



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, October 10, 2021, 10:30 A.M.

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Our hope in this season of COVID-19 is that all who worship virtually feel welcome and a sense of God's love through Jesus Christ.

FOR WORSHIP

The Bible speaks of the whole range of human experience before God, including lament and sorrow. In the anguish of his heart, Job feels the absence of the presence of God, the pain of which is intensified by his knowledge that the Lord is good. When we, like Job, encounter the desolations of the human life, we can trust in the reality of God's goodness. If we turn to Jesus in faith, he will be our advocate, as he knows the full reality of human weaknesses, sorrow, and suffering. For those who follow Jesus, even at great cost, there will be mercy and grace for help in time of need.

PRELUDE

*A Millennial Trumpet
American Folk Hymn Suite*

Franklin Ashdown
Michael Burkhardt

1. *How Firm a Foundation*
2. *Shall We Gather at the River*
3. *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Janice Robison, Organist

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Robert Martin

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist Margaret Bourke

L: Let the heavens be glad and let the earth rejoice!

P: From everlasting to everlasting, God reigns.

L: God has established the world, and God's realm will never be shaken!

P: From everlasting to everlasting, God reigns.

L: God has been our dwelling place throughout all generations.

P: From everlasting to everlasting, God reigns.

L: Here and now, in the splendor and mystery of worship, God welcomes us home.

P: From everlasting to everlasting, God reigns.

*HYMN 420

God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA

1 God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

2 Lo! the hosts of evil round us
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.

3 Cure thy children's warring madness;
bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

4 Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore.
Let the gift of thy salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.

In the presence of a holy God, we become aware of the ways we fall short of God's best hopes for us, and the ways we have hurt others. We turn to God in prayer, asking for forgiveness.

We express gratitude that through God's grace and Christ's giving of himself on the cross we are forgiven and restored to God and one another.

On behalf of the congregation, the Pastor expresses the corporate prayers of the congregation. These prayers are for world, local and personal concerns.

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.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Liturgist Bourke

God of life, we confess to you that we have been heedless in our thoughts, cruel in our words, shameful in our actions. We are indifferent to a world made sad by want and wastefulness; we pass by on the other side when we see our neighbor in need; we wander from the way that leads to peace in paths of our own pleasing. God of life, we confess to you that we cannot journey through life alone. Guide us, aid us, clear our path, that we may begin anew. Amen.

*DECLARATION OF PARDON

L: Friends, believe the good news.

P. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*Gloria Patri - 579

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 and Amen.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Richard Nease

ANTHEM

Many Colors Paint the Rainbow

Roy Hopp

*Many colors paint the rainbow arching over land and sea;
Many colors form the fabric of our human tapestry.
God, with joy and hope you made us by a pattern you had planned,
Weaving varied threads together with a skilled and loving hand.
Many people bring their treasures, as those kings who traveled far,
Drawn from all earth's scattered places, back to Christ, the Morning Star.
All may offer gifts to others, and from them receive in turn.
In the gathering of nations, help us God, to teach and learn.
Many faces round the Table wait for Christ, the Risen Lord;
For he comes with love to meet us, in the Loaf, the Cup, the Word.
All are welcomed, none rejected, bound by Christ in unity,
Naming others sisters, brothers, in a worldwide family.
Many voices sing God's praises in a language all their own,
Tongues confused at Babel's Tower now are joined around God's throne.
Free our hearts of hate and discord, till our lives in concert blend.
"Alleluia! Alleluia!" be our anthem without end. (Herman Stuempfle, Jr.)*

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

Liturgist Bourke

Gracious God, whose Son is our light and our salvation: send your Holy Spirit to illuminate your holy word; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

SCRIPTURE Job 23:1-9, 16-17 (pages 471, 472 in pew Bible)
Mark 10:17-31 (page 46 in pew Bible)

Liturgist Bourke
Rev. Martin

L. This is the Word of the Lord!

P: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Choosing the Life God Intended

Rev. Robert Martin

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Martin

Choral Response (*the congregation is invited to join in singing*): *Hymnal #585 "Amen"*

THE OFFERING / OFFERTORY

Blessed Assurance
Janice Robison, Organist

Gerald Near

*DOXOLOGY

*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** (unison)

Liturgist Bourke

Show us the way to fullness of life, O God; that our hearts might be filled with your grace; that we might be strengthened to face the challenges of this world; that we might become those you call us to be, disciples of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN 356**

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

1 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!

2 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.

3 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.

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

Choral Response (*the congregation is invited to join in singing*): *Hymnal #586 "Amen"*

POSTLUDE

Voluntary

Henry Kihlken

Janice Robison, Organist

Deacon of the Month - Mary Costello - a friend to phone in time of need

740-592-3444 or mbcostello@hotmail.com

Ushers: Nancy Hartley and Harold Robison

Chancel Prep: Danny Moates

It's Time for FPC's Annual Pumpkin Decorating!!

Reservations by: October 7th

Pick up pumpkins and supplies: October 10th

Last year FPC members and friends had a great time decorating pumpkins in their homes. Pumpkins along with art supplies will be distributed on Sunday, October 10th in the fellowship hall, from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Contact Barb Martin at barbaramartin729@msn.com or (740) 856-4702 or the church office at office@athensfpc.org or (740) 593-3351 to RESERVE a small, medium, or large pumpkin by THIS Thursday, October 7th. There will be paint, stickers, glitters, decorative ribbon, and other fun things for participants to use. Please send Barb pics of your finished pumpkins so they can be shared with the congregation. Alternate times and delivery can be arranged.

NAMI 20th Annual "Walk the Walk"

Saturday, October 16th starting at 11:00 a.m. at the Athens Courthouse

Free t-shirt and snacks. No registration is required, but masks are required. For more info go to info@namiathensohio.org

*Weekly Worship Service
can be seen live on
Sunday Morning*

*FPC's worship services can
be found on YouTube
channel here:
[https://www.youtube.com/
user/athensfpc/search?
query=sermon](https://www.youtube.com/user/athensfpc/search?query=sermon).*

*You can access them
directly on the FPC
YouTube channel and on
the church web site under
Worship Archive.*

Solo Guest Organ Recital

October 17th at 4:00 p.m.

In honor of Janice Robison’s fifty years as FPC’s organist, FPC is pleased to host one of Janice’s favorite organists, Douglas Cleveland on October 17th at 4:00 p.m. in the church Sanctuary for a solo organ recital. (see page 3 in October newsletter for more details)

Presbyterian Women’s Combined Circles

October 20th, 10:00 a.m. at the Wyngate Clubhouse

Combined Circles will meet at the Wyngate Clubhouse on October 20th at 10:00 a.m. Joan Nease, new CE Co-Director, will be guest speaker. Thanks to Martha Johnson for hosting the meeting to discuss future PW Bible studies.

Women’s Book Study

Fridays at Noon in Fellowship Hall or by Zoom

For more information contact Richard or Joan Nease at christianed@athensfpc.org

Ohio University Cat’s Cupboard Update

Financial contributions are always welcomed. Food and personal hygiene item donations can be dropped off at the church office. Checks should be made out to First Presbyterian Church with “Cats’ Cupboard” in the memo line. This “cupboard” is for ALL students. Needed items: Flour, pasta, pasta sauce, canned salmon, canned sardines, canned chicken, canned tomatoes, tomato paste, canned mushrooms, dried black-eyed peas, dried garbanzo beans, brown rice, canned fruit, canned potatoes, canned carrots. Also needed: toilet paper, diapers size 5 or 6, laundry soap, conditioner, dish soap, body wash, and shampoo. 220 students have signed up for fall.

Minister: Rev. Robert E. Martin
Handbell Director: Tyler Thress

Clerk of Session: Andrew Stuart
Organist: Janice Robison

Adm. Asst: Jane Baker
Choir Director: David Tadlock

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The three-year Revised Common Lectionary for Sundays and festivals was produced by the ecumenical Consultation on Common Texts in 1992. This lectionary provides scripture readings for proclamation in public worship, following the Sundays, festivals and seasons of the Christian year. Four Scripture passages are given for each Sunday and festival: (a) the First Reading, usually from the Old Testament, but replaced by a reading from Acts during the season of Easter; (b) a Psalm or canticle, intended not as a separate reading, but as a response (ideally, a musical response) to the First Reading; (c) the Second Reading, an Epistle or other New Testament writing; and (d) the Gospel Reading, from Matthew, Mark, Luke or John. The three-year lectionary cycle (Years A, B and C) focuses on different sections of Scripture each year, notably the Gospel of Matthew in Year A, Mark in Year B, and Luke in Year C (the fourth gospel, John, is prominently featured at certain times in each year).

Sunday, October 10, 2021, the Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

First Reading

Psalm

Second Reading

Gospel

Job 23:1-9, 16-17

Psalm 22:1-15

Hebrews 4:12-16

Mark 10:17-31

Psalm 22:1-15

- 1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?
- 2 O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer; and by night, but find no rest.
- 3 Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.
- 4 In you our ancestors trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them.
- 5 To you they cried, and were saved; in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.
- 6 But I am a worm, and not human; scorned by others, and despised by the people.
- 7 All who see me mock at me; they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;
- 8 "Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver — let him rescue the one in whom he delights!"
- 9 Yet it was you who took me from the womb; you kept me safe on my mother's breast.
- 10 On you I was cast from my birth, and since my mother bore me you have been my God.
- 11 Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.
- 12 Many bulls encircle me, strong bulls of Bashan surround me;
- 13 they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion.
- 14 I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast;
- 15 my mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death.

Second Reading Hebrews 4:12-16

12Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. 13And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account. 14Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. 15For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. 16Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.