

Service of Worship

November 5th, 2023

23rd 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

Prelude

“Shall We Gather at the River”

arr. Greg Howlett

Call to Worship

Dave Agard

L: We remember, O God...

P: The countless saints of history who have blazed a trail of courage through time,

L: We remember, O God...

P: The tender touch of loved ones, the example of heroes, the healing words of comforters, the remarkable acts of fearless ones.

L: We remember, O God...

P: The gentle strength of grandmothers, the loyalty of friends, the kindness of strangers, the joy of children, the sacrifice of parents.

L: We remember, O God...

P: The supreme love of Jesus, the blessing of his Spirit, the reminder of his words, the sharing of his suffering, the glory of his resurrection: shown forth in the lives of his disciples, young and old, dead and living, articulate and silent, strange and familiar, brilliant and ordinary.

L: We remember in every time and place the saints of God who have shown us the love of Jesus.

P: Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses...let us worship God with joy!

*Opening Hymn

“When the Morning Stars Together”

Hymn #689

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

God our patient father, we have much to learn. We forget that you consider us ALL to be your Saints. Yet we often think of ourselves as sinners only and we use our failures as an excuse to sit out or stand by when we need to be participants helping your kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven. We often think that *others* are the Saints who will contribute the time, talents and funds needed for furthering your church and we have tuned out your call. Forgive us, open our ears, soften our hearts and prepare our minds for all we have yet to learn. Amen.

*Assurance of God's Love and Forgiveness

“Alleluia, Alleluia give thanks to the risen Lord.

Hymn #240, refrain

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give praise to His name.”

The Passing of the Peace

May the Peace of Christ be with you,

And also, with you.

Litany of Invitation to Generosity Receiving Gifts and Pledges

God gave us starry nights and sunsets that take our breath away.

God gave us summer rainstorms and the crunch of fall leaves.

God gave us grocery store clerks that carry bags to our cars and miraculously memorize the skew number for every avocado and tangerine we place in our basket.

God gave us the sound of music—choirs singing in harmony, the swell of the violin, the satisfying rumble of the organ.

God gave us blueberry pancakes, Vermont maple syrup, and coffee—that holy bean water that wakes our bones.

God gave us feather down blankets, fall scented candles, and sacred worn down slippers that slide onto weary feet.

God gave us grandmothers that slip candy into our hands and grandfathers that smell like peppermint and books.

God gave us toddlers that bounce up and down to music and smash food into their open mouths like baby birds— with palms flat.

God gave us new years of life, marked by embarrassing renditions of “happy birthday” in restaurants and the extinguishing of a candle on a glorified pastry.

God gave us nurses and doctors, who cover shots with colorful band aids and keep lollipops in their scrub pockets.

God gave us welcome mats and nametags and all manner of things that help us feel at home in a new place.

God gave us cats that curl up next to us to lend us their warmth and dogs that greet us wiggling their butts and tippy tapping their feet to welcome us home.

God gave us old familiar blue jeans that feel like home, and sweaters pulled over hands that feel like security.

God gave us church—this imperfect clump of humanity that gathers week after week, striving to be better, striving to do good in the world.

God gave and gave, and gives and gives; and how do we respond? We say thank you.

We say thank you.

We give what we can.

We bring our pledges and support our church.

We let it feel like a joy, not an obligation.

We let it feel like a gift, not a burden.

We show up in this space.

We believe these gifts can somehow make a difference, and we refuse to give up on this world.

Thanks goodness for a God that forever outgives.

Thank goodness for the opportunity to say thank you for it all. Amen.

Hymn

“Great God of Every Blessing”

Hymn # 694

Join in singing as you bring your pledges and offerings forward

Doxology

Hymn #608

“Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below; praise Holy Spirit ever more; praise Triune God, whom we adore. “

We Proclaim God’s Word

Consecration of our Pledges, Gifts and Tithes

Time with Our Children

Pastor Amy

Special Music

“All Hail The Power of Jesus’ Name”
Dave Zeng & Christina Seal

arr. Lani Smith

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Matthew 23:1-12

Pew Bible pg. 25

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

Sermon

“Remembering All of Our Saints-Celebrating Their Legacy and Ours”
Rev. Dr. Amy Snow

Hymn

“Our God, Our Help in Ages Past”

Hymn #687

We Respond to God’s Word

Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

Invitation to the Meal

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving, Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

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.

Great is the mystery of faith;

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

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.

The Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayers for Healing and Anointing with Oil

Pastor Amy and members of our congregational care team will be available to pray with, and anoint those who desire individual, confidential, intercessory prayer for healing.

Closing Prayer

We Go Forth In God's Name

Closing Hymn

“Take My Life”

Hymn #697

*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

“Maestoso”

by Everett Titcomb

WORSHIP NOTES

Acolyte: Abel Dawn

*All are invited to stand in body or spirit

All Hymns from Glory to God hymnal, unless noted otherwise

Parts of the liturgy written by Terri McDowell Ott and Communion liturgy written by Carol Holbrook Prickett for the Presbyterian Outlook, used with permission.

First Presbyterian Church

220 S. Ft Thomas Ave., Fort Thomas, KY 41075

ffnpc220@gmail.com website: ftfpc.org 859-441-8939

We are a Christian body dedicated to:

- Showing God's Love
- Sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ
- Serving the Needs of others

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

Remember Our Members in Caring Facilities:

The Barrington: John Alexander, Barb Manyet

Carmel Manor: Jane Reusch

Hyde Park Health Center: Carol Warf

Highland Springs: Kathy Clixby, Ann Deering

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

Weekly



SCHEDULE

Tues. 11/7

Office Hours, 9-12

Wed. 11/8

Office Hours, 9-12

Thurs. 11/9

Discussion on Israel, 7pm

Office Hours, 9-12

Sun. 11/12

"The Letter", 6:30 at UCC

Youth Dinner Party



We remember our saints who have passed this year. Pray for their families and those grieving their loss.

Ginny Neff

Claudia Tagge

Kathryn Humphries

Esther Portz

John Borches

Support FPC by giving online using this link:

Ftfpc.org/give

Upcoming Youth Events

Registrations and more info
can be found at
lakesidechurch.org

Looking ahead:

Youth Dinner Party– 11/12

Youth Freedom Center Visit– 11/19



Help the Hungry

The Brighton center wants to help people who are hungry and give them happy holidays. Help them with their goal by donating green beans.

Our church has been asked to donate cans of green beans.

WE NEED 2,000 CANS OF GREEN BEANS BY DECEMBER 4TH

GREEN BEANS ONLY PLEASE.

All donations are welcomed and appreciated, regardless of brand and/or type.



Children's Christmas Musical!

We are very excited to be offering a Children's Christmas Musical this year, and we would LOVE for you to be involved!!!

If your child would like to participate, please send their name and age to Erika Zeng at erikafzeng@gmail.com by 11/1! Once you respond, we will send you music to start listening to at home. Short rehearsals will begin after church on 11/5. The musical will be performed during the church service on Sunday, December 17.

We hope you can join us!!



Questions about Israel and Palestine?

We have all been struggling to understand the situation taking place in Israel and Palestine and it can be hard to find a source that understands this from a variety of perspectives.

Dr. Dean Nicholas will be doing a presentation regarding his study and experiences in the Holy Land and also respond to questions you may have.



Dr. Dean Nicholas, the head of Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy, will share from his study and experiences of over 40 visits to the Holy Land. His work focuses on the history of Christians, Jews, and Muslims in the region.

Dr. Nicholas is the head of Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy and has a PhD in Hebrew Studies from Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati. He has taken groups of students and adults to learn about the complex history of the different groups that call these lands Holy. He has developed significant relationships with Christians, Jews, and Muslims who reside in both Israel and Palestine. His work in the region focuses on the history and different perspectives of the diverse people in the region.

Wednesday, November 8
7:00 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church
220 S. Fort Thomas Ave.



Art Equal's Woolly Fest is happening today!

11am-4pm at
Hellmann Creative Center

321 MLK Blvd.
Covington, 41011

Meet local farmers, spinners, dyers, and other fiber creatives at this free community event.

Learn about our local fiber community, shop for handmade gifts, and get a little creative with Art Equals.



Thank you for your texts, cards, food and especially prayers during this time of my healing. I certainly appreciate all of my church family!
Love, Jo

The Manyet Book Club will meet on Wednesday, November 29 at 7 pm at Donna Baxter's house. We will continue our discussion of the stories from the last half of the new *Chicken Soup for the Soul* book Angels and the Miraculous by Amy Newmark. All folks are welcome. Contact Donna with questions.

