First United Presbyterian Church

April 21, 2024

Third Sunday in Easter

**GATHERING**

**CHIMES** Set your heart for worship, if you must whisper, let it be in prayer.

**PRELUDE**

**OPENING WORDS**

One: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**All: And, also with you!**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: The God of all shepherds has called us here.

**P: We come today, celebrating God’s love for us.**

L: The Good Shepherd has given his life for us.

**P: We come today, thanking Jesus for his witness and his teaching.**

L: The Shepherding Spirit moves through us, bringing us new hope.

**P: We come today ready to celebrate and to praise God. AMEN.**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

As the shepherd leads his flock, may our Lord lead us to a better understanding of his good works.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**We are good at complaining, and we are good at finding what is wrong in the world and in our lives. We see what goes on in the world and we find ourselves saying “where are you God?” But we also see places where we could help and yet we throw up our hands and say, “someone should do something.” Help us lord to be that someone, help us to see the places and the people that need your help and help us to be the help that is inspired by your love. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**\*RESPONSE TO PARDON** #579 Gloria Patri

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**

One: The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

**All: And also, with you!**

One: Please pass the peace to those around you!

**\*GATHERING SONG OF PRAISE** “Thy Word”

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid, Think I've lost my way, Still you're there right beside me.
And nothing will I fear, As long as you are near, Please be near me to the end.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

**SPECIAL MUSIC** “Holy Manna” Highland Ringers

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**PROCLAMATION**

**A READING FROM ACTS 4:5-12** Brenda Oda

**HYMN OF RESPONSE**  #322 Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the Living God, Fall afresh on me,
Spirit of the Living God, Fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the Living God, Fall afresh on me.

**THE READING OF PSALM 23** Judy Wical

**HYMN OF RESPONSE** #387 Savior Like A Shepherd Lead Us

Savior, like a shepherd lead us, Much we need Thy tender care;
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us, For our use Thy folds prepare:
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are;
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.

Thou hast promised to receive us, Poor and sinful though we be;
Thou hast mercy to relieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free:
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Early let us turn to Thee;
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Early let us turn to Thee.

Early let us seek Thy favor, Early let us do Thy will;
Blessed Lord and only Savior, With Thy love our bosoms fill:
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Thou hast loved us, love us still;
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Thou hast loved us, love us still.

**A READING FROM 1 JOHN 3:16 - 24**

**HYMN OF RESPONSE** #372 Lord, I Want To Be A Christian

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart.
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart.
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

**A READING FROM JOHN 10:11-18** Betty Lloyd

**RESPON****DING**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**INVITATION TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**

**\*DOXOLOGY** #592

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**\*CLOSING HYMN** #535 Go With Us, Lord

Go with us Lord and guide the way,

Through this and every coming day.

That in your spirit strong and true,

Our lives may be a gift to you.

**\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

(Please remain standing or seated until the Postlude is completed.)

**POSTLUDE**



**\***Denotes to please stand.

**SERVING IN CHURCH TODAY. . .**

Worship Leaders:

 Sue Crawfis, Betty Lloyd, Brenda Oda, Judy Wical, Holly VanBuskirk

Welcome Team: Bridget Hawkins, Cindy Jenkins, Pat Ortli, Holly VanBuskirk

Deacons On-Call: Phyllis Lyons, Ben Stahler

Acolytes: Salem Ericksen, Nora McClelland Organist: Tom Boone

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The **Book Study** meets Tuesday April 23, 11:00am in the Chapel.

The **Session** meets Tuesday April 23, 6:30pm in the Church Office.

The **Property Committee** meets Thursday April 24, 5:30pm in the Library.

**CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY!**

April 24: Natasha Kennedy April 26: Pat Ortli

**CELEBRATING A WEDDING ANNIVERSARY!**

April 23: Jenny and Jesse Jervis

If we have missed your birthday or wedding anniversary, please contact the Church Office at 937-592-6611 or secretary@bellefontainepres.com.

WE DON’T WANT TO MISS ANYONE!

**THOSE IN NEED OF OUR CONTINUED PRAYERS**

The Amidons Jadyn Plaugher Rose Gunkle Kris Sutterfield June Coil

Carl Wunderle Sherri Ullom Vicki Shafer The Morrisons Mark Brienza

James Mitchell David Ritter Shirley Ritter Kathy Jo Putt

Karen Primavera The Deardurff Family Kevin & Christina Horrigan

**WITH US IN SPIRIT, BUT UNABLE TO JOIN US…**

Sue Albano 2739 Co. Rd. #91 \*104 Belleft. 43311

Lois Ashworth 209 E. Glen Belleft. 43311

Bob Carter 6559 US Rt 68 S W. Liberty 43357

Joyce Core 2450 Co. Rd. 118 Rushsylvania 43347

Bud & Mona Eichholtz 1328 Omaha Belleft. 43311

Byron Fullerton 2739 Co. Rd. #91 Belleft. 43311

Anne Heinlen 741 E. Sandusky Ave. Belleft. 43311

Marcella Neeld 541 Center St. Belleft. 43311

Nate Weber 608 Newford Dr. Belleft. 43311

**AS YOU GO ABOUT YOUR WEEK…**

**Sunday April 21 Friday April 26**

Pray for Fairmont Presbyterian Church Pray for David and Alissa Ritter

 9:30am Sunday School

10:45am Worship

**Monday April 22 Saturday April 27**

Pray for Beth Powers Pray for the staff of

the Miami Valley Presbytery

**Tuesday April 23** Dearwester Event12:00pm

Pray for Andy and Julie Pulfer

Book Study 11:00am **Sunday April 28**

Session 6:00pm 9:30am Sunday School

 10:45am Worship Service

**Wednesday April 24**

Pray for the Rick and Joliece Reed family

Bells 6:00pm

**Thursday April 25**

Pray for Eva Rinehart

Property 5:30pm



YES! SIGN UP NOW for a Sunday to impart your knowledge to the **KidsTalk Summer Sunday School!** The CE Committee is looking for volunteers to spend a Sunday morning with the kids! You can teach them a new skill, tell stories of your childhood, sing songs, just about anything sounds great!! Contact Sara Stahler for more details!



DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER: 12:00PM APRIL 29

DEADLINE FOR WEEKLY BULLETIN AND VIEW FROM THE PEW:

NO LATER THAN 12:00PM THE PRECEDING TUESDAY.

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April 28 - Pastor Greg will be back in the pulpit after a productive Kairos

 weekend!

May 3 - KIDS NIGHT OUT!! 5:00pm - 7:00pm!

May 5 - There will be no Coffee Hour, we’ll have that for Graduation Sunday!

May 6 - VBS Planning Committee! 5:00pm!

May 12 - A BUSY DAY! It’s MOTHER’S DAY, it’s COMMUNION SUNDAY, it’s

 BUILDING BLOCK SUNDAY, the bells will play!

May 19 - Pentecost Sunday, please wear RED!! It’s GRADUATION SUNDAY!

 It’s SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS SUNDAY!

 The CE Committee will host a Coffee Hour for our graduates!

May 26 - MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND!! Everyone be safe if you are traveling!!

June 9 - PWA LADIES TEA! 1:30 - 3:30! More information to come!!

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Dear Church Family:

Thank you for your thoughts, prayers, cards, texts, visits, and food during my surgery and current recovery.  It has meant a lot to me, and I realize every day that God placed me at 1st UPC for a reason.  It seems that my recovery has good and bad days.  I will have to learn patience.  Just know that I appreciate every one of you.

Grace and Peace, Bridget