

For Young
Worshippers:
Can you figure out
where the cross in
this picture is
located? Is it inside
or outside the
church? Can you
see the church's
steeple in the back?



The Presbyterian Church of Bowling Green

Service for the Lord's Day

The Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 28, 2017

Gathering Around the Word

Gathering Music

Mike Kanan

Striking of the Hour

Welcome

Prelude

Prelude on Gibbons' *Song 24*
O God, be gracious to me in your love.

Healey Willan

We Rise in Spirit and in Body

Call to Worship

We turn to our Lord in joy.

We rejoice before our God.

With all people everywhere we sing praises to God most high.

From the sanctuary of heaven God gives life and renews the face of the earth.

Let the righteous be joyful.

Let us all be jubilant!

From Psalm 68

All Stand

Hymn 851

Come, Bring Your Burdens to God

Sing Through Four Times

WOZA NOMTHWALO WAKHO

Call to Confession

This Sunday is the
last Sunday in the
Easter season. The
resurrection of
Jesus is so
amazing, glad
praise is the only
appropriate
response.

Admitting our sins costs us something. The dignity of pride is put aside, in order to receive the greater dignity of being united with God, in Jesus Christ.

Psalms 68 uses parts of other psalms, some general statements of praise, and some memories of God's rescue of the Hebrew people to create this wonderful, rangy offer of faithful joy.

Prayer of Adoration and Confession

Great God, we would rather not remember the ugly things we have said, and done, and thought. We do not want to consider the larger harm our failures have caused. Whatever pleasure-promising temptations sin brought along have now turned to guilt and displeasure. We'd like to be free of the burden again.

We confess our confusion and weakness. We will speak about things we have kept in silence, getting them off our chests, because we hope to be rid of their power. We trust that confession and repentance are the ways back to righteousness.

We appeal to your mercy. As smoke is driven away, drive away our weakness. As wax melts before the fire, let our wickedness perish. Forgive us, that we may once again be set right; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

A Silence is observed for Personal Confession

Declaration of Good News

Hymn 852

*When the Lord Redeems the Very Least I'LL FLY AWAY
When the Lord re-turns in vic-to-ry, we will re-joice!
When we live in glo-rious lib-er-ty, we will re-joice!
We will re-joice with gladness. We will rejoice.
All our days we'll sing to God in praise. We will re-joice!*

Passing the Peace of Christ

The risen Lord brought the gift of life-giving peace. Let us share it with one another.

Hearing the Word

Prayer for Illumination

The Psalter

Psalms 68:1-10, 32-35

We Trust in God for Deliverance

Let God rise up, let his enemies be scattered; **let those who hate him flee before him.**

As smoke is driven away, so drive them away; **as wax melts before the fire, let the wicked perish before God.**

But let the righteous be joyful; let them exult before God; **let them be jubilant with joy.**

Sing to God, sing praises to his name; lift up a song to him who rides upon the clouds—his name is the LORD— **be exultant before him, father of orphans and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation.**

God gives the desolate a home to live in; **he leads out the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious live in a parched land.**

O God, when you went out before your people, **when you marched through the wilderness, the earth quaked,** the heavens poured down rain at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, **at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

Rain in abundance, O God, you showered abroad; you restored your heritage when it languished; your flock found a dwelling in it; **in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.**

Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; **O rider in the heavens, the ancient heavens; listen, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice.**

Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel, and whose power is in the skies.

Awesome is God in his sanctuary, the God of Israel; he gives power and strength to his people.

Blessed be God!

Anthem

A Seasonal Alleluia

Hal Hopson

This gospel reading has been especially important in world-wide ecumenical movements, because of the line, “that they may be one, even as we are one...”

This statement takes on the task of summarizing what it means to say that “we are certain that Jesus lives.”

The Buck-in-a-Basket offering goes to support the Montreat Conference.

Gospel Reading

Jesus Prays for Us

John 17:1-11

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

Sermon

Reaching for a Hand

Matthew Covington

Response Hymn 267

Come Christians, Join to Sing

MADRID

Responding to the Word

Affirmation of Faith

A Declaration of Faith 4.5

Jesus was dead and buried, but God raised him from the dead. The risen Lord appeared to his followers. They recognized him as their Master who had been crucified. Before Jesus left them, he commissioned them to proclaim to all people the good news of his victory over death, and promised to be with them always. We are certain that Jesus lives. He lives as God with us, touching all of human life with the presence of God. He lives as one of us with God. Because he shares our humanity and has bound us to himself in love, we have an advocate in the innermost life of God. We declare that Jesus is Lord. His resurrection is a decisive victory over the powers that deform and destroy human life. His lordship is hidden. The world appears to be dominated by people and systems that do not acknowledge his rule. But his lordship is real. It demands our loyalty and sets us free from the fear of all lesser lords who threaten us. We maintain that ultimate sovereignty now belongs to Jesus Christ in every sphere of life. Jesus is Lord. He has been Lord from the beginning. He will be Lord at the end. Even now, he is Lord.

Prayers of the People and 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; 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

Offertory

A Clare Benediction

John Rutter

Beth Pope, soprano

Wayne Pope, baritone

Doxology

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Bearing and Following the Word into the Created World

Closing Hymn 263

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

CORONATION

Benediction

Postlude

Trumpet Tune

David N. Johnson

Our Church Elders: Pam Bratcher, David Coverdale, Nancy English, Sam Evans, Rob Hale, Jim Harris, Fred Higgins, Brad Howard, Matt Hunt, Stuart Kernohan, Bobby Rabold, Diane Simmons, David Thomison, Denny Wedge
Our Church Deacons: Karol Ahmed, Rider Allen, Barbara Brindle, Peggy Carthrae, Rocky Cooper, Shannon Dyche, Sheryl Goad, Cathey Green, Jean Harris, Wayne Hendrix, Ann Rudolph Humphrey, Nathan Love, Tom MacMillin, Marilyn Mattingly, Charlotte Prow, Kevin Reber, Jim Stites, Debbie Trickey, Judy Whitson

The Presbyterian Church Staff

Pastor
Organist, Pastoral Assistant
Choir Director
Financial Administrator
Director of Christian Education
Treasurer
Secretary
Director, Preschool Learning Center
Custodian
Children's Music
Sunday Sexton
College Intern
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Dr. Matthew W. Covington
Thomas N. Moody
Dr. Wayne Pope
Richard Barefoot
Leslee Kirkconnell
Steve Moore
Cheryl Gregory
Dana Patterson
Cedric Whitney
Ellie Osborne
Stuart Kernohan
Michael Spencer
James Harris

Calendar

Sunday, May 28

8:30 a.m. Fellowship
9:00 a.m. Children's Music
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship

Monday, May 29

Memorial Day / Closed

Tuesday, May 30

11:00 a.m. Special Care
2:00 p.m. Staff Meeting

Wednesday, May 31

5:00 p.m. Youth Fellowship
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

Friday, June 2

10:30 p.m. Contemplative Prayers

Donate Online:

We have set up the church website to accept online donations. Just go to the website below and fill out the simple form. Donations can also be made from your smart phone. You can also scan the QR code, right. <https://bgpresdonate.cloverdonations.com/online-donations/>



***The Presbyterian Church, 1003 State Street,
Bowling Green, KY 42101
270-843-4707 • www.bgpres.org***

WELCOME VISITORS!

We invite you to pick up visitor's information on your way out, either in the narthex or on the table on the right in the downstairs entrance hall. Ushers will be standing by to help you find them. Always know that a cordial greeting is extended by ministers, officers, and congregation.

Announcements

USHERS: Herb Simmons and friends

LAY READER: Nancy Hulan

MEDIA PERSONNEL: Stuart Kernohan and Matt Hunt

NURSERY ATTENDANTS: Alisia Mosley and Kimberly Watkins

LIBRARIAN: Arnie Petrus, arfranpe@msn.com

LECTIONARY FOR NEXT SUNDAY, June 4: Acts 2:1–21 or Numbers 11:24–30; Psalm 104:24–34, 35b; 1 Corinthians 12:3b–13 or Acts 2:1–21; John 20:19–23 or John 7:37–39.

TODAY: WHAT ARE OUR CHILDREN LEARNING? While we will continue to hold classes through June, this is the final Sunday of our 'regular' schedule. Next week, our children will combine into one class (Godly Play) through June. This day our Preschool and older elementary are exploring what faith lived out might look like. Using James 1:19-27 and 2:1-7, they'll hear about being doers and not just hearers. Luke 4:16-30 is the focus for our Godly Play (K-3rd) group as they wonder about the Synagogue and the Upper Room. Read the scriptures together at home and talk about what God wants you to learn.

OUR YOUTH are continuing to explore the beliefs and practices of other faiths.

THERE WILL BE AN ELDER WAITING IN THE LADIES' PARLOR before and after the worship service. The elder wants to hear from you. The Session wants there to be an exchange of ideas. An elder is available for conversations on any subject all week if you wish to call. The Elder in the parlor today is Denny Wedge.

THIS WEEK: PENTECOST PARTY! Next Sunday following worship. Bring a salad or side dish and enjoy good food and fellowship. Not a fundraiser, just a time to enjoy together. And it's a birthday party so there will be cake!

NEXT SUNDAY we move into a more 'summer-mode.' Sunday morning classes will meet through June, although our children will combine into one. Our youth may join them as needed. Adults will meet as is for the month. In July we will once again have our intergenerational class in Fellowship Hall, around the theme, 'Then Sings My Soul,' and Romans 8. We will have light breakfast available and need help with this. Visit <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f094aa9ab2ca7f49-summer> to sign up to bring one item. You can also scan the code. Nursery provided for our youngest members.

MID-WEEK YOUTH FELLOWSHIP continues at Spencer's Coffee each Wednesday at 5:00pm, unless noted. A great time for casual conversation and some good food. Bring a friend!

GALLERY TPC announces the next Gallery Hop, Friday June 2, beginning at 5:30pm in Fellowship Hall. Our new exhibit will feature the artists of Gayle Levee's studio - including our own Diane Simmons. The Artists will be here to greet you and welcome questions and comments about their work. Come anytime between 5:30 and 8:00pm.

COMING UP SOON: WE WILL COLLECT the Pentecost Offering on June 4. This is one of four special offerings of the PC(USA) and it benefits children at risk, youth and young adults. 40% of our gifts stay with our church to be used to benefit children/youth at risk. In the past we have designated our portion to help USpiritus and other similar local agencies. Envelopes will be in the bulletins or you may simply mark your check 'Pentecost Offering.' Thank you for your generosity!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS TWO WEEKS FROM TODAY! If you haven't registered your register quickly. VBS is free, but we need to know who's coming so we are prepared. (You can also go to <http://www.cecbg.com/#/formation/vbs-2017-registration>)

HELP IS NEEDED FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL. It's always a fun week of learning and growing and sharing faith with children. Visit our Sign Up Genius - <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f094aa9ab2ca7f49-passport> or scan the code to choose your times. We will have a **very important volunteer meeting** on Saturday June 10, 10:00am at Christ Episcopal Church. We also need help with preparing simple meals on Monday and Wednesday that week, 4:30-6:30pm. If you can help, let Leslee Kirkconnell know.

SAVE THE DATE for our 2017 GIRLS' NIGHT OUT!! WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 2017 -- in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00pm. Signup on Sundays May 28-June 11, or check the next newsletter for where to mail your check for a reservation! The deadline for reservations will be June 14th! Come celebrate the first day of summer with a Girls' Night Out picnic!

CITY SIGHTS/CITY LIGHTS is the annual Presbytery Middle School Mission Trip. Monday June 19-Wednesday June 21. We will leave by 10:30am for Russellville and our service/worship/fun adventure. Registration is due June 7. <http://storage.cloversites.com/thepresbyterianchurch/documents/csc117.pdf> is the link for the necessary form and information. See Leslee Kirkconnell with questions. All rising 6th-9th grade students are welcome - invite a friend!

OTHER NEWS:

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT the Christian Education calendar on our website. It represents an overall schedule from September to spring. You can find it linked to our children's and youth pages (but it is for ALL ages). Parents of children and youth should note the special dates already planned - from a Communion workshop to musical presentation in worship.

COME TO MONTREAT IN THE FALL! Leslee Kirkconnell is gauging interest in taking a group to the Fall Craft Week at Montreat October 1-7. A time of enjoying the beauty of early fall, having creative activities, worship and Bible study, along with the fellowship of sharing lodging together. Conference registration is \$250 and we will split the cost of housing, food and transportation. If you would love a week to relax and NOT do the conference, you can join us! We can have fun visiting some of the local sites like Biltmore, Blue Ridge Parkway etc. Leslee needs to know interest as soon as possible, but by June 15.

BE REMIND-ED! We're trying a new way to share important information with a text message service. Most of us have a cell phone and use texting to reach friends and family. Please join The Pres News so you can get quick updates from time to time. On your computer go to remind.com/join/a2d4fe2 and you will be prompted through the steps. We promise NO SPAM texting!

THE PRESBYTERY OF WESTERN KENTUCKY HAS IMPROVED ITS WEB SITE You can keep up with the work of our Presbytery at: <http://presbyteryofwesternkentucky.yolasite.com/>

THE CHURCH OFFICE will be closed on Monday, May 29 for Memorial Day.

VBS Child Registration



Summer Breakfasts



VBS Volunteers

