

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

12th Sunday after Pentecost

August 31, 2025

10:50 a.m.

✠ We Gather in God's Name ✠

Welcome

Rev. Bill Pollack

Prelude

Max Jackson

If You Will Only Let God Guide You

J S Bach

† Call to Worship

Teresa Cassity

L: People of faith, we are God's children.

P: We are God's family, God's own flesh and blood.

L: We are God's heirs, God's legacy.

P: We are beloved and redeemed, chosen and called.

L: We have nothing to fear, for in Christ, God's love is poured out upon us.

P: It is our joy to bear the family resemblance of Christ to the world.

All: Let our lives proclaim the truth that God is love and perfect love casts out fear.

† Hymn of Praise

#611

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All Thy works with joy surround Thee;
earth and heaven reflect Thy rays;
stars and angels sing around Thee, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in Thee.

Mortals join the happy chorus which the morning stars began.

Love divine is reigning o'er us, joining all in heaven's plan.
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife.
Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

† **Call to Confession**

† **Prayer of Confession**

Merciful God, we confess that holiness is far easier to say than it is to do. Our words are pious but mask attitudes of intolerance and judgment. Our concern for others is shallow, swallowed up by our own self-interest. We resort to platitudes of compassion and care rather than modify our behavior in order to embrace those who are different or unlovely. This is not holiness, and we confess our failures to You. We confess that we need Your grace to see ourselves and the games we play. We need Your power to change our attitudes and actions. Ignite within us the passion and audacity to be holy disciples of Jesus Christ in the midst of a world of sound bites and noisy rhetoric. In the name of Jesus, the Christ, Amen.

† **Assurance of Pardon**

† **Response**

#441 (2)

Hear the Good News of Salvation

All the sins I have committed to my Savior now I bring.

I bow down with tears of anguish; Christ forgives and so I sing:
Jesus Christ, how much I love You! Jesus Christ You save from sin!
How I love You! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.

✠ **We Listen to God's Word** ✠

Children's Message

Prayer for Illumination

The Epistle Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 5:14–18 (NRSV)

We urge you, brothers and sisters, to admonish the idlers, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them. ¹⁵ See that none of you repays evil for evil but always seek to do good to one another and to all. ¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray without ceasing, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

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

Come Sing to God

Come sing to God, O living saints, sing praises to God's name.
 God's anger is not permanent, God's love will never wane.
 Though tears may tarry for the night with sighs of deepest pain,
 Yet joy comes with the morning sun, a peace that is not vain.

In my success I felt secure. How good You've been to me.
 I said that this is my own work, ascribing all to me.
 But when You turned aside Your face, my life was filled with fears.
 I begged for help, to You I cried with loud and bitter tears.

What good is gained by my disgrace? What profit in defeat?
 My grave cannot confess Your name, nor praise for You repeat.
 Now hear, O Lord, my plaintive cry; be merciful to me.
 Accept my longing heart's request and from death set me free.

You change my grief to joy-filled dance, my sorrows You destroy.
 In faithfulness You hear my cry and fill my life with joy.
 And so to You my heart shall sing, my voice Your goodness raise.
 You are my God, forevermore, my life shall sing Your praise.

† **The Gospel Lesson:** John 1:1–4; 14 (NRSV)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through Him, and without Him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in Him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen His glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

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

Sermon

Praying When Life is Good!

✠ **We Respond to God's Word** ✠

† **Hymn of Response**

#612

We Praise You, O God

We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.

We lay it before You; we kneel and adore You;
we bless Your holy name; glad praises we sing.

We worship You, God of our fathers and mothers;
through trial and tempest our guide You have been.

When perils o'ertake us, You will not forsake us,
and with Your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.

With voices united our praises we offer
and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.

With You, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm will guide us.
To You, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

† **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

Offering Acknowledgement

*Special Offering:
Pastor's Discretionary 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

#634

To God Be the Glory

To God be the glory, great things He has done;
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life gate that all may go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,

Let the earth hear His voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,

Let the people rejoice!

*O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory, great things He has done.*

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives. (Refrain)

Great things He has taught us, great things He has done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. (Refrain)

Postlude

I Will Always Sing My Maker's Praises

Ernst Pepping

† Charge & Benediction

† *Standing as you are able.*

SERVING TODAY

Head Usher: *Donna Jones*

Liturgist: *Teresa Cassity*

LAST WEEK'S RECAP

Attendance: 77
General Offering: \$899.06
CAREs: \$3.00
Memorial Fund (organ repair): \$300.00
Memorial Fund (backpack ministry): \$820.00
Online Offering: \$375.00
Total Offering: \$2,397.06



The White Elephant Sale raised \$2,000!!! The money has been gifted to Holli & Keith McClelland. Way to go, ladies!!

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

➔ SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

Sunday Morning Study, 9:28 a.m. (on break, resumes 9/7/25)
Armchair Theologians, 9:30 a.m.
Pastor Bill Sunday School Class, 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship, 10:50 a.m.

➔ MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

Labor Day, Office Closed

➔ TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

Tai Chi, 5 p.m.

➔ WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

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

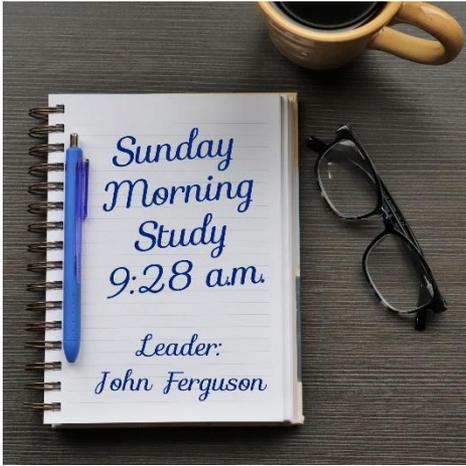
➔ THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Paper Angels, 1 p.m.

➔ SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Zumba Class, 9:30 a.m.
Tai Chi, 11 a.m.

Sunday Morning Study Invitation



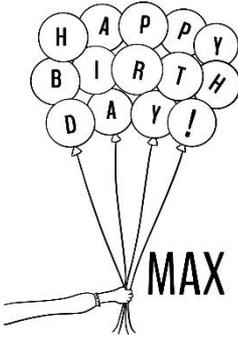
This fall we begin a new study: *Eyes to See: Growing in Spiritual Discernment*. Just as counterfeit money once threatened to unsettle nations, counterfeit truth threatens the church and our lives today. The Bible calls us to discernment—learning to distinguish truth from error, wisdom from folly, good from evil. Join us **Sunday, September 7 at**

9:28 a.m. Together we'll explore what God's Word teaches about discernment, why it matters, and how we can grow in this vital discipline for the glory of Christ and the good of His people. We'd love to have you with us!

Community Bible Study Class For Men

Ashland Men's Bible Study will begin meeting at CornerStone Methodist Church (2203 29th Street) on **Monday evenings from 6:30-8 p.m.** The first study opportunity will be **Monday, September 8.** Contact Ish Stevens (606.571.6032 or ishstevens@windstream.net) for more information. Join this ecumenical gathering for a regular bible study for men 18 years and older. This is a chance for Christian men to gather together in God's Word and share learning and fellowship. This is a Christian "non-denominational" class. We ask that participants refrain from "political" discussions or criticism of other denominations. We will have an opening prayer with rotating music or devotions, followed by small group discussion and prayer, and conclude with a rotating devotion or brief large group discussion. The material for this year will be based on the *Engaging God's Word* series, starting with Phillipians. You can order your own book from Amazon, or the church can order it tax-free, this is the only cost. We do ask that, when possible, consider an offering to our host church. We hope to see you there!

Birthday Celebration for Max



Please join us on Sunday, September 21 as we celebrate the birthday of our own Max Jackson. There will be a reception immediately following Morning Worship in the Narthex. A basket will be available for cards and/or other expressions of appreciation.



Poage Landing Days Worship, Sunday, September 28

We will gather for worship HERE in the sanctuary beginning at 9 a.m. The community worship service is hosted by House of Grace and begins at 11 a.m. on the Main Stage. There will be **NO Sunday School** on the 28th. Parking should not be an issue for this service. Hope to see you then.

Operation Christmas Child



You may choose to fill your own box or donate to the monthly cause each month. Questions, contact Donna Jones. **September: wash cloths, combs, brushes, toothbrushes, fun band-aids, nail files;** *October: small stuffed animals, craft kits, yo-yos, kaleidoscopes, Slinkys, balls;* *November: Money for postage.*

PRAYER CONCERNS

Week ending August 28, 2025

Alden (Snook) Bryan (Chris & Barb Payne's friend)

Dr. Cole (Sharon McKnight's friend)

Family of Dean Kazee (Nanette)

David Riggs (Mark Riggs' father)

Week ending August 21, 2025

Darryl Eatmon (online request)

Rylee Fowler (Jessica Goodwin)

Family of Anna Jones (Pastor Bill's cousin)

Aaron VanPelt (David Murphy)

Week ending August 14, 2025

Grace Atwell (Trish Hall's sister)

Jan Michel (Pastor Bill & Nanette)

Family of Mary Patterson

Skip Saunders (Greg & Geri Willis)

Ongoing: Pastor Bill; Gretchen Dillon; Bill Gesling; Charlie Holbrook; Keith McClelland; Kenny McGill; Bob Miller; Derek Payne; Nancy Payne; Bonnie Pettijohn; Tim Shephard; Jan Winans; Ann Wiseman

Kingsbrook Care Center: Barry Barbour

The Lantern: Carolyn Graber

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

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*

2026	2027	2028
<i>Mitch Hall*</i>	<i>Jimmy Hall</i>	<i>Teresa Cassity</i>
<i>Jan Holbrook</i>	<i>Lee McCloud *</i>	<i>Kelly Hanni *</i>
<i>Ryan Whitman*</i>	<i>J.T. Norris *</i>	<i>Donna Jones</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>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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