



**Grace to you
and peace from God
our Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ, who gave
himself for our sins
to deliver us ...**

GALATIANS 1:3-4, ESV



THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

18th Sunday after Pentecost

October 12, 2025

10:50 a.m.

✠ We Gather in God's Name ✠

Welcome

Rev. Bill Pollack

Prelude

Max Jackson

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

John W. Vandetuin

† Call to Worship

Ryan Whitman

L: Come let us worship the Lord.

P: God longs to give us the desires of our heart.

L: Let us bow down amid our preconceived, irreverent ideals.

P: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul.

L: For God seeks to enter into covenant with the children of all creation.

P: Fill us, O Lord, with a sense of respect and awe, as we look to You.

L: Rouse Yourself from Your holy dwelling place and touch each of us, just as we are, where we are.

All: Praise Your holy name through our gathering this hour. In Jesus' name. Amen!

† Hymn of Praise

#366

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us Thy humble dwelling; all Thy faithful mercies crown.

Jesus, Thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love Thou art;
visit us with Thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast;
let us all in Thee inherit; let us find the promised rest.

Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all Thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never, never more Thy temples leave.

Thee we would be always blessing, serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
pray, and praise Thee without ceasing, glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish then Thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;
let us see Thy great salvation perfectly restored in Thee:
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before Thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

† **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 a 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**

#581

Glory Be to the Father

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

✠ **We Listen to God's Word** ✠

Children's Message

Anthem

Chancel Choir

Now Sing We Joyfully Unto God

Gordon Young

Now sing we joyfully unto God.

Prayer for Illumination

The Epistle Lesson: Galatians 1:1–9 (NRSV)

Carli Weston

Paul an apostle—sent neither by human commission nor from human authorities but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised Him from the dead—² and all the brothers and sisters with me, to the churches of Galatia: ³ Grace to you and peace

from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴ who gave Himself for our sins to set us free from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, ⁵ to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen. ⁶ I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— ⁷ not that there is another gospel, but there are some who are confusing you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. ⁸ But even if we or an angel from heaven should proclaim to you a gospel contrary to what we proclaimed to you, let that one be accursed! ⁹ As we have said before, so now I repeat, if anyone proclaims to you a gospel contrary to what you received, let that one be accursed!

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

Psalm 103

#439 (1,2,3,4,5)

O My Soul, Bless Your Redeemer

O my soul, bless your Redeemer; all within me bless God's name;
bless the Savior, and forget not all God's mercies to proclaim.

God forgives all your transgressions, all diseases gently heals;
God redeems you from destruction, and with you so kindly deals.

Far as east from west is distant, God has put away our sin;
like the pity of a father has the Lord's compassion been.

As it was without beginning, so it lasts without an end;
to their children's children ever shall God's righteousness extend:

Unto such as keep God's covenant and are steadfast in God's way;
unto those who still remember the commandments and obey.

† **The Gospel Lesson:** Matthew 9:9–13 (NRSV)

As Jesus was walking along, He saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax-collection station, and He said to him, “Follow Me.” And he got up and followed Him.¹⁰ And as He sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with Jesus and His disciples. ¹¹ When the Pharisees saw this, they said to His disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” ¹² But when He heard this, He said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick.

¹³ Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners."

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

Sermon

The Church: DE-formed

✠ We Respond to God's Word ✠

† Hymn of Response

#216

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand,
the shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land;
a home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noontide heat, and the burden of the day.

Upon the cross of Jesus mine eye at times can see
the very dying form of One who suffered there for me;
and from my stricken heart with tears two wonders I confess:
the wonders of redeeming love and my unworthiness.

I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of His face;
content to let the world go by, to know no gain or loss,
my sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross.

† 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*

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** (tune: Ellacombe)

#308

We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom

O God in whom all life begins, who births the seed to fruit,
bestow Your blessing on our lives; here let Your love find root.
Bring forth in us the Spirit's gifts of patience, joy, and peace;
deliver us from numbing fear and grant our faith increase.

Unite in mutual ministry our minds and hands and hearts
that we may have the grace to seek the power Your peace imparts.

So let our varied gifts combine to glorify Your name
that in all things by word and deed we may Your love proclaim.

Through tears and laughter, grief and joy, enlarge our trust and care;
so bind us in community that we may risk and dare.

Be with us when we gather here to worship, sing, and pray;
then send us forth in power and faith to live the words we say.

Postlude

Psalm XIX

Benedetto Marcello

† **Charge & Benediction**

† *Standing as you are able.*

SERVING TODAY

Head Usher: *Kelly Hanni* | Liturgist: *Ryan Whitman*

LAST WEEK'S RECAP

Attendance: 79
General Offering: \$1,650.00
Backpack: \$20.00
Building Rent: \$150.00
CAREs: \$75.00
Clean Start: \$47.85
Memorial Fund (backpack ministry): \$50.00
Memorial Fund (organ repair): \$50.00
Online Offering: \$875.00
Total Offering: \$2,917.85

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

➡ SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12

Sunday Morning Study, 9:28 a.m.
Armchair Theologians, 9:30 a.m.
Children's Sunday School (K–4th grade), 9:30 a.m.
Harmony of the Gospels, 9:30 a.m.
Youth Group (5th – 12th grade), 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship, 10:50 a.m.

➡ MONDAY, OCTOBER 13

Ministry Teams, 5:30 p.m.

➡ TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14

Tai Chi, 5 p.m. | Zumba, 5 p.m.

➡ WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15

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

➡ THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16

Paper Angels, 1 p.m.
Dames + Dinner Bible Study, 5:30 p.m.

➡ SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18

Zumba Class, 9:30 a.m. | Tai Chi, 11 a.m.

Safe Harbor Needs

During the month of October, we will be collecting diapers for Safe Harbor. If you have any questions, please contact Donna Jones.



Operation Christmas Child

You may choose to fill your own box or donate to the monthly cause each month. The OCC boxes will be blessed on November 9. Questions, contact Donna Jones.

October: small stuffed animals, craft kits, yo-yos, kaleidoscopes, Slinkys, balls; November: Money for postage.

Collecting Donations for Ashland Youth Service Center

We are again receiving donations for the Ashland Youth Services Center Thanksgiving Baskets, **October 12—November 2**. This is a wonderful outreach to many in our area who are struggling to make ends meet. We had an overflowing of items last year. We helped feed dozens of families throughout the Ashland Schools in our area. Thank you for your giving spirit! The list of items needed is located in the narthex.



Pastor & Staff Appreciation Month AND Table & Treat

FPC Staff Appreciation Luncheon and Table & Treat (CHILDREN ARE INVITED TO WEAR THEIR COSTUMES) is **Sunday, October 26** following morning worship. The menu is taco/salad bar with desserts and drinks. Appreciate our staff by gifting "a bag of BLESSINGS" with handwritten notes, small treats and gift cards. The BROWN paper packages will be available every Sunday in October.

******We are collecting candy for Table & Treat.******

All Saints Sunday

All Saints' Sunday is **Nov. 2**. Please join us as we pay homage to our dearly departed saints and loved ones. If you have a loved one who has passed into the kingdom **within this last year**, please notify the office by **Sunday, Oct. 26** for inclusion of his or her name in the bulletin.



You are invited to the First Presbyterian Women's

Well-Being Weekend

JOIN US

CLOTHING SWAP | Sat. Nov. 1 | 1–4 p.m.

CRAFTERNOON | Sun. Nov. 2 | 12:15 – 2:30 p.m.

CLOTHING SWAP

It will be located on the 2nd floor – rooms 11 & 12
Join your friends and bring a friend for an afternoon of “**FREE**” shopping. Appetizers and drinks will be served.
Questions, see Barb Payne

CRAFTERNOON

It will be in the Bethesda Community Hall. We will have craft stations for **TAKE & MAKE**: Holiday Wreaths, Paper Crafts, Homemade Cookie Class, Junk Prayer/Gratitude Journals, and Bible Tassel Bookmarks.

Lunch will be served*: Jimmy Johns Subs, Salad, Fruit, Cookies and Drinks.

FRIENDS ARE WELCOME! CHILDCARE IS PROVIDED.

*A love offering will be received at the door to help cover costs of lunch.

**PLEASE RSVP BY SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 25 IN THE NARTHEX or
TEXT Kelly Hanni (606.923.7826)**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1600 Winchester Avenue | Ashland, Kentucky 41101
606.324.4122 | fpcaky.org | office@fpcaky.org**



PRAYER CONCERNS

Week ending October 9, 2025

MaeCile Eastin Brown (Bettie George Frye's sister)
Charline Eastin (Bettie George Frye's sister)
Preston Eastin, a Peace Corp volunteer in Zambia, and his students
& their families (Bettie George Frye)
Family of Michelle Stemmer Gifford (Pastor Bill & Nanette)
Angel Horn (Nanette)
Steve Reliford (Kelly Hanni)
Linda Smithson (Kim Smithson's mother-in-law)

Week ending October 2, 2025

Christina Columber (Greg & Geri Willis)

Week ending September 25, 2025

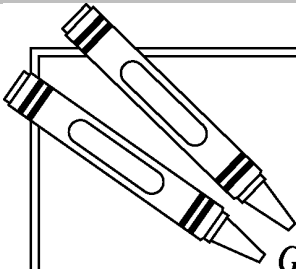
Grace Atwell (Trish Hall's sister)
Bryan & Anna Conley (Teresa Cassity's brother/sister-in-law)
Rebecca Ferguson (John & Kay Ferguson's daughter)
Dickie Martin (Ann Wiseman)
Jan Michel (Pastor Bill & Nanette)
Mike Myers (Judy Sanders' nephew-in-law)
Skip Saunders (Greg & Geri Willis)

Ongoing: Pastor Bill; Gretchen Dillon; Bill Gesling; Charlie
Holbrook; Keith McClelland; Kenny McGill; Bob Miller; Derek
Payne; Nancy Payne; Bonnie Pettijohn; Tim Shephard; 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 Mike Whitman);
Christian Brown (US Air Force, grandson of Mike Whitman); Greg
Weston (Army National Guard); Major Kaitlin Whitmore (US Army,
niece of Don & Judy Lilly)



Just for KIDS

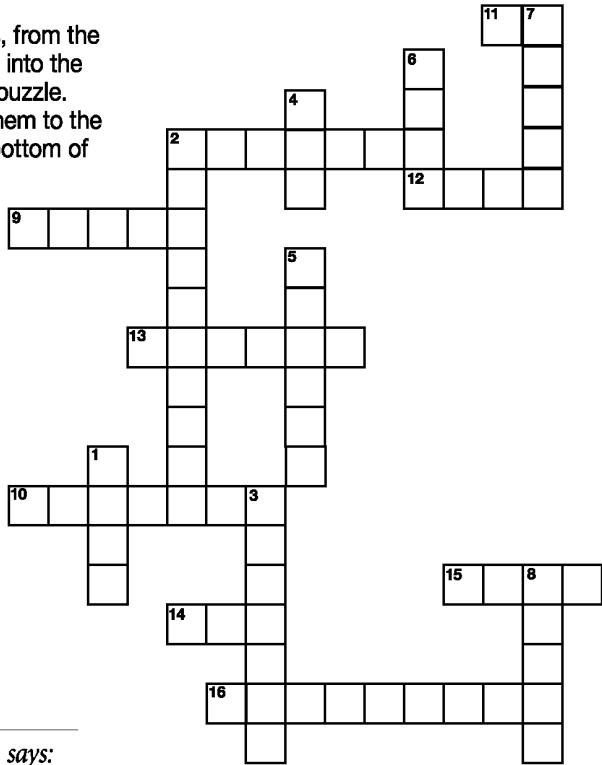
God Does Wonderful Things!

October is a season of change. God causes all things to change for his purpose. Find out some other things God does.

Fit these words, from the Book of Daniel, into the squares of the puzzle. Then transfer them to the blanks on the bottom of the page.

Word List

up
God
his
ever
sets
wise
name
power
times
kings
praise
wisdom
changes
seasons
deposes
knowledge
discerning



Daniel 2:20-21 says:

"_____ be to the _____ of _____ for _____ and _____;
 _____ and _____ are _____. He _____ and _____;
 He _____ and _____ them.
 He gives _____ to the _____ and _____ to the _____."

Answer: "Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are his. He changes times and seasons; He sets up kings and deposes them. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning."

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*

2026	2027	2028
<i>Mitch Hall*</i>	<i>Jimmy Hall</i>	<i>Teresa Cassity</i>
<i>Jan Holbrook</i>	<i>Lee McCloud *</i>	<i>Kelly Hanni *</i>
<i>Ryan Whitman*</i>	<i>J.T. Norris *</i>	<i>Donna Jones</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>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