

# Service of Worship

*November 12th, 2023*

*24th Sunday after Pentecost*

First Presbyterian Church of Fort Thomas

*Rev. Dr. Amy Snow, Interim Pastor*

*Dave Zeng, Music Director*

*Mika Komuro, Pianist*

**We Gather Together**

Fanfare

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

Mika Komuro

Call to Worship

Elizabeth Hughes

**L:** Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us.

**P:** **We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and God's might, and the wonders that he has done.**

**L:** The Lord established a decree in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which God commanded our ancestors to teach to their children; that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and rise up and tell them to their children,

**P:** **So that they should set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep God's commandments. Let us worship the Living God!**

Prayer of Adoration

\*Opening Hymn

“Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers”

Hymn #362

\*Call to Confession

\*Prayer of Confession

**Holy God, your way for us is clear: We are to live so that the manner of our lives speaks of your goodness, your generosity, your infinite mercy. Too often, though, we forget the purposes for which you made us. Too often, when we might meet inhumanity with the reflection of your goodness, we turn aside. We return unkindness for unkindness. We cling to what might be shared. We avoid those who are not like us. We fail to give grace in the measure we have received it. Forgive us, we pray. Remind us that your goodness is enduring, and your mercy is everlasting, for we pray all these things in the name of our savior, Jesus Christ...(time of silent confession) Amen.**

\*Assurance of God's Love and Forgiveness

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 might boast.

**For we are what God has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.**

Believe the promise 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.”**

Hymn #240, refrain

The Passing of the Peace  
May the Peace of Christ be with you,  
**And also, with you.**

Special Music

“Seek Ye First”  
*Chancel Choir*

arr. Douglas Wagner

## **We Proclaim God’s Word**

Time with Our Children

Pastor Amy

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18  
Matthew 25:1-23

Pew Bible pg. 204  
Pew Bible pg. 28

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

Sermon

“Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning”  
Rev. Dr. Amy Snow

Affirmation of Faith

**We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God’s image of all genders, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God’s commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death of the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God’s condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.**

Hymn of Response

“What is the World Like”

Hymn #771

## **We Respond to God’s Word**

Call for the Offering

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. “**

Prayer of Dedication

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.**

***We Go Forth In God's Name***

Closing Hymn

“What is the World Like”

Hymn #771

\*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

Mika Komuro

WORSHIP NOTES

Acolyte: Young Family

\*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 for the Presbyterian Outlook, used with permission.

First Presbyterian Church

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