It Only Takes a Spark

Stewardship 2027

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE HEART OF ASHLAND

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost
All Saints' Sunday | Holy Communion | Stewardship Emphasis

November 1, 2026 10:50 a.m.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Welcome *Mike Lilly*

Stewardship Moment *Greg Willis*

Prelude *Winchester Bells*

For All the Saints
Douglas Wagner

Festive Praise
Susan Geschke

† **Call to Worship**
L: We gather with saints from every nation, tribe, and tongue.
P: Together we lift our voices in praise of the Lamb.
L: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
P: for they will be filled with the goodness of God.
L: Come, people of God, and join the everlasting song.
All: Salvation belongs to our God and to the Lamb!

† **Hymn of Praise**

Pass It On

It only takes a spark to get a fire going,
And soon all those around can warm up in its glowing;
That's how it is with God's love: once you've experienced it
You spread His love to everyone you want to pass it on

Wondrous time is spring when all the trees are budding,
The birds begin to sing the flowers start their blooming
That's how it is with God's love; once you've experienced it
You want to sing it's fresh like spring; you want to pass it on.

Wish for you my friend, this happiness that I've found,
You can depend on Him, it matters not where you're bound;
I'll shout it from the mountain top, I want my world to know;
the Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on

I'll shout it from the mountain top,
I want my world to know, The Lord of love has come to me
I want to pass it on.

† **Call to Confession**

† **Prayer of Confession**
Holy and merciful God, We confess that we have not lived as your saints in the world. We have turned from you in stubbornness, failed to love our neighbors, and doubted your promise of life made new. Forgive us, renew us, and make us whole, that we may shine with the light of Christ as those who belong to your communion of saints. Amen.

† **Assurance of Pardon**

† **Response** #435 (1)

There's a Wideness In God's Mercy

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea.
There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heaven.
There is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgment given.

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Anthem *Chancel Choir*

When I Can Read My Title Clear

arr. Lori Larson
(from The Sacred Harp)

When I can read my title clear to mansions in the skies,
I'll bid farewell to every care and wipe my weeping eyes.
I feel like I'm on my journey home.
Should earth against my soul engage, and firey darts be hurled.
Then I can smile at Satan's rage, and face a frowning world.
Let cares, like a wild deluge come, let storms of sorrow fall,
So, I but safely reach my home, my God, my heaven, my all.
Then I shall bathe my weary soul in seas of heavenly rest,
And not a wave of trouble roll across my peaceful breast.

Naming and Remembering the Saints *Jan Holbrook*
(November 1, 2025 – November 1, 2026)

Members of First Presbyterian Church
Carolyn Graber – March 28, 2026
Rev. William "Bill" Pollack – June 20, 2026
Steve Jackson – July 2, 2026

Family and Friends
Gov. Martha Layne Collins – November 1, 2025
(given by David Murphy)
Keith McClelland – December 9, 2025
(Holli McClelland's husband)
Mary Vanderhoof – March 17, 2026
(John Ferguson's mother)
Dolly Parton – August 25, 2026
(given by David Murphy)

Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Saints

Prayer for Illumination

The Epistle Lesson: Hebrews 11:39–12:3 (NRSV)
39 Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, **40** since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect. **12** Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, **2** looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. **3** Consider him who endured such hostility against himself from sinners, so that you may not grow weary in your souls or lose heart.

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

Psalm 34:1–10 *Congregation*

Testimony and Praise

The Lord I will at all times bless,
My mouth His praises shall express;
In Him shall all my boasting be,
While all the meek rejoice with me.

O magnify the Lord with me,
Let us to praise His Name agree;
I sought the Lord, He answered me,
And from my fears He set me free.

Who look to Him shall walk in light,
With joy their faces shall be bright.
Distressed, they cried; the Lord arose
And saved them out of all their woes.

Around His saints as watch and ward
Encamps the angel of the Lord;
That God is good, O taste and see,
Who trusts in Him shall blessed be.

Fear Him, ye saints, and do His will,
And all your needs He will fulfil;
Though beasts of forest lack their food,
Those seeking God shall want no good.

The New Testament Lesson: Revelation 7:9–17 (NRSV)

Rev. Philip Lotspeich

9 After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. **10** They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!" **11** And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, **12** singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." **13** Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" →

14 I said to him, "Sir, you are the one who knows." Then he said to
me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they
have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the
Lamb. **15** For this reason they are before the throne of God and
worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is
seated on the throne will shelter them. **16** They will hunger no
more and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat,**17** for the Lamb at the center of the throne
will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the
water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

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

Sermon

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

† **Hymn of Response** #620

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; to his feet your tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore his praises sing:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favor to his people in distress;
praise him still the same as ever, slow to chide, and swift to bless:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious in his faithfulness.

Fatherlike, he tends and spares us; well our feeble frame he knows;
in his hands he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely yet his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore him; you behold him face to face.
Sun and moon, bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

† **Affirmation of Faith:** *Nicene Creed* *Rev. Philip Lotspeich*

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** #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**

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the 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 of the presence of the Holy Spirit in the midst of our lives even 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 (sins)

The Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People
(We will receive the bread and cup from our ushers. Eat the bread as an individual act of repentance and thanksgiving. Please retain the cup until all are served and we will take it together.)

Prayer After Communion

WE ARE SENT IN GOD'S NAME

† **Hymn of Sending** #326

For All the Saints

For all the saints who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle; they in glory shine;
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine. Alleluia! Alleluia!

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong. Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

Before Thy Throne I Now Appear
J S Bach

† **Charge & Benediction**

† *Standing as you are able.*

SERVING TODAY

Head Usher: *Donna Jones*
Liturgist: *Mike Lilly*

LAST WEEK'S RECAP

Attendance: 77
General Offering: $3,522.00
CAReS: $30.00
Memorial Fund: $250.00
Online Offering: $630.00
Total Offering: $4,432.00

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

→ SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1
Sunday Morning Study, 9:28 a.m.
Armchair Theologians, 9:30 a.m.
Harmony of the Gospels, 9:30 a.m.
Contemplative Prayer, 9:30 a.m.
Children and Youth: 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship, 10:50 a.m.
The Chosen Bible Study, 5:30 p.m.

→ TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3
Tai Chi, 5 p.m.

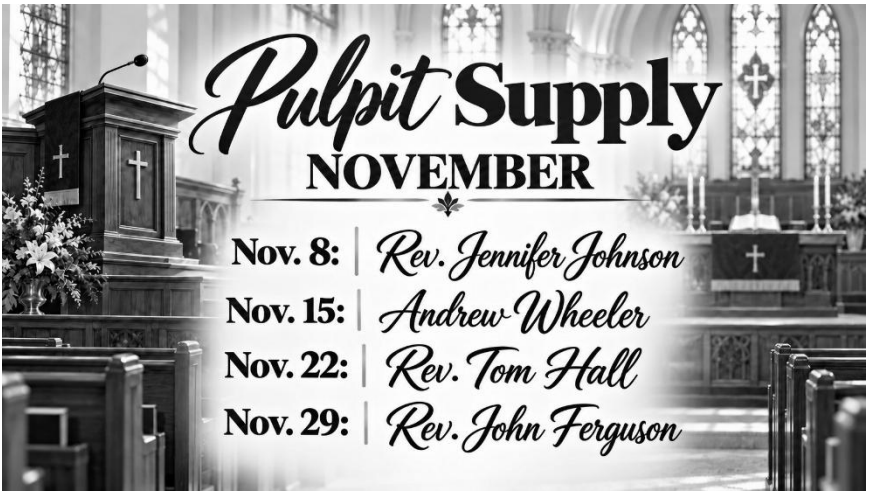
→ WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

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

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

→ THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Paper Angels, 1 p.m.





PRAYER CONCERNS

Week ending October 29

Brittany Bentine (Ann Wiseman's granddaughter)
Ted Hall (David Murphy)
Jacob Mollette (Glen & Christy Thomas' son)

Week ending October 22

Kena Broomall/Surgery Nov. 3 (Kelly & Mark Hanni's daughter)
Mike Hall (Geri Willis' brother)
Roger Hall

Week ending October 15

FPC Pastor Search

Ongoing:

Christina Akers *(Heather Whitman's sister-in-law)*	*Nancy Payne*
Bill Gesling	*Bonnie Pettijohn*
Charlie Holbrook	*Tim Shepard*
Angie Lewis	*Jan Winans*
Chris Payne	*Ann Wiseman*
Derek Payne	

Boyd Nursing and Rehabilitation: Kenny McGill, Sr.

Kingsbrook Care Center: Barry Barbour

The Lantern: Betty Jean Phipps

Military: Erik Adkins (USAF Reserves, son of Kris Adkins); Ashland's National Guard Battalion 201 deployed in May 2026 to the Middle East; Lieutenant Katie Brown (US Army, granddaughter of Mike Whitman); Christian Brown (US Air Force, grandson of Mike Whitman); Greg Weston (Army National Guard); Lieutenant Colonel Kaitlin Whitmore (US Army, niece of Don & Judy Lilly)

STAFF

Minister: *Vacant*
Choirmaster/Organist: *Max Jackson*
Administrative Assistant: *Nanette Pollack*
Facilities Manager: *Glen Thomas*
Nursery Attendant: *Kara Adkins*

SESSION MEMBERS

President of Congregation: *Jan Holbrook*
Secretary of Congregation/Clerk of Session: *Kelly Hanni*
Treasurer: *Cathy Wilson*

2027	2028	2029
Jimmy Hall	*Teresa Cassity*	*Jan Holbrook **
*Lee McCloud **	*Kelly Hanni **	*Mike Lilly*
*J.T. Norris **	*Donna Jones*	*Ellen Sharp*
*2nd term of service		

MINISTRY TEAMS

Building & Grounds: *Glen Thomas*	Membership: *Teresa Cassity*
Christian Education: *Lee McCloud*	Mission: *Donna Jones*
Congregational Life: *Cathy Wilson*	Personnel: *Jan Holbrook*
Finance: *Mitch Hall*	Worship: *Mike Lilly*

To visit the church website, scan the code below.

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