



"FOLLOW ME."

John 21:19



THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

3rd Sunday of Easter

May 4, 2025

10:50 a.m.

✠ We Gather in God's Name ✠

Welcome

Rev. Bill Pollack

Prelude

Max Jackson

Two Pieces – Air & Allegretto

Samuel Wesley

† Call to Worship

Kim Whitman

L: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

P: who chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world,

L: Who destined us for adoption as His children through Jesus Christ,

P: who has forgiven our sins according to the riches of His grace and has made known to us the mystery of His will.

Leader: This is our God! Let us worship Him together.

All: We lift our hearts and voices in praise of the One who has overcome the grave!

† Hymn of Praise

#515

I Come with Joy

I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved, and free,
the life of Jesus to recall, in love laid down for me,
in love laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love in Christ's communion bread,
in Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division ends.

The love that made us, makes us one, and strangers now are
friends, and strangers now are friends.

The Spirit of the risen Christ, unseen, but ever near,
is in such friendship better known, alive among us here,
alive among us here.

Together met, together bound by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world the love that makes us one,
the love that makes us one.

† **Call to Confession**

† **Prayer of Confession**

We have failed as Your church, O God. You call us to live faithfully, act justly and bring peace to the earth. Instead, our lives and your church reflect more of our needs and worries and less of the needs and worries of all peoples. Move us beyond ourselves to hear the cry of the world and to respond with acts and deeds of kindness, mercy and justice. May Your grace shine through our church that, even with its shortcomings, accepts the call of Christ to serve and care and love and bring peace. May we feel Your forgiving spirit now. Amen.

† **Assurance of Pardon**

† **Response**

#245 (3)

Christ the Lord is Risen Today!
Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!
Jesus died, our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

✠ **We Listen to God's Word** ✠

Children's Message

Anthem

Chancel Choir

Sing Praise To Christ

Johann Kuhnau

Sing praise to Christ, the Lord, sing praises. Alleluia!
Sing praise to Christ, our risen Savior and King!
Adore Him forever and worship His Name.

Prayer for Illumination

The Epistle Lesson: 1 John 1:5–10 (NRSV)

This is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in Him there is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we say that we have fellowship with Him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷ but if we walk in the light as He himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, He who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

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

Psalm 136

#31

Let Us with a Gladsome Mind

Let us with a gladsome mind praise the Lord who is so kind:
for God's mercies shall endure, ever faithful, ever sure.

God, with all-commanding might, filled the new-made world with light:
for God's mercies shall endure, ever faithful, ever sure.

All things living God does feed; with full measure, meets their need:
for God's mercies shall endure, ever faithful, ever sure.

Let us with a gladsome mind praise the Lord who is so kind:
for God's mercies shall endure, ever faithful, ever sure.

† **The Gospel Lesson:** John 21:1-19 (NRSV)

After these things Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and He showed Himself in this way. ² Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples. ³ Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. ⁴ Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach, but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵ Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." ⁶ He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find

some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he had taken it off, and jumped into the sea. ⁸ But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. ⁹ When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” ¹¹ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them, and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared to ask Him, “Who are You?” because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after He was raised from the dead. ¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love Me more than these?” He said to Him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love You.” Jesus said to him, “Feed My lambs.” ¹⁶ A second time He said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love Me?” He said to Him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love You.” Jesus said to him, “Tend My sheep.” ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love Me?” Peter felt hurt because He said to him the third time, “Do you love Me?” And he said to Him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love You.” Jesus said to him, “Feed My sheep. ¹⁸ Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” ¹⁹ (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this He said to him, “Follow Me.”

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

Sermon

Life-Giving Words from an Empty Tomb – FORGIVEN

✠ We Respond to God's Word ✠

† Hymn of Response

#436

God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us

God of compassion, in mercy befriend us,
giver of grace for our needs all-availing.

Wisdom and strength for each day ever send us,
patience untiring and courage unfailing.

Though we are lost, You have sought us and found us,
stilled our rude hearts with Your word of consoling.

Wrap now Your peace, like a mantle, around us,
guarding our thoughts and our passions controlling.

How shall we stray, with Your hand to direct us,
You who the stars in their courses are guiding?

What shall we fear, with Your power to protect us,
we who walk forth in Your greatness confiding?

† Affirmation of Faith

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried. On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Offering Acknowledgement *Special Offering: Backpack Ministry*

† **Doxology**

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

† **Prayer of Dedication**

✦ **The Lord's Supper** ✦

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Thanksgiving

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right . . . Hear us, gracious God, as we join creation's song and
sing Your eternal praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

. . . With thanksgiving, we celebrate the good news bringing great
joy in celebration of an empty tomb as we proclaim the mystery of
faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again. (2x)

Gracious God, pour out Your Holy Spirit.... Through Christ, all glory
and honor are Yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit in the
holy church, now and forever.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

(As you are presented the bread and cup this morning please eat the piece of bread individually and retain the cup until all have received it so that we may take it together.)

Prayer After Communion

✠ **We Are Sent in God's Name** ✠

† Hymn of Sending

#233

The Day of Resurrection!

The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad,
the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from sin's dominion free,
our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.

Let hearts be purged of evil that we may see aright
the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light,
and listening to His accents, may hear, so calm and plain,
His own "All hail!" and hearing, may raise the victor strain.

Now let the heavens be joyful; let earth its song begin;
the round world keep high triumph and all that is therein.
Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend,
for Christ the Lord has risen, our joy that has no end.

Postlude

Prelude in G Major

J.S. Bach

† Charge & Benediction

† *Standing as you are able.*

SERVING TODAY

Head Usher: *Geri Willis*

Liturgist: *Kim Whitman*

LAST WEEK'S RECAP

Attendance: 84

General Offering: \$1,056.00

CARes: \$25.00

One Great Hour of Sharing: \$50.00

Youth/Earth Care: \$200.00

Online Offering: \$542.59

Total Offering: \$1,873.59

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

► Sunday, May 4

Sunday Morning Study, 9:28 a.m.

Armchair Theologians, 9:30 a.m.

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

Morning Worship, 10:50 a.m.

Genesis Bible Study, 5:30 p.m. will resume 5/18

► Wednesday, May 7

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

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

► Thursday, May 8

Men's Lunch Bunch, 11:30 a.m.

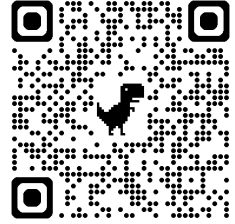
Horizons Bible Study, 5:15 p.m.

With Sympathy

We offer our Christian love and sympathy to the family of **Yohana Calvert**. She passed away on April 26. A service to celebrate Yohana's life will be held at 5 p.m. Tuesday, May 6 at the Steen Funeral Home 13th Street Chapel. Rev. Jennifer Johnson will officiate. Visitation will be from 3–5 p.m. prior to the service. Please keep her family in your thoughts and prayers.

Earth Care T-Shirts

To support our Earth Care efforts, we are offering First Presbyterian Church Earth Care tee shirts for order. If you'd like to purchase one, you can find order forms located on the table in the narthex. For an even quicker option, simply scan the QR code. We will be accepting orders for these tee shirts through **Sunday, May 18**. Questions, see Lee McCloud or Kelly Hanni.



Upcoming Congregational Meeting

We will conduct our Congregational Meeting, on **Sunday, May 18** following morning worship. We will be affirming nominations of Elders and the new Nominations Committee. This is for all members of the congregation. Please make plans to attend.



Congratulations to our Graduates!

Andrew Smithson, son of Robert & Kim Smithson, is graduating from Boyd County High School. He plans to attend Ashland Community Technical College.

Kate Hanni, daughter of Mark & Kelly Hanni, is graduating from Winthrop University with a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration with an emphasis in Marketing.

Adrianna Riggs, daughter of Mark Riggs & Jennifer Johnson, is graduating from Bellarmine University with a Bachelor of Arts in Jazz Studies and Psychology.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Week ending May 1, 2025

Family of Yohana Calvert
Aaron Lewis (Dave & Judy Eby's friend)
Family of Freddy Whelan (Pastor Bill)
Ann Wiseman

Week ending April 24, 2025

Anna Call (Nanette)
Don Lilly

Week ending April 17, 2025

Eric Patterson (Kris Adkins)
Harriet Pedersen (Kris Adkin's niece)

Ongoing: Pastor Bill; Gretchen Dillon; Bill Gesling; Lee Hall;
Charlie Holbrook; Kenny McGill; Derek Payne; Nancy Payne;
Bonnie Pettijohn; Tim Shephard; Kim Whitman; 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 Kim & Mike
Whitman); Greg Weston (Kuwait); 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*

2025	2026	2027
<i>Kelly Hanni</i>	<i>Mitch Hall*</i>	<i>Jimmy Hall</i>
<i>Kim Whitman</i>	<i>Jan Holbrook</i>	<i>Lee McCloud *</i>
<i>Geri Willis</i>	<i>Ryan Whitman*</i>	<i>J.T. Norris *</i>
*2nd term of service		

MINISTRY TEAMS

Building & Grounds: <i>Glen Thomas</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.



P.O. Box 1 | 1600 Winchester Avenue | Ashland, Kentucky 41101
office@fpcaky.org | www.fpcaky.org | 606.324.4122
Contact Pastor Bill: 606.547.1802 or pastor@fpcaky.org