



**“If
anyone
would
come after
me, he
must deny
himself and
take up his
cross daily and
follow me.”**

Luke 9:23

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ASHLAND, KENTUCKY**

The ♡ of Ashland

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

6th Sunday after Epiphany

February 12, 2023

10:50 a.m.

✠ We Gather in God's Name ✠

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Bill Pollack

Prelude

Max Jackson

Salvation Has Come to Us
(Anonymous)

Call to Worship

Cathy Wilson

Leader: Loving Christ, You are our gentle Shepherd.

People: We are Your people; we long to know Your will and to live in Your way.

Leader: Keep us safe and secure in Your compassionate hands.

People: Lead us, gentle Shepherd, lead us into new paths of love and service.

Leader: As You lead and guide us, touch our hearts and minds in this worship time,

People: So that our spirits may be refreshed, and our lives filled with joy and praise. Amen!

† **Hymn of Epiphany**

#305

Come Sing, O Church in Joy!

Come sing O church in joy! Come join O church in song!

For Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long!

In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now

And praise the Lord!

Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns supreme,

Empowering us to catch the vision dream the dream!

In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now

And praise the Lord!

Let courage be our friend; let wisdom be our guide,

As we in mission magnify the Crucified!

In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now
And praise the Lord!

Come sing, O church in joy! Come join, O church in song!
For Christ the Lord has triumphed over the ages long!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now
And praise the Lord!

† **Call to Confession**

† **Prayer of Confession**

God, you know that we have sinned. You know that we have hurt each other, been unkind and thought only of ourselves. You have given us such grace and mercy; help us to extend the same to others. Free us from holding grudges, from gossip and from passing judgment. Let us instead share love and peace. Help us walk with each other toward forgiveness and restoration. We are Yours, gracious God. In Jesus' name we pray – Amen.

† **Assurance of Pardon**

L: Friends, believe the good news.

P: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and are being made whole.

† **Response**

#435 (2)

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind.
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind. If our love
were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's Word,
and our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.

✠ We Listen to God's Word ✠

Children's Message

Pastor Bill

Anthem

Chancel Choir

How Lovely Are The Messengers
(Felix Mendelssohn; arr. H H Hopson)

How lovely are the messengers that bring us the gospel of peace.
To all the nations is gone forth the sound of their words,
throughout all the lands their glad tidings.

Prayer for Illumination

The Old Testament Lesson

Psalm 51:1 – 12 (NRSV)

¹ Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love; according to Your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions.

² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.³ For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

⁴ Against You alone, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You are justified in Your sentence and blameless when You pass judgment. ⁵ Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

⁶ You desire truth in the inward being; therefore, teach me wisdom in my secret heart. ⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be

whiter than snow. ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that You have crushed rejoice. ⁹ Hide Your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquities.

¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. ¹¹ Do not cast me away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.

¹² Restore to me the joy of Your salvation and sustain in me a willing spirit.

L: The Word of the Lord

P: Thanks be to God!

Psalm 37

#815

Give to the Winds Thy Fears

Give to the winds thy fears hope and be undismayed.

God hears thy sighs and counts thy tears;

God shall lift up thy head.

Through waves and clouds and storms God gently clears the way.

Wait patiently; so shall this night soon end in joyous day.

Leave to God's sovereign sway to choose and to command.

So shalt thou, wondering, own God's way,

how wise, how strong God's hand!

Let us in life, in death, thy steadfast truth declare,
and publish with our final breath thy love and guardian care.

† The Gospel Lesson

Luke 9:18 – 27 (NRSV)

¹⁸ Once when Jesus was praying alone, with only the disciples near Him, He asked them, "Who do the crowds say that I am?" ¹⁹ They

answered, "John the Baptist; but others, Elijah; and still others, that one of the ancient prophets has arisen." ²⁰ Then He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered, "The Messiah of God." ²¹ He sternly ordered and commanded them not to tell anyone, ²² saying, "The Son of Man must undergo great suffering and be rejected by the elders, chief priests, and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised." ²³ Then He said to them all, "If any wish to come after Me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow Me. ²⁴ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for My sake will save it. ²⁵ For what does it profit them if they gain the whole world but lose or forfeit themselves? ²⁶ Those who are ashamed of Me and of My words, of them the Son of Man will be ashamed when He comes in His glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels. ²⁷ Indeed, truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God."

L: This is the Holy Gospel of Christ!

P: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

Pastor Bill Pollack

Which Way Will I Go?

† Hymn of Response

#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.

† 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**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 – Organ Repair***† Doxology**

#606

To God the Father, God the Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in one,
May every tongue and nation raise
An endless song of thankful praise.

† Prayer of Dedication**✠ We Are Sent in God's Name ✠****† Hymn of Sending**

#175

Seek Ye First

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness.
And all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek, and you shall find.
Knock, and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

You shall not live by bread alone, but by every word
that proceeds out from the mouth of God. Allelu, alleluia!

Closing Voluntary

Max Jackson

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
(Alec Wyton)

† Charge and Benediction

† *Standing if you are able.*

SERVING TODAY

Head Ushers: Charlie & Jan Holbrook
Liturgist: *Cathy Wilson*
Videographer: *Ryan Whitman*

LAST WEEK'S RECAP

Attendance: 58
General Offering: \$3,730.00
Backpack: \$351.82
Organ Repair Fund: \$100.00
Online Offering: \$697.90
Total Offering: \$4,879.72

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Sunday, February 12

Sunday Morning Study, 9:18 a.m.
Morning Worship, 10:50 a.m.
Pastor Led Bible Study, 5:30 p.m.

Monday, February 13

Ministry Team Meetings, 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, February 15

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

Thursday, February 19

Dames for Dinner, 5:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY

Ministry Teams Meeting: Monday, Feb. 13, 5:30 p.m.

Dames for Dinner: Thursday, Feb. 16, 5:30—7 p.m.

Fat Tuesday Pancake Brunch: Sunday, Feb. 19, Noon

Sew Blessed: Monday, Feb. 20, 6 p.m.

Finance Ministry Team: Tuesday, Feb. 21, 5:30 p.m.

Ash Wednesday Service: Feb. 22, 7 p.m.

Men's Lunch Bunch: Thursday, Feb. 23, 11:30 a.m.

Session Meeting: Tuesday, Feb. 28, 5:30 p.m.

Fat Tuesday Observed

Following **Morning Worship, Sunday, February 19**, we invite everyone to a meal of pancakes and fixins as we celebrate "**Fat Tuesday**" in a way that only we at FPC can! Make plans to stay and fellowship.

Ash Wednesday Service

On **Wednesday, February 22** we will join with other Presbyterians and guests from our community for an Ash Wednesday Service here at First Presbyterian Church beginning at **7 p.m.** This service will help us to begin our Lenten reflection as we journey to a garden, a cross, and an empty tomb.



We Need Your Help!

Rachel Dillon must complete an outreach project for her nursing degree at Morehead. She is collecting gently used shoes for school aged children in the Rowan County School System. There is a collection bin in the Narthex. The deadline is **February 19**.



He said to him, “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ (Matthew 22:37–39)

Would you like to be a better communicator? Would you like to change your relationships for the better? Do you want to let go of old destructive habits? Would you like to be a better listener? Would you like to understand your own life more fully so that you can be healthy spiritually and emotionally?

We are excited to offer a new class here at FPC! It is a 6-week class that will meet on **Thursdays from 5:30–7:30 p.m.** beginning **March 2**. The class will be led by Kay Ferguson. ***Caring With Heart*** will teach principles and skills to equip you to provide quality, Christ-centered emotional and spiritual care for yourself and others. Your faith will be deepened as you learn and practice listening, caring, and loving others who need to be heard and valued. During this six-week class you will learn skills that will help you listen to others at a deeper level, understand your feelings and those of others and explore the importance of healthy boundaries. **You may register on the sign-up sheet located in the Narthex or the church website (fpcaky.org).**

Ladies Clothing Swap Fellowship Event

Start cleaning out your closet for the spring event.....March 11
2:00 - ?

Bring in your gently used items now (please put in the hall by the kitchen)

Contact Barb Payne at (606) 922-6617
barbaralpayne2015@gmail.com



PRAYER REQUESTS

Week ending February 10, 2022

Annie Miller (KDMC)

Bob Miller (South Shore Nursing & Rehabilitation)

Kim Whitman (OSU)

Week ending February 3, 2022

Donna Isaacs (Kelly Hanni's mother)

John Justice, Jr. (Jane Justice's stepson)

Bill Roy (Jane Justice's brother-in-law)

Vernie Tackett (Geri Willis' sister)

Jeff Wilson (Judy Eby's brother)

Week ending January 27, 2023

Lorelai Shay

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

Ongoing: Derek Payne, Nancy Payne, Janet Winans,
Ann & Jim Wiseman

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 Lily)

SERMON NOTES

Which Way Will I Go?

Luke 9:18 – 27 (NRSV)

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*

2023	2024	2025
<i>Mitch Hall</i>	<i>Cathy Wilson*</i>	<i>Kelly Hanni</i>
<i>Ryan Whitman</i>	<i>J.T. Norris</i>	<i>Kim Whitman</i>
		<i>Geri Willis</i>
		*2nd term of service

MINISTRY TEAMS

Building & Grounds: TBD	Membership: TBD
Christian Education: <i>Kim Whitman & 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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