



OLD
TESTAMENT
LESSONS

RUTH:
A Love Story



THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

20th Sunday after Pentecost

October 15, 2023

10:50 a.m.

✠ We Gather in God's Name ✠

Welcome

Rev. Bill Pollack

Prelude

Max Jackson

Blessed Jesus, At Thy Word We Are Gathered To Hear You

(J S Bach)

Call to Worship

Geri Willis

Leader: Come, gather together and let us give God praise.

People: Let us sing of God's love and God's amazing grace.

Leader: May we give God praise for His forgiveness and mercy.

People: Let us sing of God's justice and compassion.

Leader: May we give God praise for all His wondrous acts to all the earth's people.

People: Let us sing of our praises to God and worship Him with our hearts and minds fully.

All: As we receive His love today, let us be loving in all our ways! Amen!

† **Hymn of Praise**

#366

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down.

Fix in us Thy humble dwelling; all Thy faithful mercies crown.

Jesus, Thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love Thou art.

Visit us with Thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast.

Let us all in Thee inherit; let us find the promised rest.

Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be.

End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all Thy life receive.

Suddenly return, and never, never more Thy temples leave.

Thee we would be always blessing, serve Thee as Thy hosts above.

Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing, glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish then Thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see Thy great salvation perfectly restored in Thee.
Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place.
Till we cast our crowns before Thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

† **Call of Confession**

† **Prayer of Confession**

O compassionate God, Jesus our Savior, it is so easy for us to rattle off your great commandment — to love God with heart, soul, mind and strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. Yet we do not live it. Instead of loving you, we love the gods of our own making. Instead of loving our neighbor, we exploit, ignore, betray, and disregard one another. We are quick to judge others, and slow to consider our own disobedience. Yet you see us clearly. Convict our hearts as only you can. Love us into a new way of being, the way that you commanded. Amen.

† **Assurance of Pardon**

† **Response**

#441 (2)

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

Lisa Stevens

Anthem

Chancel Choir

Beautiful Savior (Ave Verum Corpus)

(W A Mozart; arr. W H Sims)

Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of man!
Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee, O Light of my soul, my joy,
my crown. Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and
Son of man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration, be thine
forevermore.

Prayer for Illumination

The Old Testament Lesson

Ruth 1:6 – 9, 15 – 17 (NRSV)

⁶ Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the LORD had considered his people and given them food. ⁷ So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. ⁸ But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, “Go back each of you to your mother’s house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. ⁹ The LORD grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband.” Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law goodbye, but Ruth clung to her. ¹⁵ So she said, “Look, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.” ¹⁶ But Ruth said, “Do not press me to leave you, to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people and your God my God. ¹⁷ Where you die, I will die, and there will I be buried. May the LORD do thus to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!”

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

Psalm 45 (tune: Herndon)

#333

How Our Hearts with Joy Abound

How our hearts with joy abound with Your beauty all around.
Words are feeble to express Your great love and righteousness.
Your great love and righteousness.

Fairer still than human frame, ever to our eyes the same.
Steadfast love shines from Your face, from Your lips flow words
of grace. From Your lips flow words of grace.

Yours the scepter, Yours the throne; You to us are God alone.
Vast the mercies to us given, wealth of earth and joy of heaven.
Wealth of earth and joy of heaven.

† **The Gospel Lesson**

John 13:1 (NRSV)

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

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

Ruth: A Love Story

✦ We Respond to God's Word ✦

† Hymn of Response

#693

Though I May Speak

Though I may speak with bravest fire,
and have the gift of all inspire,
and have not love, my words are vain,
as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess,
and striving so my love profess,
but not be given by love within,
the profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control,
our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed;
by this we worship, and are freed.

† 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 with Lord's Prayer

Offering Acknowledgement

Special Offering—Clean Start

† Doxology

#394 (4)

Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son,
laud and honor to the Spirit, ever three and ever one:
one in might and one in glory while unending ages run!

† Prayer of Dedication

✠ We Are Sent in God's Name ✠

† Hymn of Sending

#828

More Love to Thee, O Christ

More love to Thee, O Christ, more love to Thee!

Hear Thou the prayer I make on bended knee.

This is my earnest plea: more love, O Christ, to Thee.

More love to Thee, more love to Thee!

Once earthly joy I craved, sought peace and rest.

Now Thee alone I seek, give what is best.

This all my prayer shall be: more love, O Christ, to Thee.

More love to Thee, more love to Thee!

Then shall my latest breath whisper Thy praise.

This be the parting cry my heart shall raise.

This still its prayer shall be: more love, O Christ, to Thee.

More love to Thee, more love to Thee!

Postlude

Max Jackson

Allegretto

(Matthew Camidge)

† Charge & Benediction

† *Standing if you are able.*

SERVING TODAY

Head Usher: *Kelly Hanni*

Liturgist: *Geri Willis*

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Sunday, October 15

Sunday Morning Study, 9:18 a.m.

Morning Worship, 10:50 a.m.

Monday, October 16

Sew Blessed, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, October 17

Finance Ministry Team, 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 18

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

Sanctuary Open for Prayer, 5:30 – 8 p.m.

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

Thursday, October 19

Dames + Dinner, 5:30 p.m.

Operation Christmas Child



What an opportunity we have to participate in Operation Christmas Child this year. Shoe boxes are available in the Narthex. Our goal is to fill 50 boxes this year. If you are unable

to shop, we will be collecting monetary donations. The children will have a box packing day, **November 5**. All boxes will be due back by the collection date (**November 12**). Last year was a great success! Let's make this year's response even better! Imagine the joy on children's faces when they receive your box this Christmas!

Join Us for Table & Treat and Pastor/Staff Appreciation!

Next **Sunday, October 22** (following morning worship) we will gather in the Bethesda Community Hall for a time of good food and fellowship.

We will enjoy a taco/salad bar along with some desserts. We will experience a "Table & Treat" with our children. Children are invited to wear their costumes during the luncheon. It is always a fun time for us all! We will also observe a time of Pastor & Staff appreciation!

Please plan to come and share in the fun!



FPC Advent Devotional Booklet

Would you help us in creating our own Avent 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.



All Saints Sunday



All Saints’ Sunday is **October 29**. Please join us as we pay homage to our dearly departed saints and loved ones. If you have a loved one who has passed into the kingdom within this last year, please notify the Church office by **Sunday, October 22** for inclusion of his or her name in the bulletin.

Collecting Donations for Thanksgiving Baskets

We are again receiving donations for the Ashland Youth Services Center Thanksgiving Baskets, **October 22—November 12**. This is a wonderful outreach to many in our area who are struggling to make ends meet. We had an overflowing of items last year. We helped feed dozens of families throughout the Ashland Schools in our area. You may drop off your donations here at FPC during office hours, Monday – Thursday or Sundays. Thank you for your giving spirit!

Items needed:

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 and Tea	Hot Cocoa Mix	Clothes Baskets

Do you like BLUE?

If so, keep on the lookout for new Blue containers in the Narthex, the Church Office, the Church Kitchen, and Bethesda Hall. As part of a Creation Care initiative, several members of FPC, with the support of the Congregational Life Committee, will be reorganizing our recycling program. Recycling bulletins is a great step. Maybe we can do better? When we throw items away, they never really go away. Our reorganization plan will help us all recycle plastics, paper, and aluminum cans. Then we can reduce what FPC sends to the Boyd County landfill.



PRAYER CONCERNS

Week ending October 12, 2023

Joe Bill Frazier (Kelly Hanni)

Mary Vanderhoof (John Ferguson's mother)

Week ending October 5, 2023

Jerry Hall (Geri Willis' brother)

Mike Hall (Geri Willis' brother)

Family of Roy Stein (Pastor Bill)

Bob Poore

Week ending September 29, 2023

Kyle Call (Pastor Bill & Nanette)

Tim Shepard (Bonnie Pettijohn's son)

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!

Read the Old Testament book of Ruth, which is a great love story. Then search for the words below, which are all from that book.

B A W O N N I W S L S Z D R V
 D E B O T B A O M H X Q A I R
 X W T Q Y R L M C X G G V O P
 N A A H A R V E S T E B I Z B
 P O V M L S L A D N A S D N B
 O G V N Z E R F I R I L S B F
 N A N O M U H V L M M K S E J
 L G O I M D L E O C F G H I J
 C L L L H L Y A M B H L O Y A
 E E H I F S N A E T F R B O D
 S A A K F B E G U G P W E P S
 N N M W X E V R R A A R M M J
 E I G D J U D A H J E E W S G
 A N X P E M Z I S T W K V H O
 W G L H V I Z N U C I T V H K

Barley, Bethlehem, Boaz, David, Elimelech, Gleaning, Grain,
 Harvest, Jesse, Judah, Kilion, Kinsman, Mahlon, Mara, Moab,
 Naomi, Obed, Orpah, Ruth, Sandals, Threshing, Vinegar, Winnow

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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