

Service of Worship

October 1st, 2023

18th Sunday after Pentecost



First Presbyterian Church of Fort Thomas

Rev. Dr. Amy Snow, Interim Pastor

Dave Zeng, Music Director

Christina Seal, Pianist/Organist

We Gather Together

Fanfare

Welcome & Announcements

Minute for Mission

Prelude

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

by Ludwig van Beethoven, arr. James Koerts

Call to Worship

Carol Winkler

L: We come to take our place in God's long story;

P: we did not begin God's work, nor will we complete it;

L: yet while we are here, we have a beautiful chapter to write.

P: We come to worship God, who carries us through this life

L: and tends our legacy long after we are gone.

All: Let us worship God!

*Opening Hymn

“Let Us Build a House”

Hymn #301

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Merciful Lord, upon whom we build our life forgive us for our sins. We have come untethered from our roots and drifted away from you. We have trusted in our own efforts, and failed to trust in yours. We have loved control, and shied away from hope. We look to the future with fear, as if you are not already there preparing for us. Rebuild our trust in you, O Lord, our Rock and our Redeemer, that we might walk in your paths and place our legacy in your hands alone. Amen.

*Assurance of God's Love and Forgiveness

Hymn #240, refrain

The Lord is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made. For by grace, you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing;

It is the gift of God — not the result of works, so that no one may boast.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen!

“Alleluia, Alleluia give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give praise to His name.”

The Passing of the Peace

May the Peace of Christ be with you,

And also, with you.

Special Music

“We Are the Children of Light”
Chancel Choir, Bell Choir, Children’s Choir

by Hal Hopson

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory

“Let Us Build a House”

Christina Seal

Doxology

“Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia! Praise God in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!”

Litany of Commitment

It helps, now and then, to step back and take the long view.

The Kingdom is not only beyond our efforts; it is even beyond our vision.

We accomplish in our lifetime only a fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God’s work.

Nothing we do is complete, which is another way of saying that the kingdom always lies beyond us.

No statement says all that could be said. No prayer fully expresses our faith. No confession brings perfection. No pastoral visit brings wholeness. No program accomplishes the church’s mission. No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

This is what we are about.

We plant the seeds that one day will grow. We water the seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise. We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that produces effects far beyond our capabilities.

We cannot do everything and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that. This enables us to do something and to do it well.

It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord’s grace to enter and do the rest.

We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker.

We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs.

We are prophets of a future not our own.

-Bishop Ken Untener of Saginaw in 1979

We Proclaim God’s Word

Time with Our Children

Paul Winkler

Prayer for Illumination

“Spirit of the Living God”

Hymn #288

Scripture Reading

Gospel of John 15:1-12

Pew Bible pg. 109

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

We Respond to God’s Word

Choir Anthem

“Bread of the World”
Chancel Choir

by Ennis Eliot

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

Invitation to the Table
The Words of Institution
Distribution of the Bread and Cup

We Go Forth In God’s Name

Closing Hymn

“All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly”

Hymn #509

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

Hymn #744 verse 1

**“Arise, your light is come! The Spirit’s call obey;
show forth the glory of your God, which shines on you today”**

Postlude

“Grand Choeur in C”

by Théodore Salomé

WORSHIP NOTES

Acolytes: Brady Dolph

*All are invited to stand in body or spirit

All Hymns from Glory to God hymnal, unless noted otherwise

On the Prayer List This Week: Linda B, Sally Reusch, Herb Hilgeman, Jane Reusch, Cindy Roth, Gary Shields, Elsie Zeng & Family

Remember Our Members in Caring Facilities:

The Barrington: Ann Deering, John Alexander, Barb Manyet

Carmel Manor: Jane Reusch

Hyde Park Health Center: Carol Warf

Highland Springs: Kathy Clixby

Inspirations: Corinne White

Providence Pavillion: Betsy Evans

To address any pastoral needs, please contact the office at 859-441-8939 or Pastor Amy at 513-335-1621— pastoramyfpc@gmail.com