr. Wayne 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	*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 27
- 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. Coffee Fellowship
  Mahjong Group
- 12:00 p.m. After Church Eating Out Group
- 5:30 p.m. Quarterly Movie Night-Racing Stripes

Monday, September 28
- 9:00 a.m. God/Dog is Love
  BRASS-Transitional House Cleaning

Tuesday, September 29
- 11:00 a.m. Special Care
- 12:00 p.m. Inspirational Meditation

Wednesday, September 30
- 7:00 a.m. Breakfast Group
- 5:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
- 6:00 p.m. Wed. Evening Bible Study
  Open Table-College Min.
  Creative Connections

Friday, October 2
- 7:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast Group

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.