



*When I consider your heavens, the work
of your fingers, the moon and the stars,
which you have set in place, what is
man that you are mindful of him?*

Psalms 8:3-4



THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 9, 2026

10:50 a.m.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Welcome and Announcements

Mike Lilly

Prelude

Max Jackson

O For A Closer Walk With God

Rosalie Bonighton

† **Call to Worship** (Adapted from Colossians 1:15-20)

L: The Son is the image of the invisible God,

P: The firstborn over all creation.

L: For in Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible.

P: He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

L: And He is the head of the body, the church;

P: He is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead;

L: So that in everything He might have the supremacy.

P: For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him.

L: Through Him, God is reconciling all things, by making peace through His blood, shed on the cross.

A: We will worship Him, today and every day, in all we say and do.

† **Hymn of Praise**

#32

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies.

I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day.

The moon shines full at God's command, and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord who filled the earth with food.

God formed the creatures through the Word,
and then pronounced them good.

Lord, how thy wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eye,
if I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky!

There's not a plant or flower below but makes Thy glories known.
And clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from Thy throne,
while all that borrows life from Thee is ever in Thy care,
and everywhere that we can be, thou, God, art present there.

† **Call to Confession**

Rev. Tom Hall

† **Prayer of Confession**

Heavenly Father, you made us in your image to reflect back to you a bit of your own goodness, grace, and love. But we confess that we have worshipped false gods: busy-ness, popularity, and success. We have failed to care for the “least of these.” Gracious and loving God, forgive us. Fill us with awe and wonder, so that we may sing your praise.

† **Assurance of Pardon**

† **Response**

#446 (1)

How Blest, Those Whose Transgressions

How blest, those whose transgressions have freely been forgiven;
whose guilt is wholly covered before the sight of heaven.

Blest, those to whom our Lord God will not impute their sin:
whose guilt has been forgiven; whose hearts, made true again.

WE LISTEN TO GOD’S WORD

Children’s Message

(The children will collect coins for the 5 Cents a Meal Hunger Program following the children’s message. Thank you for your contribution to this important ministry.)

Prayer for Illumination

The Old Testament Lesson: Genesis 1:26–27

Carli Weston

²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.” ²⁷ So God created mankind in His own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

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

O Lord, Our God, How Excellent

O Lord, our God, how excellent, how glorious is Your name.
Your majesty surrounds the earth, and children sing Your fame.

The heavens shout Your handiwork, we stand beneath in awe,
to think the One who made all things should care for us at all.

Yet You have made us less than gods, surpassing all but You;
with heart and mind, with strength and will, to search for what is true.

Into our hands You've placed all things: the earth, the sea, each place;
we're called to probe for secret gifts and venture into space.

O Lord, our God, how excellent, how glorious is Your name,
majestic in Your holiness; we sing and praise Your fame!

† Psalm 8:3–8

When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have set in place, ⁴ what is mankind that You are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them? ⁵ You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor. ⁶ You made them rulers over the works of Your hands; You put everything under their feet: ⁷ all flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild, ⁸ the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas.

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

Sermon

Rev. Tom Hall

Author of Liberty

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**† Hymn of Response**

#14

For the Beauty of the Earth

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:

Refrain: *Lord of all, to Thee we raise this our hymn of grateful
praise.*

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:
[Refrain]

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight: [Refrain]

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and
mild: [Refrain]

For Thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely given;
for that great, great love of Thine, peace on earth and joy in
heaven: [Refrain]

† **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 (sins)

Offering Acknowledgement *Special Offering: Organ Repair Fund*

† **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**

WE ARE SENT IN GOD'S NAME

† Hymn of Sending

#337

My Country, 'Tis of Thee

My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing:
land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrims' pride,
from every mountainside let freedom ring.

My native country, thee, land of the noble free,
thy name I love; I love thy rocks and rills,
thy woods and templed hills;
my heart with rapture thrills like that above.

Let music swell the breeze, and ring from all the trees
sweet freedom's song.

Let mortal tongues awake; let all that breathe partake;
let rocks their silence break, the sound prolong.

Our fathers' God, to thee, author of liberty,
to thee we sing. Long may our land be bright
with freedom's holy light; protect us by thy might,
great God, our King.

Postlude

Voluntary in F

John Bennett

† Charge & Benediction

† *Standing as you are able.*

SERVING TODAY

Head Usher: *Teresa Cassity*

Liturgist: *Mike Lilly*

MEET REV. TOM HALL

Rev. Tom Hall and his high school sweetheart, Jana (Slone) Hall, grew up in Ashland and graduated from Blazer in 1970. At First Presbyterian Church of Ashland, Tom was baptized by Samuel Curry, confirmed by Heinrich Eiler, and sang in the choir under Hal Hopson. Tom and Jana married in 1974 after Tom graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy. Tom and Jana moved to Pittsburgh in 2005 so that Tom could attend Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. It was their 19th move. In 2004, Tom completed a 30-year career in the Air Force, retiring in the rank of colonel. His military career had included flying operations, intelligence, flight test, headquarters staff, international duty, and three command assignments. In his last assignment, he taught leadership to senior officers from around the world at the Air War College in Montgomery, Alabama. In 2023, Tom retired from ministry after serving nearly 15 years as senior pastor of the historic First Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh. Tom and Jana have two sons and five granddaughters.

LAST WEEK'S RECAP

Attendance: 80

General Offering: \$1,204.00

Backpack Ministry: \$320.00

Restricted Gift – Replace HVAC: \$14,346.36

Online Offering: \$1,380.00

Total Offering: \$17,250.36

Upcoming Pulpit Supply:

Aug. 16: Rev. John Ferguson

Aug. 23: Rev. Jimm Smedley

Aug. 30: Kalin Folden (Pastor Bill's former parishioner)

Sept. 6: Rev. Jennifer Johnson

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

➡ SUNDAY, AUGUST 9

Sunday Morning Study, 9:28 a.m. (on break, will resume 9/13)

Armchair Theologians, 9:30 a.m.

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

Morning Worship, 10:50 a.m.

➡ MONDAY, AUGUST 10

Ministry Teams Meeting, 5:30 p.m.

➡ TUESDAY, AUGUST 11

Tai Chi, 5 p.m.

➡ WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12

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

➡ THURSDAY, AUGUST 13

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

Horizons Bible Study, 5:15 p.m.

➡ FRIDAY, AUGUST 14

Miller/Jones Wedding Rehearsal, 5 p.m.

➡ SATURDAY, AUGUST 15

Tai Chi, 11 a.m.

Miller/Jones Wedding, 4:30 p.m.

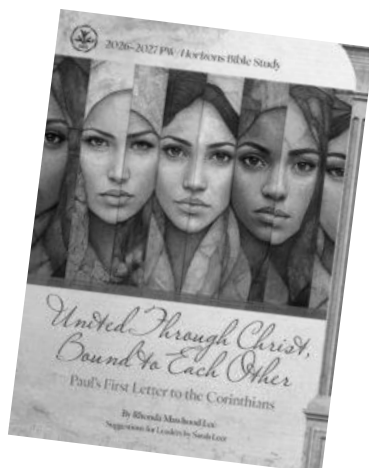
Prayer Cards Available

As we begin the journey of seeking the person God is calling to serve as our next minister, we invite every member of our church family to join together in prayer. Please pray for God's guidance, wisdom, and discernment for our Personnel Committee, for those who may be called to serve, and for the individual God is preparing to lead our congregation.

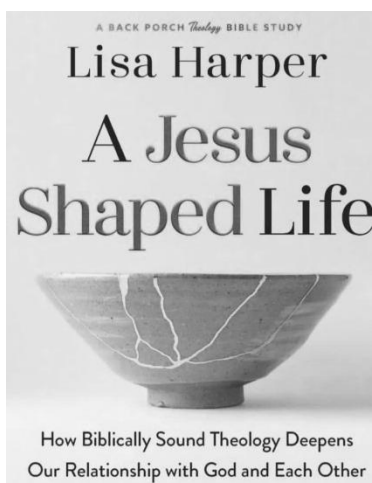
Prayer cards are available on the table in the narthex. We encourage you to take one home as a daily reminder to pray faithfully for this important process. Your prayers are a vital part of seeking God's will for the future of our church.

The 2026–2027 PW/Horizons Bible Study

The Horizons Bible Study is looking for new members! It meets on the second Thursday of each month at **5:15 p.m.** Our sessions will begin on **August 13**. If you are interested in joining, please contact Bettie George Frye.



Dames & Dinner Bible Study

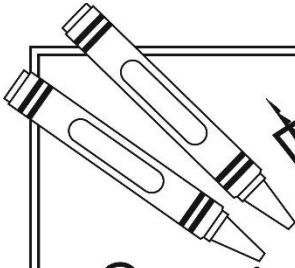


The new study is "A Jesus Shaped Life" by Lisa Harper. The study will begin on **Thursday, August 27**, and will continue the third Thursday of each month from **5:30 to 7 p.m.** Dinner will be provided, though a \$10 donation is welcome. Books are free of charge. Please feel free to invite a friend or two to join us.



Operation Christmas Child August Donations:

Coloring books, stickers, playdough, jump ropes, pencil cases



PUZZLE

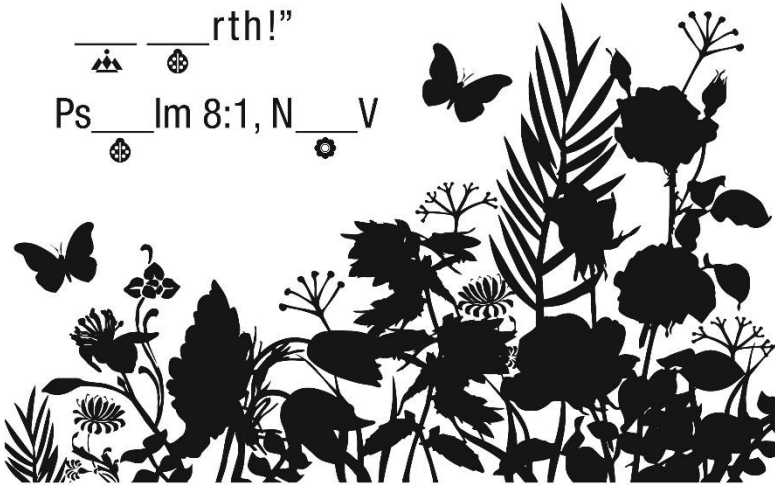
Spring's Beauty

During springtime, the beauty of God's creation emerges in many ways.

Directions: Use the vowel code below to complete Psalm 8:1, NIV.

A =  E =  I =  O =  U = 

"L____RD, _____r L____rd, h____w
 m____j____st____c _____s y____r
 n____m____n _____ll th____
 _____rth!"
 Ps____lm 8:1, N____V



Answer: "LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!"
 Psalm 8:1, NIV

PRAYER CONCERNS

Week ending August 6, 2026

Crystal Hughes (Nanette)

Jacob Mollette (Glen & Christy Thomas' son)

Chris Payne

Week ending July 30, 2026

Angie Lewis (UK Medical Center)

Evan Moore (Sandy Woodward)

Heather Shay

Week ending July 23, 2026

Kena Broomall (Kelly & Mark Hanni's daughter)

Mike Hall (Geri Willis' brother)

Don Lilly

Ongoing:

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

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);

Lieutenant Katie Brown (recent graduate West Point,

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
<i>Jimmy Hall</i>	<i>Teresa Cassity</i>	<i>Jan Holbrook *</i>
<i>Lee McCloud *</i>	<i>Kelly Hanni *</i>	<i>Mike Lilly</i>
<i>J.T. Norris *</i>	<i>Donna Jones</i>	<i>Ellen Sharp</i>
<i>*2nd term of service</i>		

MINISTRY TEAMS

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

To visit the church website, scan the code below.



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