



Service for the Lord's Day
The Fourth Sunday of Easter
May 3, 2020

Gathering Around the Word

Gathering Music

Striking of the Hour

Welcome

Prelude

Communion

Charles Callahan

We Rise in Spirit and in Body

Call to Worship

We gather here with glad and generous hearts,

As many signs and wonders are being done among us.

We break bread and share what we have.

With the sacrament as our model, we give; we share; we welcome.

And others regard us with good will.

We devote ourselves to what the church has taught, to prayer, and to the gospel.

God adds to our number

Those who will gather around the Table of Blessing.

Based on: Acts 2:42-47

Hymn 523

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

BICENTENNIAL

Refrain

*You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat;
Come give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.*

*As when the shepherd calls his sheep, They know and heed his voice,
So when You call Your family, Lord, We follow and rejoice.*

Refrain

*With joyful lips we sing to You, Our praise and gratitude,
That You should count us worthy Lord, To share this heavenly food.*

Refrain

The description of the early Christian church in the book of Acts challenges us to consider how well the modern church maintains the traditions.

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Loving God, Christ has called himself the Gate of the Sheep, and we stand before that gate today. We want the right way opened to us. We want to walk where our Lord directs us. We want to come in and go out in service to him. Christ is the Gate, and he is also our shepherd. Help us listen for his guiding voice.

When we stray, or when we forget the way, or when we live as if we have no shepherd, we pray for your correction. Let confession lead to our renewal. When we have been weak, we pray that you will rescue us and carry us home.

A Silence is observed for Personal Confession

Declaration of Good News

Gloria Patri

Time for Young Disciples

Leslee Kirkconnell

Hearing the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Epistle Reading

Acts 2:42-47

Community of Believers

The believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the community, to their shared meals, and to their prayers. A sense of awe came over everyone. God performed many wonders and signs through the apostles. All the believers were united and shared everything. They would sell pieces of property and possessions and distribute the proceeds to everyone who needed them. Every day, they met together in the temple and ate in their homes. They shared food with gladness and simplicity. They praised God and demonstrated God's goodness to everyone. The Lord added daily to the community those who were being saved.

Anthem

Psalm 23

John Ness Beck

Collegiate Ensemble

Epistle Reading

I Peter 2:18-25

Instruction for Christian Servants

Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust.

For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly.

For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if, when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God.

For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps.

He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Sermon

Neighbor and Table

Matthew Covington

The first congregation of believers: Teaching Community Sharing Prayer Awe Wonders Gladness Simplicity

A gracious thing: To remember the suffering of Christ

Responding to the Word

Response Hymn 500

Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread

ST. FLAVIAN

*Be known to us in breaking bread, but do not then depart;
Savior, abide with us, and spread your table in our heart.*

*Here share with us in love divine; your body and your blood,
That living bread, that heavenly wine, be our immortal food.*

Affirmation of Faith

A Brief Statement of Faith

In life and 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 one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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.

Stewardship While We Are Away

Sealing the Word in the Sacrament

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Christ invites us to this Holy Feast. The weeks after Easter lead us to think about how the risen, reigning Christ is powerfully present in the lives of believers.

The risen Christ ate with his disciples. He was both host and guest at these meals. It is our privilege to eat and drink with him now. Though we are apart in our homes, this sacrament draws us together.

All are invited and all are welcome. Come, for the meal is ready!

Great Thanksgiving

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 praise you, joining the song
of the universal church and the heavenly choir.

Hymn 559

Sanctus

SANCTUS (Harling)

(congregational response)

*Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of power and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry.*

Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Bless-ed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho-san-na in the high-est, ho-san-na in the high-est.

Communion Anthem

Let Us Break Bread Together On Our Knees

Collegiate Ensemble

Traditional/arr. Arlen Clarke

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

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.

Communion
brings spiritual
nourishment for
our living as
citizens of the
Kingdom of God.

With the saints in
light and the saints
around us here,
we sing!

Bearing the Word into the Created World

Closing Hymn 743

O God, You Are My God
Sing Through Twice

STEP BY STEP

*O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you.
O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you.
I will seek you in the morning and I will learn to walk in your ways.
And step by step you'll lead me, and I will follow you all of my days.*

Benediction

Postlude

Come Down, O Love Divine

DOWN AMPNEY

*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*

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>
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<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>

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.

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, arfranpe@msn.com
COLLEGIATE ENSEMBLE: Autumn Stolle, DiDi Turley,
Sam Tuggle, Eric Bigler

LECTIONARY FOR SUNDAY, May 10: Acts 7:55–60;
Psalm 31:1–5, 15–16; 1 Peter 2:2–10; John 14:1–14.

TODAY:

DEACONS OF THE WEEK this week are Debbie Morse and Annette Parkerson. Deacons assist the Pastor in caring for our congregation. You may contact them through the church office: 270-843-4707.

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.

THE BIBLE IN KAHOOT! 1:00pm today all children can join Mary Evans & co for a fun time of visiting and Bible stories and fun. Need the zoom link? Email Leslee or Mary. Participants will need to have a smart phone handy for the fun part!

YOUTH GROUP Although our Youth graduate Sunday has been put on hold, we still want to find a way to honour your youth. If you could, please send David the details of where your student is graduating from and their plans for the immediate future so we can work on ways to celebrate them.

COMING UP:

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

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL will happen this year, but not at Christ Episcopal Church and not in person. We are working on two virtual events to be available on two Sunday afternoons in June. More details as available, but stay tuned!

WEDNESDAY FUN! Each Wednesday Leslee Kirkconnell (with other adults) will host a fun zoom time for our children, 3:00-3:30pm! Catch up with each other, enjoy a story or two, maybe some other fun and just get to see friends we've been apart from for the last many weeks! If you want the zoom link, [email Leslee](mailto:Leslee).

OTHER NEWS:

MASKS - do you need a mask to wear in public? Hopefully you aren't going out much, but when you do for essentials, you will need protection! [Email Leslee](mailto:Leslee) for details. Masks will likely become part of our daily wear for many months yet.

WE ARE LOVING THE SELFIES AND PICTURES OF YOUR FAMILY as you gather for worship on Sundays. You can send to Cheryl, Leslee or David, or post on our Facebook page. It's been GREAT to see those popping up on our Facebook page - keep 'em coming! And thanks to David Muffet for the collage recently posted. We are still a community together and united!

CHURCH OFFICE: While our building is closed, the church office is still open. The staff is still operating the church during normal business hours. Our food pantry continues to provide assistance and is available to those who present ID at the door. If you need to reach us, just call or email the office, or you may ring the buzzer at the 10th Street entrance so we may let you in. Please stay safe and healthy!

THE CHURCH SESSION WILL CONSIDER PLANS TO REOPEN THE CHURCH at their next meeting. It is not expected that we will open until we are confident that it is safe for all.

Calendar

Sunday, May 3

8:30 a.m. Shalom/Fellowship (Zoom)
10:30 a.m. Worship
Livestream only

Monday, May 4

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

Tuesday, May 5

2:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
7:00 p.m. Deacons (Zoom)

Wednesday, May 6

7:00 p.m. Wednesday Fun / Kids
(Zoom)

LAY READER SIGNUP The church has created a signup sheet online for people who are willing to serve as Lay Reader on an upcoming Sunday: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090E49ACAC23A7FF2-layreaders> This list continues to take names for lay readers, in preparation for the time when we can resume sanctuary worship. **Until we do have worship in the sanctuary again, lay readers on the list will not need to participate in the abbreviated livestream service.** Once we are able to gather once more, another signup list will be created for future dates. We appreciate how many people have been participating in this new effort!



We express sympathy to Mae Etta Hines for the death of her sister Tempie Cohron, who died April 26, 2020. We also extend our sympathy to Jayne Freeman for the recent death of her mother.