

Service of Worship

October 26th, 2025

20th Sunday after Pentecost



First Presbyterian Church of Fort Thomas

Rev. Dr. Holly Robertson, Pastor
Mika Komuro, Pianist

Fanfare
Welcome & Announcements
Prelude

The Gathering

*Call to Worship (based on Luke 18:14)

One: All who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.

All: **We humble ourselves before our God, ready to hear and receive God's truth.**

*Opening Hymn

"Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!"

Hymn #305

Scripture lesson

Matthew 2:13-23

Pew Bible, pg. 2

Reflection Questions:

Fleeing isn't always about danger as it is in today's scriptures.

When have you been asked to flee from an idea or change course?

Mary and Joseph hid Jesus to protect him.

When has God hidden you?

What was He protecting you from?

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Holy God, your truth is so often sharp and unsettling. We confess the ways we too often skirt the hard edges of your Word, turn up the volume on lesser noises, and lean into the comfort of our own certainty rather than submit to the discomfort of your challenge. You send us messengers, and we sidestep them; you challenge us, and we defend ourselves. Again and again, Holy God, we resist what we do not want to hear. And yet you keep calling. Have mercy on us. Interrupt our evasions. Soften what pride has hardened in us. Let us hear and receive your truth. Amen.

*Assurance of God's Love

Hear and believe this good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

*Responsorial Hymn

"Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!"

Hymn #1

**"Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!"**

*Greeting in Christ's Name

May the Peace of Christ Be With You. **And also with you.**
Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

The Word

Time with the Children
Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Exodus 7:1-13

Pew Bible, pg. 53

Sermon

“How Hard Can a Heart Become: The 10 Plagues on Egypt”
Rev. Dr. Holly Robertson

Response to Grace

Affirmation of Faith

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

*Hymn

“Jesus Entered Egypt”

Hymn #154

Call for the Offering
Offertory

*Doxology

Hymn #582

“Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.”

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. Lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Sending

*Closing Hymn

“Lead On, O King Eternal!”

Hymn #269

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

Hymn #749

**“Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the Kingdom, to live in the freedom of the city of God.
We are called to act with justice; we are called to love tenderly;
We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.”**

Postlude

(Please remain seated and reflect upon the service)

WORSHIP NOTES

Liturgist: Lois Rogers

Acolyte: Abel Dawn

*All are invited to stand in body or spirit

All Hymns from Glory to God hymnal, unless noted otherwise

Attributions: Portions of this liturgy are from The Presbyterian Outlook written by Teri McDowell Ott.

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We are a Christian body dedicated to:

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