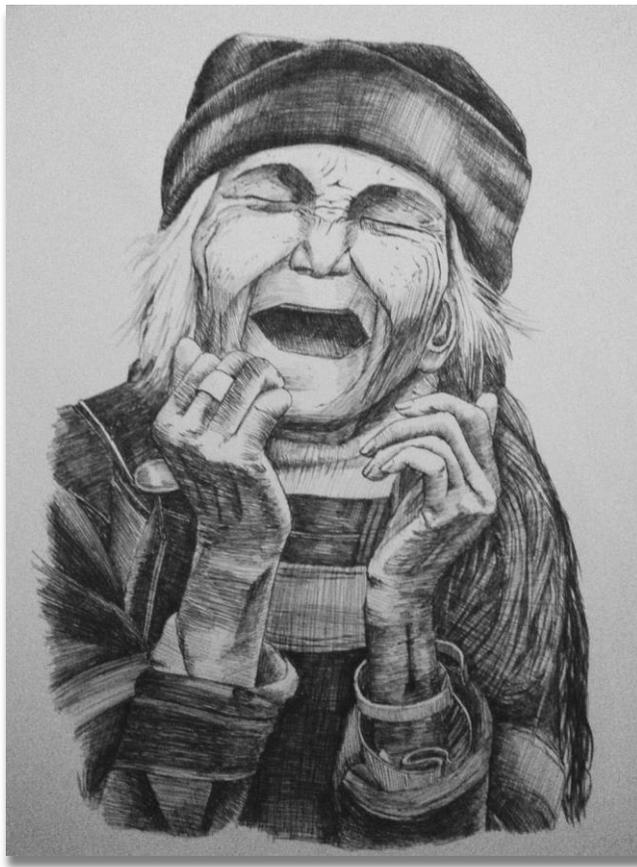


“You can't deny laughter; when it comes, it plops down in your favorite chair and stays as long as it wants.”
Stephen King



Laughter

The Lord said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh, and say, ‘shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?’ Is anything too wonderful for the Lord?

Genesis 18:13-14

Service for the Lord's Day

June 14, 2020

The Second Sunday After Pentecost

Gathering Around the Word

Gathering Music

Striking of the Hour

Welcome

Prelude

Fanfare

C. S. Lang

All Who Are Comfortable Doing So, May Stand

Opening Sentences

Let us begin this day with the joy of laughter!

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion we dreamed, and laughed, and shouts of joy were heard.

The Lord has done great things for us.

A watercourse in the desert gives life.

And God's Spirit enlivens the church.

Let us begin this day with rejoicing in our homes.

Based on Psalm 126

The Jews' return from exile was a paradigm for God's saving ways.

The Opening Hymn recalls God's covenant promise to Abraham and Sarah.

Opening Hymn 51

To Abraham and Sarah

LLANFYLLIN

First Verse

*To Abraham and Sarah the call of God was clear:
"Go forth and I will show you a country rich and fair.
You need not fear the journey for I have pledged my word
that you shall be my people and I will be your God."*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Lord God, we recall with joy how your liberating power has been seen—with Abraham and Sarah who laughed, with Miriam and Moses at the Red Sea, and Peter at Pentecost and the outpouring of your Spirit. Now we pray that you will liberate our souls and free our minds from all evil. When you correct us, we will be glad. When you extend your mercy, we will laugh and sing. With our hopes renewed, we rejoice in the surpassing glory of Your holy name.

A Silence is observed for Personal Confession

Hymn

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Declaration of Good News

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,

world without end. Amen, Amen.

Time with Young Disciples

Hearing the Word

All Sit

Prayer for Illumination

Reading from the First Covenant

Genesis 18:1-15

The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?" The LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too wonderful for the LORD? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son." But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh"; for she was afraid. He said, "Oh yes, you did laugh."

Anthem

God's Love is Flowing Like a River

Jill Galliger

Collegiate Ensemble

In **Genesis 12**, the Lord tells Abraham that "I will make of you a great nation." In **Genesis 15**, the Lord says, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able... So shall you descendants be." In **Genesis 17**, the Lord says, "I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." The fulfillment of God's oft repeated promise is the birth of Issac.

The Hebrew name Isaac, means “Son of Laughter.”

Reading from the First Covenant

The LORD dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as he had promised. Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him. And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. Now Sarah said, “God has brought laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me.”

Sermon

Laughter!

Matthew Covington

Responding to the Word

All Stand

Response Hymn

God of Joy and Love and Laughter

HOLY MANNA

*God of joy and love and laughter, guide your peo-ple on the way.
Free us to re-ceive your bless-ings, free-ly off-ered ev-ery day.
Je-sus came to share our jour-neys and to show where life is found.
Lov-ing you and all cre-a-tion paves the path where joy is found.*

*Bless our lives when all is chang-ing, Ho-ly Spir-it, help us pray.
Tune our ears to your vo-ca-tion; teach new ways to rest and play.
Bless our lov-ing and our friend-ships and the new things we will learn.
Draw us clos-er, give us in-sight; grant us wis-dom to dis-cern.*

Affirmation of Faith

A Declaration of Faith (5.8)

We believe with the church through the centuries that God is what God has been shown to be in the story with God’s people: One God who is the Creator and the Sustainer, the Savior and Lord, the Giver of life within, among, and beyond us.

We affirm the unity of God’s being and work. We may not separate the work of God as creator from the work of God as Redeemer. We may not set the Son’s love against the Father’s justice. We may not value the Holy Spirit’s work above the work of the Father and the Son. The Father, Son, and Spirit are one God.

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

Offered by Rev. Jill Duffield
Editor: The Presbyterian Outlook

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.

Solo Anthem

Lord, Here Am I
DiDi Turley, mezzo-soprano

Jay Althouse

Invitation to Stewardship

Bearing and Following the Word into the Created World

Closing Hymn 363

Rejoice, the Lord Is King!
First and Last Stanzas

DARWELL’S 148th

*Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore.
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!*

*Rejoice in glorious hope! For Christ, the Judge, shall come
and gather all the saints to their eternal home.
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!*

“We will go out with joy in the Spirit; we will go out with God.”

Benediction

Postlude

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

HYMN TO JOY

*WELCOME VISITORS! Even as we worship online, we are glad you are with us! For more information about our church, pastoral help or for prayer requests, please email our church office.
www.bgpres.org*

Our church Elders: Karol Ahmed, Mark Bigler, Pam Bratcher, Mary Evans, Mike Kanan, John Kernohan, Jean Harris, Wayne Hendrix, Tim Leigh, Nathan Love, Nancy Moore, Mike Morse, Pamela Napier, Bud Schlinker, and David Sears. Our church Deacons: Angie Alexieff, Rider Allen, Rob Byrd, Sally Calkins, Judy Clark, Shannon Dyche, Ray Elms, Kim Ferguson, Kathleen Gildersleeve, Cathey Green, Linda Leigh, Debbie Morse, David Muffett, Annette Parkerson, Teri Polen, Charlotte Prow, Ken Royse, Susan Thomison and Judy Whitson.

The Presbyterian Church Staff

<i>Pastor</i>	<i>Dr. Matthew W. Covington</i>
<i>Organist, Pastoral Assistant</i>	<i>Thomas N. Moody</i>
<i>Choir Director</i>	<i>Dr. Wayne Pope</i>
<i>Director of Christian Education</i>	<i>Leslee Kirkconnell</i>
<i>Youth Ministry Intern</i>	<i>David Clarke</i>
<i>Financial Administrator</i>	<i>Terry Johnson</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Steve Moore</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Cheryl Gregory</i>
<i>Director, Preschool Learning Center</i>	<i>Jenni Meredith</i>
<i>Children's Music</i>	<i>Heather Kirkconnell</i>
<i>Custodian</i>	<i>Cedric Whitney</i>
<i>Sunday Sexton</i>	<i>Barbara Solberg-Hale</i>
<i>Clerk of Session</i>	<i>Tim Leigh</i>

Donate Online:

The church website accepts online donations. Just go to our website (below) and fill out the simple form. Donations can also be made from your smart phone. You can also scan the QR code, right.

<https://bgpres.org/give>



The Presbyterian Church, 1003 State Street, Bowling Green, KY 42101
270-843-4707 • www.bgpres.org

Announcements

MEDIA PERSONNEL: David Clarke

LIBRARIAN: Arnie Petrus, arfranke@msn.com

COLLEGIATE ENSEMBLE: Autumn Stolle, soprano;
DiDi Turley, alto; Sam Tuggle, tenor; Eric Bigler, bass

LECTIONARY FOR SUNDAY, June 21: Genesis 21:8–21;
Psalm 86:1–10, 16–17; Romans 6:1b–11; Matthew 10:24–39.

TODAY:

ROUND TABLE PULPIT is meeting via Zoom, each Monday at 5:00pm. Contact the office for the information to log in.

NEED TO MEET? If your group (PW circle, committee/ministry) needs to meet, contact the office to get a zoom date. Meetings cannot overlap, so please call the office to get scheduled.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL registration LAST CHANCE! [Click here](#). Families with children age 3 and up are encouraged to join us for our time 'together.' Forward to grandchildren and neighbors! Our first video will 'premiere' on June 21. Come learn about and celebrate God's Big Beautiful World! Questions? [Email Leslee](#). We will be assembling and mailing supplies this week, so registration will close on Tuesday!

COMING UP:

A WALKING SMALL GROUP is being formed and you are invited to join. Karen Watson will lead a walking group at Griffin Park starting THIS WEEK, June 16 at 10:00am. The group will meet on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, weather permitting, for some devotion time and then walking. Enter where the park office is and meet at the shelter-you need a mask. Wear comfortable clothes and walking shoes. Text or email Karen to let her know you want to join this group. Karen's phone number: 270-991-5673 Karen's email address: mail@kgwatson.com Even though the group will be meeting, physical distancing is still needed, so we can be safe together!

JOIN GLENN KIRKCONNELL FOR A NEW STUDY! Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm, Glenn is leading discussion on the Great Courses study The City of God. This series will examine the seminal work by St. Augustine and provide rich discussion material. St. Augustine (5th century AD) was a key theologian who is important to know. FREE streaming of the video is available through the Warren County Library - sign into your account and watch each episode, then join the conversation each Wednesday. Questions? [Email Leslee Kirkconnell](#).

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY will meet via Zoom on Monday June 22, 7:00pm. Zoom link will be sent by noon that day.

OTHER NEWS:

MASKS Hopefully you aren't going out much, but when you do, you need a mask! We have folk in our congregation making cloth masks, so [email](#) us. Masks need to be part of our daily wear for many months yet. And when we do decide it is safe enough for some to come back to the church to worship, masks will be required!

Calendar

Sunday, June 14

8:30 a.m. Shalom/Fellowship (Zoom)

10:30 a.m. Worship

Livestream only

Monday, June 15

5:00 p.m. Round Table Pulpit (Zoom)

Tuesday, June 16

11:00 p.m. Finance Ministry

1:00 p.m. CUICHM

2:00 p.m. Staff Meeting

7:00 p.m. Session (Zoom)

Wednesday, June 17

7:00 p.m. City of God (Zoom)