



Service for the Lord's Day

September 27, 2020

The Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gathering Around the Word

Gathering Music

The hour strikes and
we enter a new
dimension of time:
God's time, a time of
holiness and healing.

Striking of the Hour

Welcome

Prelude

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word
Four harmonizations of the chorale by Martin Luther

David Johnson

We Rise in Spirit and in Body

Call To Worship

Leader: God has highly exalted Jesus!

People: So that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every tongue confess that he is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Leader: We gather expectantly;

People: Trusting that God is at work in us with gracious authority, and all for the joy of God's good pleasure.

Opening Hymn 630

Fairest Lord Jesus
First Verse Only

CRUSADERS' HYMN

*Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,
O thou of God to earth come down,
thee will I cherish, thee will I honor,
thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.*

We do not call
ourselves to worship;
we are called by God,
who asks us to have
"the mind of Christ."
(Philippians 2:5)

Prayer of Adoration and Confession

God, our redeemer, we admit that we remain stuck in sin. We set out to honor you, but fail. We promise to serve you, but are tempted to serve ourselves. We acknowledge you as our Lord, but we do not keep your commands. We say we want to follow you, but we hang back. Forgive us! Renew us in our love for you! Liberate us from the vain authority of selfishness, and let us live joyfully for you.

A Silence is observed for Personal Confession

The phrase *Kyrie Eleison* (Lord have mercy) actually predates Christianity. Christians quickly adopted it, however, as a prayer in worship.

Hymn of Confession

Lord Have Mercy Upon Us

KYRIE

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

The Declaration of Good News

Response Hymn 581

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI

The Gloria Patri is an expression of praise for the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Passing of the Peace

God in Christ has commissioned us with the message of reconciliation.

All Sit

A Time with Young Disciples

Hearing the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Reading.

Matthew 21:5,8-9,12-16

Jesus Reveals the Glory of God, and People Praise Him

“Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.” A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!” Then Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who were selling and buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. He said to them, “It is written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer, but you are making it a den of robbers.’” The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he cured them. But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the amazing things that he did, and heard the children crying out in the temple, “Hosanna to the Son of David,” they became angry and said to him, “Do you hear what these are saying?” Jesus said to them, “Yes; have you never read, ‘Out of the mouths of infants and nursing babies you have prepared praise for yourself?’”

Anthem

Jesus, The Very Thought of Thee

Everett Titcomb

Gospel Reading

Matthew 21:23-32

Religious Authorities Question Jesus

When he 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 tax 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.

Video: Time to Take Action

Sermon

By What Authority?

Matthew Covington

Response Hymn 832

Here on Jesus Christ I Will Stand

KWAKE YESU NASIMANA

Refrain, First Verse, and Refrain Again

*Here on Jesus Christ I will stand. He's the solid rock of my life.
He's the solid rock of my life. He's the solid rock of my life.*

*There's no other place I can hide till the storm that rages subsides.
My voice cries to God from the flood, and I'm saved because of his blood.*

*Here on Jesus Christ I will stand. He's the solid rock of my life.
He's the solid rock of my life. He's the solid rock of my life.*

Responding to the Word

All Stand

Affirmation of Faith

A Declaration of Faith (9.4)

Christ calls us to live for our neighbors.

Jesus broadened the definition of neighbor to include those ordinarily despised and excluded. His life in behalf of others led to persecution and death. He commanded his disciples to live the same way. We believe Christ gives us and demands of us lives that recognize all people in all cultures as our neighbors on this planet.

Christ teaches us to go beyond legal requirements in serving and helping our neighbor, to treat our neighbor's needs as our own, to care passionately for the other's good, to share what we have. It is part of our discipline to live in simplicity, avoiding greed and luxury that threaten our neighbor's survival. We are obligated to speak the truth in love, to listen with patience and openness, to love our enemies, to accept the risk and pain which love involves.

The Affirmation allows us to respond together after hearing God's Word. The choice of an historic declaration of the church is intentional, as it represents what Christians have believed for many years.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer – Music from Northland Church

Bearing and Following the Word into the Created World

Closing Hymn 263

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name
First and Last Verses

CORONATION

*All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall.
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!*

*Oh, that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song and crown him Lord of all.
We'll join the everlasting song and crown him Lord of all.*

Benediction

Postlude

Toccata

Kevin Sadowski

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.

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, Ray Elms, Kim Ferguson, Kathleen Gildersleeve, Cathey Green, Linda Leigh, Debbie Morse, David Muffett, Annette Parkerson, Teri Polen, 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

The Presbyterian Church Staff

Pastor
Organist, Pastoral Assistant
Choir Director
Director of Christian Education
Youth Ministry Intern
Financial Administrator
Treasurer
Secretary
Interim Director, Preschool Learning Center
Children's Music
Custodian
Sunday Sexton
Clerk of Session

Dr. Matthew W. Covington
Thomas N. Moody
Dr. Wayne Pope
Leslee Kirkconnell
David Clarke
Terry Johnson
Steve Moore
Cheryl Gregory
Kimberly Watkins
Heather Kirkconnell
Cedric Whitney
Barbara Solberg-Hale
Tim Leigh

Calendar

Sunday, September 27

9:30 a.m. Sunday School (Zoom)
10:30 a.m. Worship
3:00 p.m. Youth Group

Monday, September 28

5:00 p.m. Round Table Pulpit (Zoom)
6:00 p.m. Community Ed.
7:00 p.m. Book Discussion (Zoom)

Tuesday, September 29

2:00 p.m. Staff Meeting

Wednesday, September 30

6:30 p.m. City of God (Zoom)

Announcements

MEDIA PERSONNEL: David Clarke

COLLEGIATE ENSEMBLE: Autumn Stolle, DiDi Turley, Sam Tuggle, Eric Bigler

LIBRARIAN: Arnie Petrus, arfranpe@msn.com

LECTIONARY FOR SUNDAY, October 4: Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Psalm 19; Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46.

DEACONS OF THE WEEK this week are Ray Elms and Sally Calkins. Deacons assist the Pastor in caring for our congregation. You may contact them through the church office: 270-843-4707.

TODAY:

THE ADULT ZOOM CLASS OPTION helping us to learn about Matthew 25 continues each Sunday (9:30am via zoom). Today we heard from our Elders and Deacons on their vision for our church. Join us! We will post the video of the class for those who aren't able to join live. **NEXT SUNDAY** we welcome Ryan Dearbone from NAACP who will help us understand some of their work and agencies involved in addressing poverty and racism our community.

BIBLE STUDY TOGETHER continues our reading through the Bible. Today is Day 268. It is not too late to join. Visit www.biblestudytogether.com to get started!

JOIN A SMALL GROUP! We have several that are on-going and welcome new members, several in process of beginning, and more planned later! You can contact Tim Leigh, Julia Roberts, Glenn Kirkconnell, or Karen Watson. Other than the walking group, all are/will be virtual. Once it is safe to be in person, we will have other groups available.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONTINUES (via Zoom). Godly Play meets at 9:30am for our children with Mary Evans. Youth meet with David in the afternoons. Coffee & Conversation meet 9:30am Sundays. Contact Leslee Kirkconnell for information, including zoom links. **NO** classes meeting at the church.

TODAY OUR CHILDREN wondered in Godly Play about the Great Family in Genesis 12-14; 24 (Abram, Sarai and the Covenant with God). The group meets via zoom and is led by Mary Evans.

COMING UP:

KERYGMA BIBLE STUDY will begin Monday October 12, 7:00pm via zoom. Leslee Kirkconnell will be leading "Lord Teach Us To Pray: Six Studies in Spirituality and the Lord's Prayer." Resource Books are needed, so [contact Leslee](#) to get yours! The class will run through November 16.

IN-PERSON OUTDOOR WORSHIP - WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY is October 4th at 10:30am. We are planning (weather permitting) to have worship in the courtyard next to church, so that the congregation may gather **in person (masks required)**. Chairs will be provided (socially distanced), but you may also bring your own chairs. The church building will **not** be open. **In case of rain, the outdoor service will be cancelled, and the usual sanctuary livestream will go on.** We are planning to show the outdoor service over Facebook live (not YouTube), for those who decide to stay home. We will have individual communion elements to hand out. We look forward to seeing people on World Communion Sunday!

SEASON OF PEACE Fall is the Peace and Global Witness Season, an emphasis of the PC(U.S.A.). On World Communion Sunday (October 4) we will collect the Peace & Global Witness Offering (mark your check for Peacemaking). 25% stays with our congregation for our local use. 25% is used by the Presbytery and the remainder helps our Presbyterian Mission Agency with peacemaking efforts around the world.

OTHER NEWS:

KEEP SENDING US PICTURES OF YOU AND YOUR FAMILY AT WORSHIP! While we all deeply desire to be together in our building, it is not possible yet. Pictures are helpful and remind us of our love for each other, even when we must be apart! Send to [David](#), [Leslee](#) or [Cheryl](#). Or post to our Facebook group!

RESPONDING TO DISASTERS The Presbyterian Church U.S.A. is engaged in helping areas of the country struggling with everything from fire, hurricanes and more. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is one of the most effective response agencies when disaster strikes. You can give through the [PCUSA website](#) or send a check to our church with DR000194/PDA in the memo (this will make sure it goes to the proper fund).