

Service of Worship

August 20th, 2023

12th 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

Lois Rogers

L: Turn us, O God,

P: away from the world's temptations and distractions.

L: Return us, O God,

P: to the quiet calm of your presence.

L: Restore us, O God,

P: to the path you call us to follow.

L: Orient us, O God,

P: to the hope of all that is possible through you.

*Opening Hymn

“Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”

Hymn #403

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

God our refuge, you hear our cries for mercy. You lift the lowly and offer hope to the hopeless. But we, who benefit from your grace, do not emulate you and your ways. We are quick to condemn, exaggerate critique and act mercilessly. We confess the ways we demean and dehumanize others. We pray for your forgiveness. Amen.

*Assurance of God's Love and Forgiveness

Hymn #240, refrain

In the name of Jesus Christ, **we are forgiven.**

Thanks be to God! 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.

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

Erika Zeng, bassoon & Mika Komuro, piano

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!”

Prayer of Dedication

We Proclaim God’s Word

Time with Our Children

Prayer for Illumination

“Spirit of the Living God”

Hymn #288

Scripture Reading

Matthew 15:21-28

Pew Bible pg. 17

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

Sermon

“Live Into Faith”

Rev. Dr. Amy Snow

Hymn

“Faith Begins by Letting Go”

Hymn #684

We Respond to God’s Word

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.

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

*When you hear “Lord in your mercy”, please respond with “**Hear our 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.

We Go Forth In God's Name

Closing Hymn

“Guide My Feet”
(v. 1, 3, 5 & 6)

Hymn #741

*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: Brekken Tester

*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, students, teachers and school personnel going back to school

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