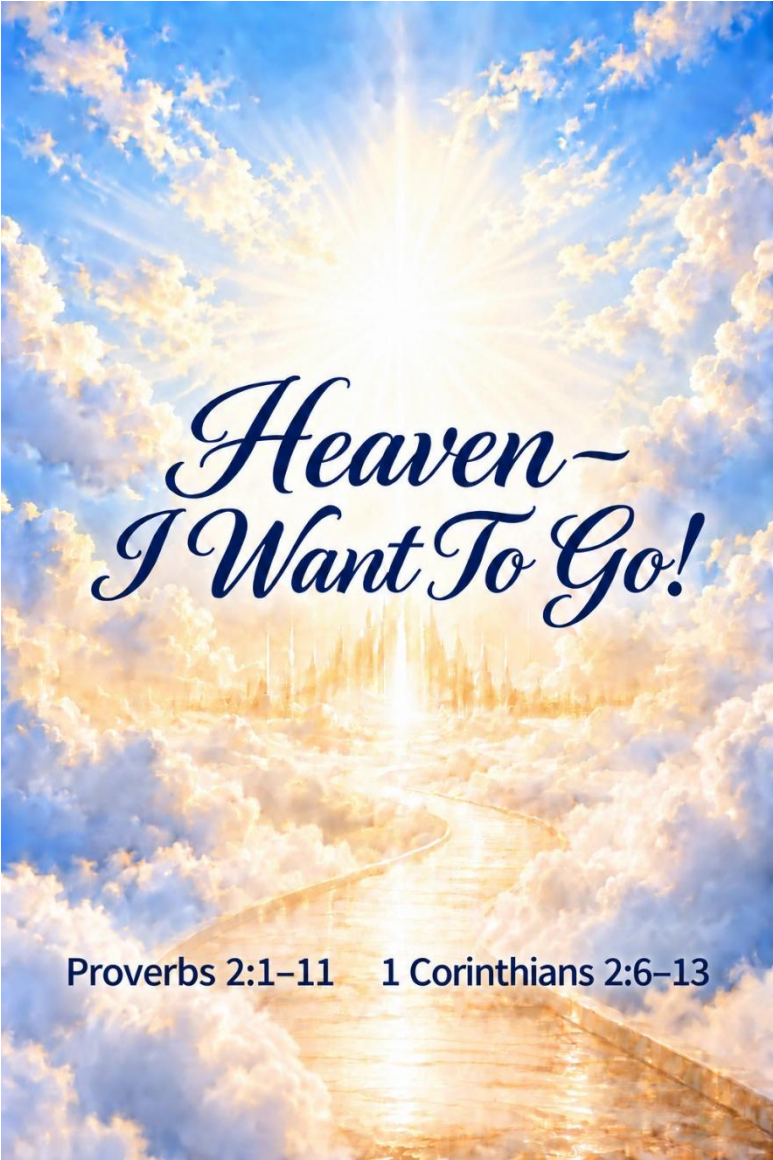




Heaven- I Want To Go!

Proverbs 2:1–11 1 Corinthians 2:6–13



THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 11, 2026

10:50 a.m.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Welcome and Announcements

Kelly Hanni

Prelude

Max Jackson

Blessed Jesus, At Your Word

J S Bach

† Call to Worship

L: God, we are listening for You. Speak to us. Help us hear your Wisdom.

P: God, we are looking for you. Help us see You in others.

L: God, we want to act on what we see and hear from your Word,

P: Please fill our hearts with compassion for each other and to receive your Wisdom as we worship You.

All: Amen.

† Hymn of Praise

#395

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

Blessed Jesus, at your word we have come again to hear you;
let our thoughts and hearts be stirred
and in glowing faith be near you.

By your gospel true and holy, teach us, Lord, to love you solely.

All our knowledge, sense, and sight
lie in deepest darkness shrouded,
till your Spirit breaks our night, filling us with light unclouded.
All good thoughts and all good living
come but by your gracious giving.

Glorious Lord, yourself impart, Light of Light, from God proceeding.
Touch our lips and ears and heart; help us by your Spirit's pleading.
Hear the cry your church now raises;
hear and bless our prayers and praises.

† Call to Confession

† Prayer of Confession

You would call us to receive your Wisdom, Inviting God, but our busy lives keep us from responding. You remember every word we utter, every prayer we whisper, but we forget all the little ways you care for us. You would make your gentleness known through us, but we lash out in anger and fear towards others. Forgive us, God of all hope, and remember your Servant, Jesus Christ. In Him, we can live in Your way. Through Him, we can learn the dreams You have for us. With Him, we can open our arms and embrace all the people we meet. In your Holy Name we pray, Amen.

† Assurance of Pardon

† Response

#446 (1)

How Blest, Those Whose Transgressions

How blest, those whose transgressions have freely been forgiven;
whose guilt is wholly covered before the sight of heaven.

Blest, those to whom our Lord God will not impute their sin:
whose guilt has been forgiven; whose hearts, made true again.

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

(The children will collect coins for the 5 Cents a Meal Hunger Program following the children's message. Thank you for your contribution to this important ministry.)

Anthem

Chancel Choir

Rejoice In The Lord Always

Henry Purcell

Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice! Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayer for Illumination

The Old Testament Lesson: Proverbs 2: 1–11 (NRSV)

My child, if you accept my words and treasure up my commandments within you, 2 making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding, 3 if you indeed cry out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, 4 if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures—5 then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God. 6 For the Lord gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding; 7 He stores up sound wisdom for the upright; He is a shield to those who walk blamelessly, 8 guarding the paths of justice and preserving the way of His faithful ones. 9 Then you will understand righteousness and justice and equity, every good path, 10 for wisdom will come into your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul; 11 prudence will watch over you, and understanding will guard you.

L: The Word of the Lord. **P: Thanks be to God!**

Psalms 106

#60

Your Endless Love, Your Mighty Acts

Your endless love, Your mighty acts surpass what words can tell;
Lord, may the joys Your people know be mine to share as well.

Our rebel forebears rarely grasped Your mercy or Your might;
we need Your mercy, just like them: we, too, do wrong, not right.

Before a golden calf they bowed—an idol in Your place!—
until, by Moses' faithful prayer, You drew them back to grace.

But when they spurned the promised land,
You made Your anger plain;
they wandered long on desert paths and served the Baals again.
Yet those whom once You sold in wrath, in mercy You restored;
may we, like them, be gathered in to thank and praise You, Lord.

† The New Testament Lesson: 1 Corinthians 2:6–13 (NRSV)

Rev. Jimm Smedley

⁶Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. ⁷ But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery,

which God decreed before the ages for our glory ⁸ and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹ But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him" — ¹⁰ God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹ For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also, no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. ¹³ And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

L: The Word of the Lord. P: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

Rev. Jimm Smedley

Heaven – I Want To Go!

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

† **Hymn of Response**

#285

Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song

Like the murmur of the dove's song, like the challenge of her flight,
like the vigor of the wind's rush, like the new flame's eager might:

Come, Holy Spirit, come.

To the members of Christ's body, to the branches of the Vine,
to the church in faith assembled, to our midst as gift and sign:

Come, Holy Spirit, come.

With the healing of division, with the ceaseless voice of prayer,
with the power to love and witness, with the peace beyond
compare: Come, Holy Spirit, come.

† **Affirmation of Faith:**

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again;

→

He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come again to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer/Lord's Prayer (sins)

Offering Acknowledgement *Special Offering: Organ Repair Fund*

† **Doxology**

#606

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Him, all creatures here below;
praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

† **Prayer of Dedication**

WE ARE SENT IN GOD'S NAME

† **Hymn of Sending**

#694

Great God of Every Blessing

Great God of every blessing, of faithful, loving care,
you are the fount of goodness, the daily bread we share.
How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start:
sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.

Your Word is our salvation, the source of endless grace,
in death and life extending your covenant embrace.
In Christ we are one body; each member has a part:
sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.

Your Spirit is our teacher, the light that guides our search,
transforming broken people into the holy church.
For feeding us with mercy, for wisdom you impart:
sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.

Postlude

In Thee Is Joy

J S Bach

† **Charge & Benediction**

† *Standing as you are able.*

SERVING TODAY

Head Usher: *JT Norris*

Liturgists: *Kelly Hanni and Youth*

LAST WEEK'S RECAP

Attendance: 83

General Offering: \$4,026.00

Backpack Ministry: \$25.00

Tri State for Ukraine: \$275.00

Online Offering: \$1,225.00

Total Offering: \$5,551.00

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

→ SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

Sunday Morning Study, 9:28 a.m.

Armchair Theologians, 9:30 a.m.

Harmony of the Gospels, 9:30 a.m.

Contemplative Prayer, 9:30 a.m.

Children and Youth: 9:45 a.m.

Morning Worship, 10:50 a.m.

The Chosen Bible Study, 5:30 p.m.

→ MONDAY, OCTOBER 12

Ministry Teams Meeting, 5:30 p.m.

→ TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13

Tai Chi, 5 p.m.

→ WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14

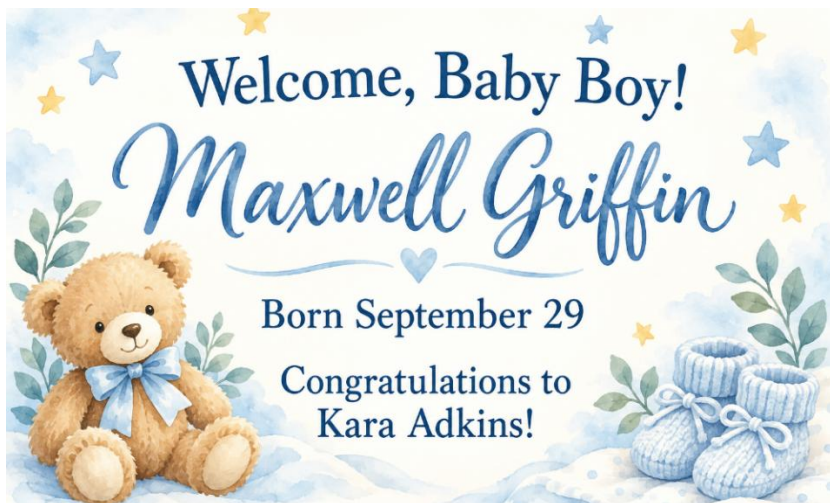
Men's Bible Study, 7 a.m./Bob Evans

Bell Rehearsal, 5:45 p.m. | Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 6:45 p.m.

→ THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15

Paper Angels, 1 p.m.

Dames + Dinner Bible Study, 5:30 p.m.

A banner for Operation Christmas Child. The title "Operation Christmas Child" is in large, stylized fonts. Below it, a red banner states "OCC boxes will be blessed on November 8." To the right is a circular logo with a white airplane and the text "Samaritan's Purse" and "OPERATION Christmas Child". The banner is decorated with a gift box and red ribbons.

Operation Christmas Child

OCC boxes will be blessed on November 8.

October

Small stuffed animals • Craft kits • Yo-yos • Kaleidoscopes • Slinkys • Balls

November

Money for postage

A banner titled "Pulpit Supply:" with a wooden pulpit icon. It lists dates and names for October and November. The banner is decorated with autumn leaves.

Pulpit Supply:

OCTOBER	NOVEMBER
October 18: Patrick Hall	Nov. 1: Rev. Philip Lotspeich
October 25: Rev. Jerry Utt	Nov. 8: Rev. Jennifer Johnson
	Nov. 15: Andrew Wheeler
	Nov. 22: Rev. Tom Hall



Ashland Blazer Youth Services Center

Thanksgiving Baskets

Collection: Oct. 11 – Nov. 8

- Instant Mashed Potatoes
- Gravy
- Stuffing
- Biscuit or Roll Mix
- Cranberry Sauce
- Canned Green Beans
- Cream of Mushroom Soup
- Crispy Onion Straws
- Canned Sweet Potatoes
- Brown Sugar
- Marshmallows
- Pecans
- Canned Corn
- Pumpkin Pie Filling
- Canned Milk
- Coffee
- Tea
- Hot Cocoa Mix
- Clothes Baskets



All Saints Sunday

November 1

If you have a loved one who has passed into the kingdom within this last year, please notify the Church office by **Sunday, October 25** for inclusion of his or her name in the bulletin.



A Bag of **BLESSINGS** for our staff

Add handwritten notes, small treats,
and gift cards.

WHITE containers will be available
every Sunday in October.

We are collecting candy for Table & Treat!

PRAYER CONCERNS

Week ending October 8

Brittany Bentine (Ann Wiseman's granddaughter)
Kena Broomall/Surgery Nov. 3 (Kelly & Mark Hanni's daughter)
Jacob Mollette (Glen & Christy Thomas' son)
Rachael Turner (Kathleen Filkins' daughter)

Week ending October 1

Mike Hall (Geri Willis' brother)
Don Lilly
Frances Potter (Roger Potter's sister)

Week ending September 25

Steve Brown (Mary Whitman Brown's father in law)
Darlene Garris (Kay Ferguson's niece)
Jason Garris (Kay Ferguson's great nephew)
Thorfinn Marcum (Nanette)

Ongoing:

<i>Christina Akers</i> (Heather Whitman's sister-in-law)	<i>Nancy Payne</i>
<i>Bill Gesling</i>	<i>Bonnie Pettijohn</i>
<i>Charlie Holbrook</i>	<i>Tim Shepard</i>
<i>Angie Lewis</i>	<i>Jan Winans</i>
<i>Chris Payne</i>	<i>Ann Wiseman</i>
<i>Derek Payne</i>	

Boyd Nursing and Rehabilitation: Kenny McGill, Sr.

Kingsbrook Care Center: Barry Barbour

The Lantern: Betty Jean Phipps

Military: Erik Adkins (USAF Reserves, son of Kris Adkins); Ashland's National Guard Battalion 206 deployed in May 2026 to the Middle East, Lieutenant Katie Brown (US Army, granddaughter of Mike Whitman); Christian Brown (US Air Force, grandson of Mike Whitman); Greg Weston (Army National Guard); Lieutenant Colonel Kaitlin Whitmore (US Army, niece of Don & Judy Lilly),

STAFF

Minister: *Vacant*
Choirmaster/Organist: *Max Jackson*
Administrative Assistant: *Nanette Pollack*
Facilities Manager: *Glen Thomas*
Nursery Attendant: *Kara Adkins*

SESSION MEMBERS

President of Congregation: *Jan Holbrook*
Secretary of Congregation/Clerk of Session: *Kelly Hanni*
Treasurer: *Cathy Wilson*

2027	2028	2029
<i>Jimmy Hall</i>	<i>Teresa Cassity</i>	<i>Jan Holbrook *</i>
<i>Lee McCloud *</i>	<i>Kelly Hanni *</i>	<i>Mike Lilly</i>
<i>J.T. Norris *</i>	<i>Donna Jones</i>	<i>Ellen Sharp</i>
*2nd term of service		

MINISTRY TEAMS

Building & Grounds: <i>Glen Thomas</i>	Membership: <i>Teresa Cassity</i>
Christian Education: <i>Lee McCloud</i>	Mission: <i>Donna Jones</i>
Congregational Life: <i>Cathy Wilson</i>	Personnel: <i>Jan Holbrook</i>
Finance: <i>Mitch Hall</i>	Worship: <i>Mike Lilly</i>

To visit the church website, scan the code below.



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