

OLD
TESTAMENT
LESSONS

JOSHUA:
History 2.0



THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

17th Sunday after Pentecost

September 24, 2023

10:50 a.m.

✠ We Gather in God's Name ✠

Welcome

Rev. Bill Pollack

Prelude

Max Jackson

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

(Paul Manz)

Call to Worship

Heather Whitman

Leader: Together let us continue as sojourners in faith.

People: We will bring a sense of expectancy, a vision of high hopes, a glimpse of future possibility, a vivid imagination.

Leader: We are called to pioneer a new future with God. As we venture forward, we leave behind our desires for a no-risk life, worldly accumulations, certainty.

People: We will travel light in the spirit of faith and expectation toward the God of our hopes and dreams.

All: Come together as sojourners in faith, knowing that God goes with us and God is here now!

† **Hymn of Praise**

#463

How Firm a Foundation

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!

What more can be said than to you God hath said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;

I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."

† **Call of Confession**

† **Prayer of Confession**

Forgive us, merciful God. So often we say that we choose You, but our actions do not match our words. Our choices reflect our priorities; we continually choose work, sports, sleeping in and any number of activities and idols over You. We send mixed messages to our children about our faith, and we fail to instruct them in Your ways and Your law. Help us to be faithful. Turn our hearts to Your Word. Keep our feet on the path You have set. We yearn to serve and obey You. Hear the prayers of our hearts. Amen.

† **Assurance of Pardon**

† **Response**

#551

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

✠ **We Listen to God's Word** ✠

Children's Message

Pastor Bill & Rev. Philip Lotspeich

"Dress a Girl Around the World"

Consecration Of Dresses

Anthem

Chancel Choir

Awake My Heart

Awake my heart and render to God thy sure Defender.

Thy Maker, thy Preserver, a song of love and fervor.

Confirm my deeds and guide me, my day with Thee besides me.

Beginning, middle, ending will all be upward tending.

My heart shall be Thy dwelling with joy and gladness swelling.

Thy word my nurture given to bring me on toward heaven.

Prayer for Illumination

The Old Testament Lesson

Joshua 4:15–24 (NRSV)

The LORD said to Joshua, ¹⁶“Command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant to come up out of the Jordan.” ¹⁷ Joshua therefore commanded the priests, “Come up out of the Jordan.” ¹⁸ When the priests bearing the ark of the covenant of the LORD came up from the middle of the Jordan and the soles of the priests’ feet touched dry ground, the waters of the Jordan returned to their place and overflowed all its banks, as before. ¹⁹ The people came up out of the Jordan on the tenth day of the first month, and they camped in Gilgal on the east border of Jericho. ²⁰ Those twelve stones that they had taken out of the Jordan, Joshua set up in Gilgal, ²¹ saying to the Israelites, “When your children ask their parents in time to come, ‘What do these stones mean?’ ²² then you shall let your children know, ‘Israel crossed over the Jordan here on dry ground.’ ²³ For the LORD your God dried up the waters of the Jordan for you until you crossed over, as the LORD your God did to the Red Sea, which He dried up for us until we crossed over, ²⁴ so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the hand of the LORD is mighty and so that you may fear the LORD your God forever.”

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

Psalm 1 (tune: Maryton)

#457

How Happy are the Saints of God

How happy are the saints of God
who do not heed the wicked way.

Delighting in the holy Word they seek
God’s wisdom night and day.

Like deeply rooted trees they stand
beside an ever-flowing stream.

Their fruit is plentiful and good.

Their leaves are always growing green.

While wicked ones are whisked away like straw
before the driving wind.

The saints are firmly planted still,
and God will keep them to the end.

† **The Gospel Lesson**

Matthew 23:1–12 (NRSV)

Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, ²“The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses’s seat; ³therefore, do whatever they teach you and follow it, but do not do as they do, for they do not practice what they teach. ⁴They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others, but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them. ⁵They do all their deeds to be seen by others, for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long. ⁶They love to have the place of honor at banquets and the best seats in the synagogues ⁷and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces and to have people call them rabbi. ⁸But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one Teacher, and you are all brothers and sisters. ⁹And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father, the one in heaven. ¹⁰Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah. ¹¹The greatest among you will be your servant. ¹²All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted.

L: This is the Holy Gospel of Christ! **P: Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

Rev. Bill Pollack

JOSHUA: History 2.0

✦ **We Respond to God’s Word** ✦

† **Hymn of Response**

#65

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land.

I am weak, but Thou art mighty.
Hold me with Thy powerful hand.

Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more;
feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow.

Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.

Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be Thou still my strength and shield;
be Thou still my strength and shield.

(continued next page.)

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to Thee;
I will ever give to Thee.

† **Affirmation of Faith**

Based on Colossians 1:15–20 and the Apostles' Creed.

I believe in God, Creator of heaven and earth, and in His Son, Jesus. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in Him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through Him and for Him. He himself is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He might come to have first place in everything. For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him God was pleased to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of His cross. I believe in the Holy Spirit who comes forth from and is one with the Father and the Son and who regenerates, dwells within, sanctifies, teaches, empowers for service, intercedes and comforts all who believe in Jesus Christ, who ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead and bring all of His saints into the joy of their true eternal home. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering Acknowledgement

Special Offering—CAREs

† **Doxology**

#606

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

† **Prayer of Dedication**

✠ **We Are Sent in God's Name** ✠

† **Hymn of Sending**

#765 (2x)

May the God of Hope Go With Us

May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.

May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.

Praying, let us work for peace; singing, share our joy with all;
working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.

Postlude

Max Jackson

Trumpet Voluntary

(John Travers)

† **Charge & Benediction**

† *Standing if you are able.*

SERVING TODAY

Head Usher: *J. T. Norris*

Liturgist: *Heather Whitman*

LAST WEEK'S RECAP

Attendance: 45 (Poage Landing Day)

General Offering: \$955.00

Clean Start; \$5.00

Online Giving: \$646.00

Total Offering: \$1,606.00

TEXT TO GIVE:

Text FPCAKY to 73256 to give using your
mobile device.

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Sunday, September 24

Morning Worship, 10:50 a.m.
Birthday Celebration for Max, Noon

Monday, September 25

Empty Nest Angels, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 26

Session Meeting, 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 27

Men's Bible Study, 7 a.m./Bob Evans
Bells Rehearsal, 5:45 p.m. | Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 6:45 p.m.

Thursday, September 28

Men's Lunch Bunch, 11:30 a.m.
Paper Angels, 1 p.m.

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church Rev. Philip Lotspeich!

Rev. Lotspeich is the General Presbyter of the Transylvania Presbytery located in Lexington, Kentucky. He continues to lead the church with grace and care. We are grateful for his presence and participation in our *Dress A Girl Around the World* consecration.

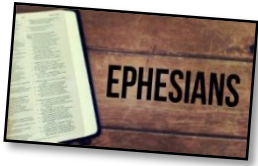
World Communion Sunday

Next Sunday, in observance of World Communion, we will be able to share in a "Breads from Around the World" fellowship in the Narthex following worship. Make plans to join us!

Table & Treat Candy Needed!

Join us **Sunday, October 22**, for a time of fun and fellowship following Morning Worship. We will gather in the Bethesda Community Hall for our annual Staff Appreciation luncheon along with our "Table and Treat" for our children. Would you be so kind to donate a bag (or 2) of candy that will be distributed among our kids? Candy donations should be here by Sunday morning, **October 15**, or before. Thank you for your kind response.





Sunday Morning Study

You are invited and encouraged to join the Sunday Morning Study. We will begin a new study in the book of Ephesians beginning **Sunday, October 15 at 9:18 a.m.**

FPC Advent Devotional Booklet

Would you help us in creating our own Advent Devotional booklet for this year? Our theme is "The Best News Ever!" Your devotional should include a scripture, brief devotional about a special remembrance of a Christmas past, and a closing prayer. The deadline for submission is **October 29**. Email your devotion to: ashlandpresbyterian@yahoo.com.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Week ending September 22, 2023

Kim Burgin (Pastor Bill's sister)
Charline Eastin (Bettie George Frye's sister)
Jeff Runyon (Kelly Hanni)

Week ending September 15, 2023

Jerry Hall (Geri Willis' brother)
Mike Hall (Geri Willis' brother)

Week ending September 8, 2023

Kyle Call (Pastor Bill & Nanette)
Tim Shepard (Bonnie Pettijohn's son)
Karen Wells (Cathy Wilson)

Prayer requests will rotate off after three weeks. If you have an ongoing concern, please contact the church office.

Ongoing: Gretchen Dillon, Martha Gesling (Madison Park Rehabilitation, #111), Annie & Bob Miller, Derek Payne, Kim Whitman

Morning Pointe: Carolyn Graber

Military: Erik Adkins (USAF Reserves, Dayton, OH, son of Kris Adkins); Cadet Katie Brown (West Point, granddaughter of Kim & Mike Whitman); Major Kaitlin Whitmore (US Army, niece of Don & Judy Lilly)

PUZZLE










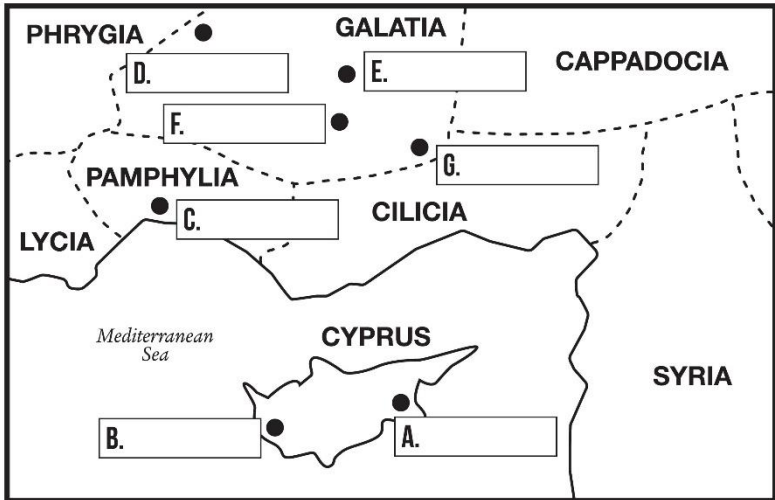
CITY SEARCH

God used Paul to spread the Gospel to many cities during his first missionary journey. Can you find them all?

Directions: From the fragments, guess each city and locate it on the map. Use the Bible references to help.



- | | |
|---|---|
| A.  (ACTS 13:5) | E.  (ACTS 13:51) |
| B.  (ACTS 13:6) | F.  (ACTS 14:6) |
| C.  (ACTS 13:13) | G.  (ACTS 14:6) |
| D.  (ACTS 13:14) | |



Answers: Salamis, Paphos, Perga, Antioch, Iconium, Lystra, Derbe

STAFF

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

SESSION MEMBERS

President of Congregation: *Mitch Hall*
Secretary of Congregation/Clerk of Session: *Kelly Hanni*
Treasurer: *Cathy Wilson*

2024	2025	2026
<i>Lee McCloud</i>	<i>Kelly Hanni</i>	<i>Mitch Hall*</i>
<i>J.T. Norris</i>	<i>Kim Whitman</i>	<i>Jan Holbrook</i>
<i>Cathy Wilson*</i>	<i>Geri Willis</i>	<i>Ryan Whitman*</i>
		*2nd term of service

MINISTRY TEAMS

Building & Grounds: <i>TBD</i>	Membership: <i>Kim Whitman</i>
Christian Education: <i>Lee McCloud</i>	Mission: <i>Geri Willis</i>
Congregational Life: <i>Cathy Wilson</i>	Personnel: <i>Janet Holbrook</i>
Finance: <i>Trish Hall</i>	Worship: <i>Ryan Whitman</i>

To visit the church website, scan the code below.



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Office hours: Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.