

“One day on his way to Damascus, armed with papers from the high priests authorizing action, right in the middle of the day a blaze of light, light outshining the sun, poured out of the sky on Saul and his companions. There was a voice in Hebrew: ‘Saul, Saul, why are you out to get me? Why do you insist on going against the grain?’



St. Paul on the Road to Damascus

Michael Wolgemut, Nuremburg Chronicles 1493

Service for the Lord's Day

May 5, 2019

The Third Sunday of Easter

Gathering Around the Word

Striking of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Liturgical Voluntary II

George Oldroyd

All who are able may stand

Opening Sentences: *(Congregational response in bold)*

Weeping may remain for a night, but joy comes with the morning!

It was morning when the risen Jesus appeared to Mary Magdalene in the garden.

You have turned my lament into dancing, and dressed me with joy.

It was daybreak when Jesus greeted his disciples beside the sea. This was the third time Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

We pray to see the Lord and hear his voice ourselves, this morning!

To him be blessing and honor and glory and might, forever and ever!

(Psalm 30:5, 11; John 21:4 12; Revelation 5:13-14)

Opening Hymn 624

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

TOULON

Verses 1, 4, and 5

In worship we meet the risen Christ.

The resurrection of Christ proclaims a new creation. Let this prayer be a way to shrug off what is old and take on what is new.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Adoration and Confession (Unison)

Gracious God, we confess our fondness for what is familiar. And yet our faith is in One who issues a great surprise. We believe in new beginnings founded on forgiveness in Jesus Christ. We worship a risen Lord, whose presence among us is a surprise beyond measure. We are inheritors of a grace we could not have foreseen! So bless us, that our spirits might not be stuck in the predictable and everyday. Forgive us for our limited view of things, and help us to embrace the new day, welcoming the mystery of deepened faith and the adventure of fuller commitment.

A period of silence is observed for personal confession

Declaration of Good News

Response Hymn 238

Thine Is the Glory

JUDAS MACCABEUS

*Lo! Jesus meets us, Risen from the tomb;
Lovingly he greets us, Scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness Hymns of triumph sing,
For the Lord now liveth; Death hath lost its sting.
Thine is the glory, Risen, conquering Son:
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.*

Passing the Peace of Christ

We greet the Lord by greeting one another in his name.

All Sit

Time with Young Disciples

Children will join Leslee Kirkconnell on the chancel steps.

Hearing the Word

Prayer for Illumination

The Psalter

Psalm 30:1, 4-5, 9-12

The Lord's Salvation is the Light of a New Day

I will exalt you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up from the depths : **and have not suffered my foes to triumph over me.**

Sing praises to the Lord, all you his faithful ones : **and give thanks to his holy name.**

For if in his anger is havoc, in his good favour is life : **heaviness may endure for a**

night, but joy comes in the morning.

‘What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the Pit : **can the dust give you thanks, or declare your faithfulness?**

‘Hear, O Lord, and be merciful : **O Lord, be my helper.**’

You have turned my lamentation into dancing : **you have put off my sackcloth and girded me with joy,**

That my heart may sing your praise and never be silent : **O Lord my God, I will give you thanks for ever.**

Anthem

Holy Ground

Geron Davis/arr. Lloyd Larson

Reading from Acts

Acts 9:1-6

The Conversion of Paul

Sermon

Surprise for Settled Lives

Matthew Covington

The theme of life triumphing over the threat of death is everywhere in the Bible.

Does meeting the risen Christ change everything? Or anything?

Responding to the Word

All Stand

Response Hymn 246

Christ Is Alive!

TRURO

Jesus' resurrection is a decisive victory over the powers that harm human life. To say that Jesus is Lord, is to say something eternally true, but also surprising and new.

Buck in a Basket for May will build a fund for our Evangelism and Outreach Committee to do direct mailings to our community to invite participation and possibly new members.

We who are lately born meet the risen Christ at his table of blessing.

Affirmation of Faith

(A Declaration of Faith 4.5)

Jesus is our living Lord. Jesus was dead and buried, but God raised him from the dead. The risen Lord appeared to his followers. They recognized him as their master who had been crucified. Before Jesus left them, he commissioned them to proclaim to all people the good news of his victory over death, and promised to be with them always. We are certain that Jesus lives. He lives as God with us, touching all of human life with the presence of God. He lives as one of us with God. Because he shares his humanity and has bound us to himself in love, we have an advocate in the innermost life of God. We declare that Jesus is Lord. His resurrection is a decisive victory over the powers that deform and destroy human life. His lordship is hidden. The world appears to be dominated by people and systems that do not acknowledge his rule. But his lordship is real. It demands our loyalty and sets us free from the fear of all lesser lords who threaten us. We maintain that ultimate sovereignty now belongs to Jesus Christ in every sphere of life. Jesus is Lord! He has been Lord from the beginning. He will be Lord at the end. Even now he is Lord. Amen.

All Sit

Offering

Offertory

Feed My Sheep

Dallas Holm

Ernie Small, mandolin/vocals Wayne Pope, guitar/vocals David Muffett, vocals

All Stand

Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

Sealing the Word in the Sacrament

All Sit

The Lord's Supper

Great Prayer of 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, with those whose voices are tuned for praise eternally to tell the good news of the resurrection, we also lift our voices in glad songs:

Hymn

Sanctus

Joseph Roff

(congregation and choir)

*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

The First Day of the Week

Austin C. Lovelace

The Prayers of the People

Bearing and Following the Word into the Created World

Closing Hymn 452

Open the Eyes of My Heart

OPEN THE EYES

Benediction

Postlude

Trumpet Tune

William Boyce

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 ministers, officers, and congregation.

If you have a fussy baby or are coughing, etc., the worship service may be viewed from the parlor via television (across the hall from the Sanctuary). Loving childcare is available in our children's center

Our church Elders: Karol Ahmed, Mark Bigler, Pam Bratcher, David Coverdale, Mary Evans, Rob Hale, Matt Hunt, Mike Kanan, John Kernohan, Stuart Kernohan, Tim Leigh, Nancy Moore, Pamela Napier, David Sears, and David Thomison. **Our church Deacons:** Rider Allen, Sally Calkins, Judy Clark, Rocky Cooper, Shannon Dyche, Ray Elms, Cathey Green, Jean Harris, Linda Leigh, Tom MacMillin, Debbie Morse, David Muffett, Teri Polen, Charlotte Prow, Ken Royse, Susan Thomison, and Debbie Trickey.

Donate Online:

We have recently set up the church website to accept online donations. Just go to the 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://bgpresdonate.cloverdonations.com/online-donations/>



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>Financial Administrator</i>	<i>Terry Johnson</i>
<i>Director of Christian Education</i>	<i>Leslee Kirkconnell</i>
<i>Youth Ministry</i>	<i>David Clarke</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Steve Moore</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Cheryl Gregory</i>
<i>Director, Preschool Learning Center</i>	<i>Dana Patterson</i>
<i>Custodian</i>	<i>Cedric Whitney</i>
<i>Children's Music</i>	<i>Ellie Osborne</i>
<i>Sunday Sexton</i>	<i>Barbara Solberg-Hale</i>
<i>Clerk of Session</i>	<i>Tim Leigh</i>

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

270-843-4707 • www.bgpres.org

Announcements

USHERS: The Kernohan and Hudson families

LAY READER: Debbie Morse

MEDIA PERSONNEL: Barbara Solberg-Hale and Matt Hunt

COMMUNION SERVERS: Mary Evans, John Fitts, Sandy Franklin, Rob Hale, Matt Hunt, Tim Leigh, Nancy Moore, Pamela Napier, Margaret Stein

NURSERY ATTENDANTS: Alisia Mosley and Kimberly Watkins

LIBRARIAN: Arnie Petrus, arfranpe@msn.com

CHILDREN'S MUSIC: Ellie Osborne

LECTIONARY FOR NEXT SUNDAY, May 12: Acts 9:36–43; Psalm 23; Revelation 7:9–17; John 10:22–30.

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

TODAY:

TODAY! TACO BAR YOUTH FUNDRAISER- Join us after worship today for tacos in Fellowship Hall! We'll have good food and fellowship, and you will be helping to fundraise for our youth summer trips.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING: a little more time! One of four special offerings of the PC(U.S.A.), OGHs is celebrating 70 years of making a difference in the world. Our gifts fund three important ministries: The Presbyterian Hunger Program, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and Self-Development of People. Especially with the recent disasters in Africa with the cyclone, the floods in the Mid-west and ongoing recovery in Puerto Rico, Florida and other hurricane-impacted areas, the funds from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance are especially needed. We are still accepting gifts - simply put 'OGHS' in the memo line of your check. Thank you for your generosity.

WHAT ARE OUR CHILDREN LEARNING? Jesus visits Peter and the disciples on the beach and commands them to Feed My Sheep. Our preschoolers explored this story in John 21:1-19. Godly Play (K-3rd) heard about Jesus and the Twelve in Matthew 10:2-4; Mark 3:16-19 and Luke 6:14-16. The Road to Emmaus was experienced by our oldest group from Luke 24:13-35. Read the scriptures, discuss what was heard and learned, wonder what God is pushing you to learn at home.

NOTE FOR UPCOMING BULLETINS: Cheryl will be away on vacation May 8-17. Bulletins for that time period will be **printed early**. Please note: Information for the Sunday bulletin of May 19 must be turned in by **tomorrow**, May 6. The bulletin for May 12 has already been printed. Thank you for your cooperation!

COMING UP:

CIRCLES CIRCLE 3 will meet on Monday, May 6th at 11:00am at Village Manor. SUNDAY MORNING CIRCLE will meet Sunday, May 12 at 9:45am. CIRCLE 9 will meet on Monday, May 13th at 11:30am. The TUESDAY EVENING CIRCLE will meet on Tuesday, 14th at 7:00pm. The WEDNESDAY MORNING CIRCLE will meet on Wednesday, May 15th at 9:15am in the youth room.

MAY 19TH IS OUR END OF YEAR YOUTH AND FAMILY NIGHT we are planning to go to Jump Zone and then to dinner afterwards; bring along your youth and join us for some fun and fellowship and also a chance to plan summer events. For more information speak to David Clarke.

FOR YOUTH - OUR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL is from June 2nd-5th we will be working together with Christ Episcopal Church. We would love to have youth members come along and help out. Sign up is available on the website.

CITY SIGHTS CITY LIGHTS Our Middle school mission trip will be taking place July 9-11 and registration is now available. If you have any youth (rising 6th through rising 9th grade) interested speak to David Clarke and get more information.

PLAN TO JOIN US! Sunday June 9 is PENTECOST! Wear your red (or orange)! We will have our annual Butterfly Release in the courtyard following worship and then gather in Fellowship Hall for a Potluck Luncheon! Bring a side dish or a salad (dessert is provided).

Calendar

Sunday, May 5

8:30 a.m. Fellowship
9:00 a.m. Children's Music
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship
11:30 a.m. Taco Bar lunch

Monday, May 6

11:00 a.m. Circle 3
5:00 p.m. Round Table Pulpit

Tuesday, May 7

11:00 a.m. Special Care
2:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
7:00 p.m. Deacons

Wednesday, May 8

9:15 a.m. Wed. Morn. Circle
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

SATURDAY MEALS will be May 18th. We seeking volunteers who can help with deliveries, and the setup, etc. If you would like to help, please contact Judy Clark at Judy068clark@outlook.com.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR HABITAT FOR HUMANITY Would you like to assist in building? Could you (and a friend) prepare sack lunches for 30 workers? Our next build date is June 8. Time: 7:45 AM to 3 PM / Address: 1123 Regis O'Connor BLVD (GPS: 517 West 12th Avenue and turn left, the house is the first on the left on that street.) If you'd like to volunteer, please contact church office or Susan Thomison (susan.thomison1@gmail.com).

OTHER NEWS AND COMMUNITY NEEDS:

200TH ANNIVERSARY T-SHIRTS Celebrate our congregation in style by purchasing a custom T-shirt, available in a variety of sizes and styles for youth and adults. Stop by the 10th Street entrance before Sunday School or after church to fill out an order form. Payment will be due when the order is delivered in late May/early June. Questions? Contact Margaret Stein at 270-779-2579 or margaret_f.stein@hotmail.com.

OUR FOOD PANTRY is much needed and much used and we are grateful for your support in keeping items in stock. If you plan to bring us donations, please help by noting the following: canned goods (fruit, vegetables, soups, spaghetti sauce) are always needed, and generally always in short supply. Peanut Butter: PLEASE buy ONLY smaller sizes (18 oz). We try to give every visitor Peanut Butter, but containers bigger than 18 ounces are too heavy to carry. Dry beans, lentils, white rice also needed (we will have a bagging party soon). Tuna fish (in water), canned meats, saltines, dry milk, pasta, are also good items for us to have in stock. MANY MANY THANKS for all your support as we seek to help ease food insecurity and hunger in our local community.

VBS NEEDS YOUR UNNEEDED ITEMS FOR CRAFTS! 16 oz empty water bottles (no lids); fleece scraps (bigger pieces especially); old tee shirts, sweatshirts, sweaters, gallon ziploc bags, small/medium width ribbon (any color/pattern - fabric only), old tennis balls. There is a basket outside the office for your donations.

HYGIENE KITS Our Mission Committee and Presbyterian Women of Western Kentucky are collecting Presbyterian Hygiene Kits for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. I will have a container in our church office for those that would like to leave items. I will make arrangements to get them to the correct location! The greatest needs seem to be unscented bar-size bath soap, wash cloths, face towels, small finger clippers, wide-tooth combs, 1-inch bandaids, and strong quality one-gallon ziplock bags. We need these items in the church office by May 10th. Thank you, Donna Meredith

WE ARE HOSTING THE MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY OF WESTERN KENTUCKY ON MAY 14 (that is ONE WEEK away). Volunteers are needed to help our day run smoothly. There is a special sign up on our website - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f094aa9ab2ca7f49-presbytery>