

AND A VOICE CAME FROM HEAVEN,  
“YOU ARE MY SON, THE BELOVED;  
WITH YOU I AM WELL PLEASED.”

MARK 1:11, NRSV

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**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
ASHLAND, KENTUCKY**



*The ♥ of Ashland*

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# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany | Baptism of Jesus

January 22, 2023

10:50 a.m.

## ✠ We Gather in God's Name ✠

**Welcome and Announcements**

*Pastor Bill Pollack*

**Prelude**

*Max Jackson*

*Baptized in Water*

(Andrew Moore)

**Call to Worship**

*Breck Tarr*

Leader: We are the people of God, born of water and the Spirit.

**People: We remember the creative force of God's breath, moving over the waters of chaos to bring life and light.**

Leader: We remember Jesus' baptism in the Jordan. Through His life He became living water for us.

**People: We remember the water of Christ's pierced side, for through His death and resurrection we are set free from sin and death and receive eternal life.**

Leader: We remember God's grace extended toward each of us through the water of our own baptisms.

**People: Through the water and the Spirit we are redeemed and reborn to live as Christ's disciples in the world. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

† **Hymn of Epiphany**

#163

*Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice*

Wild and lone the prophet's voice

echoes through the desert still,

calling us to make a choice,

bidding us to do God's will:

"Turn from sin and be baptized;  
cleansing your heart and mind and soul.

Quitting all the sins you prized,  
yield your life to God's control.

"Bear the fruit repentance sows:

lives of justice, truth, and love.  
Trust no other claim than those;  
set your heart on things above.  
Soon the Lord will come in power,  
burning clean the threshing floor:  
then will flames the chaff devour;  
wheat alone shall fill God's store."

With such preaching, stark and bold,  
John proclaimed salvation near,  
and his timeless warnings hold  
words of hope to all who hear.

So we dare to journey on,  
led by faith through ways untrod,  
till we come at last like John  
to behold the Lamb of God.

† **Call to Confession**

† **Prayer of Confession**

**Creating God, in love you moved over the waters of chaos and separated sea from dry land. And yet, we cling tightly to rigid boundaries of our own making. You claim us in the waters of baptism and declare us dead to sin and alive in Christ. But too often we deny that call, conforming ourselves to the whims of culture. At Pentecost, you released your wild and transforming spirit to flow through church and world. But we want to tame that wildness, channeling your spirit through banks of ordered safety. Transform us, we pray. Soften the unyielding edges of our hearts. Loosen our grip on "the way it's always been" and prepare us for the joy of "the way it still can be," through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

† **Assurance of Pardon**

† **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**

*Kelly Hanni*

**Anthem**

*Chancel Choir*

*Arise, Shine, For Your Light Has Come*  
(H H Hopson)

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon you. Behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness shall cover the earth.

**Prayer for Illumination**

**The Old Testament Lesson**

Isaiah 42:1 – 9 (NRSV)

Here is My servant, whom I uphold, My chosen, in whom My soul delights; I have put my spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the nations. <sup>2</sup> He will not cry out or lift up His voice or make it heard in the street; <sup>3</sup> a bruised reed He will not break, and a dimly burning wick He will not quench; He will faithfully bring forth justice. <sup>4</sup> He will not grow faint or be crushed until He has established justice in the earth, and the coastlands wait for His teaching <sup>5</sup> Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: <sup>6</sup> I am the Lord; I have called You in righteousness. I have taken You by the hand and kept You; I have given You as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, <sup>7</sup> to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. <sup>8</sup> I am the Lord; that is My name; My glory I give to no other, nor My praise to idols. <sup>9</sup> See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

L: The Word of the Lord

**P: Thanks be to God!**

**Psalm 29**

#10

*Sing Glory to the Name of God*  
Sing glory to the name of God,  
whose holy splendor shines abroad  
Alleluia, alleluia!

Enthroned above the crashing waves,  
the God of grace and glory saves.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The name of God is full of might:  
resounding thunder, flashing light.

Alleluia, alleluia!

The wilderness cannot contain  
the echoes of the great refrain:  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The name of God is wild and free,  
a-whirl in holy mystery.

Alleluia, alleluia!

A secret wrapped in smoke and fire,  
still chanted by the temple choir:  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

May God forever be our peace;  
may hymns of glory never cease:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Let all the faithful people come;  
sing praise to God, the Three-in-One:  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

† **The Gospel Lesson**

Mark 1:9 – 11 (NRSV)

<sup>9</sup> In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup> And just as He was coming up out of the water, He saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove upon Him. <sup>11</sup> And a voice came from the heavens, “You are My Son, the Beloved; with You I am well pleased.”

L: This is the Holy Gospel of Christ!

**P: Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon**

*Pastor Bill Pollack*

***More Than Water***

✠ **We Respond to God’s Word** ✠

† **Hymn of Response**

#475

*Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Come, thou Fount of every blessing;  
tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
sung by flaming tongues above;  
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,  
mount of God's unchanging love!

Here I raise my Ebenezer;  
hither by thy help I'm come;  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
wandering from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger,  
interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor  
daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let that grace now, like a fetter,  
bind my wandering heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
prone to leave the God I love;  
here's my heart; O take and seal it;  
seal it for thy courts above.

† **Affirmation of Faith**

*Based on Various Scriptures*

**We believe in Jesus Christ, God incarnate, who by the Spirit came through the water of human birth to bring grace and truth. We believe we must be born of water and of the Spirit. We believe that in baptism the community celebrates the gift of grace and our birth into life in the Spirit. We believe that Jesus was baptized by John in the water of the Jordan to fulfill all righteousness. We believe the children of Israel crossed into a new land through the waters of the Jordan, cleansed and set apart for service. We believe that in baptism we repent from sin and are washed and set apart in order to proclaim the mighty acts of God. We believe that Jesus Christ was a man who knew**

the tears of obedience and the sweat of suffering. We believe that following God often means to weep, if only for a time. We believe that in baptism the people of God drink the cup that Jesus drank and are baptized with His baptism. We believe that our Savior died on a cross, water mixed with blood gushing from His side. We believe that in this blood of the new covenant we are called to follow Him. We believe that in baptism we are buried with Jesus. We believe that Jesus was resurrected and sits on a throne from which runs the river of the water of life. We believe that as Christ was raised by the glory of God, so we, too, can be raised to newness of life. We believe that in baptism the church is saved according to God's mercy, that we might become heirs of eternal life.

### **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**

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**

#720 (1,2,4)

*Jesus Calls Us*

Jesus calls us: o'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea;  
day by day His sweet voice soundeth saying,  
"Christian, follow Me."

Jesus calls us from the worship of the vain world's golden store,  
from each idol that would keep us, saying,  
"Christian, love Me more."

Jesus calls us: by Thy mercies, Savior, may we hear Thy call,  
give our hearts to Thy obedience, serve, and love Thee best of all.

### **Closing Voluntary**

*I Shall Always Sing To My God*  
(Ernst Pepping)

### **† Charge and Benediction**

† *Standing if you are able.*

#### **SERVING TODAY**

Head Usher: *Geri Willis*  
Liturgist: *Breck Tarr*  
Videographer: *Ryan Whitman*

#### **LAST WEEK'S RECAP**

Attendance: 57  
General Offering: \$11,490.00  
**Total Offering: \$11,490.00**

#### **IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH**

##### **SUNDAY, JANUARY 22**

Sunday Morning Study, 9:18 a.m.

Morning Worship, 10:50 a.m.

**Birthday Celebration for Nanette, Noon**

**Pastor Led Bible Study, 5:30 p.m.**

##### **TUESDAY, JANUARY 24**

**Finance Ministry Team, 5:30 p.m.**

##### **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25**

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

Bells Rehearsal, 5:45 p.m.

Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 6:45 p.m.

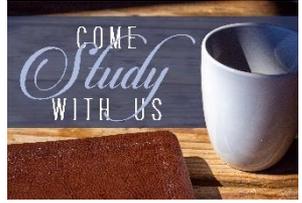
##### **THURSDAY, JANUARY 26**

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

## Pastor Led Bible Study

Pastor Bill will lead a 11-week Bible study **beginning this evening at 5:30 p.m.** in the Bethesda Community Hall, or on Facebook.

This study, ***The God You are Looking For***, will help us rediscover (or discover) some of the attributes of God. Notebooks will be provided. Hope to see you then. Let's start the new year right as we hear God speak through the scriptures concerning Himself.



▶ **Session Meeting:** Tuesday, Jan. 31, 5:30 p.m. **(DATE CHANGE)**

## 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



**SERMON NOTES**

*More Than Water*

Mark 1:9 – 11

B \_\_\_\_\_

A \_\_\_\_\_

P \_\_\_\_\_

T \_\_\_\_\_

I \_\_\_\_\_

S \_\_\_\_\_

M \_\_\_\_\_

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### Week ending January 20, 2023

Matt Chambers

**Bob Miller (South Shore Nursing & Rehabilitation)**

**Ann Wiseman (Kingsbrook)**

### Week ending January 13, 2023

Ransom Gehringer

Donna Isaacs (Kelly Hanni's mother)

Nancy Jackson (Steve Jackson's wife)

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

Annie Miller

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

Evelyn Spears (Kim Whitman)

Family of Josh Stewart (Pastor Bill & Nanette)

Vernie Tackett (Geri Willis' sister)

Kim Whitman

### Week ending January 6, 2023

Family of Janice Howard (Nanette's aunt)

Family of Robert Trigg (Scott Sanderson's uncle)

*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, 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)

## 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>Breck Tarr</i>	<i>Geri Willis</i>
		*2nd term of service

## MINISTRY TEAMS

Building & Grounds:	Membership: <i>Breck Tarr</i>
Christian Education: <i>Kim Whitman &amp; 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  
ashlandpresbyterian@yahoo.com | fpcaky.org  
606.324.4122 | 606.324.4123 (fax)  
Office hours: Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.