First United Presbyterian Church

September 1, 2024

**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**

One: Summer wanes and the autumn draws close.

**All: Lord, help us to be ready for opportunities of service.**

One: We have felt the refreshment of time-away.

**All: Lord, give us spirits of joy for the times ahead.**

One: Come, let us celebrate God’s eternal presence and love.

**All: Let us open our spirits to receive God’s direction for our lives. AMEN.**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**\*OPENING HYMN** #481 Praise the Lord, God’s Glories Show

Praise the Lord! God’s glories show, Alleluia! Saints within God's courts below, Alleluia!  
Angels round the throne above, Alleluia! All who see and share God's love. Alleluia!

Earth to heaven exalt the strain, Alleluia! Send it, heaven, to earth again, Alleluia!  
Age to age, God’s mercies trace, Alleluia! Praise God’s providence and grace! Alleluia!

Strings and voices, hands and hearts, Alleluia! In the concert, bear your parts, Alleluia!  
All that breathes, your Lord adore, Alleluia! Singing praise forevermore, Alleluia!

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God of mercy, you know us so well. You have offered to us new life, characterized by honesty, compassion, joy, and peace. You have invited us into ministries of peace and justice; but we have far too often turned our back on opportunities for service and witness to your transformational love. Forgive us for our stubbornness. Help us to turn around and listen to your words of hope. Remind us again that you require compassion and mercy in all who serve you; that you will guide our steps and our lives. Give us courage to truly be your witnesses in this world. AMEN.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**\*RESPONSE TO PARDON** #570 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** O, Jesus, I Have Promised

O Jesus, Thou has promised to all who follow Thee

That where Thou art in glory, There shall They servant be;

And Jesus, I have promised, to serve Thee to the end;

Oh give me grace to follow, My Master and my friend.

**PROCLAMATION**

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

**EPISTLE READING** James 1:17-23

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**GOSPEL READING** Mark 7:1-23

**SERMON**  “Within”Rev. Greg Menssen

**RESPONDING**

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE** #485 To God be the Glory

To God be the glory, great things he has done!

So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
who yielded his life an atonement for sin, and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain:  
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, Let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son

and give him the glory, great things he has done!

Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,  
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son,  
but purer and higher and greater will be our joy and our wonder, when Jesus we see.

Refrain:  
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, Let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son

and give him the glory, great things he has done!

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**INVITATION TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**

**\*DOXOLOGY** #592

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**LORD’S PRAYER**

**SENDING**

**\*CLOSING HYMN** #344 Christ of the Upward Way

Christ of the upward way, my Guide divine,

Where Thou hast set Thy feet, may I place mine;  
And move and march wherever Thou hast trod,  
Keeping face forward up the hill of God.

Give me the heart to hear Thy voice and will,  
That without fault or fear I may fulfill  
Your purpose with a glad and holy zest,  
Like one who would not bring less than the best.

Christ of the upward way, my Guide divine,  
Where Thou hast set Thy feet, may I place mine;  
And when Your last call comes, serene and clear,  
Calm may my answer be, “Lord, I am here.”

**\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

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

**POSTLUDE**

\*Denotes to please stand.

A black text on a white background

Description automatically generated

MR. BOONE!!

A sign with white text

Description automatically generated

Monday, September 2, in observance of Labor Day!

A close-up of a logo

Description automatically generated

Weekly Bulletin - 12:00pm the Preceding Tuesday

Newsletter - September 30

Postcards - 2 weeks before mailing

View from the Pew - 12:00 the Preceding Tuesday

Committee financial statements - 1 week ahead

**SERVING IN CHURCH TODAY**

Worship Leader: Beth Powers Organist: Tom Boone

Welcome Team: Mac Smith, Mike Brady, Julie and Andy Pulfer

Deacons On-Call: Ben Stahler, Judy Wical

Nursery: Brenda Jenkins, Karen Brady Acolytes: Greg Fitzpatrick, Robbie Robinson

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

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

Byron Fullerton \*316, 2739 Co. Rd. #91 Belleft. 43311

Vera Miller 10536 Manatee Drive Huntsville 43324

Lois Ashworth 209 E. Glen Belleft. 43311

June Coil 6559 US Rt. 68 S. West Liberty 43357

Bob Carter 6559 US Rt. 68 S. West Liberty 43357

Joyce Core 2450 Co. Rd. #118 Rushsylvania 43347

Bud and Mona Eichholtz 1328 Omaha Rd. Belleft. 43311

Anne Heinlen 741 E. Sandusky Ave. Belleft. 43311

Marcella Neeld 541 Center St. Belleft. 43311

Nate Weber 608 Newford Dr. Belleft. 43311

**THOSE IN NEED OF OUR CONTINUED PRAYERS**

Eleanor Brewer Vera Miller David Ritter Dottie Cost

Sherri Ullom Vicki Shafer Carl Wunderle Ciara Ericksen

Roxanne Fisher The Amidons Karen Primavera Deardurff Family

Mary Jane Baker Anne Heinlen Nora McClelland

**CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY**

September 1: Mekenzie Flora

September 5: Owen Standley

September 7: Benjamin Lentz

A black and grey text

Description automatically generated with medium confidence We want to be sure to have the correct information for everyone! If we don’t have your birthday or wedding anniversary dates, a new address or telephone number or other pertinent information please call the Church Office to update your data!

**AS YOU GO ABOUT YOUR WEEK. . .**

**Sunday September 1**

Pray for Southminster Presbyterian Church

9:30am Sunday School

10:45am Worship

A black and red card with white heart and lightning bolt

Description automatically generatedICE CREAM SOCIAL!

Our AED is located in the Fellowship Hall, in the event of an emergency.

**Monday September 2**

Pray for Marcella Neeld

**Tuesday September 3**

Pray for Arden and Suzi Neer

Book Study 11:30am

Property 5:00pm

**Wednesday September 4**

Pray for Caroline Notestine

**Thursday September 5**

Copies of

The Upper Room Devotional are available at the Bulletin tables.

A book with a yellow bookmark

Description automatically generatedPray for Brenda and Charles Oda

**Friday September 6**

Pray for Pat Ortli

**Saturday September 7**

Pray for the staff of the Miami Valley Presbytery

COOKIE BAKING! 10:00am

**Sunday September 8**

**RALLY DAY!**

9:30am Sunday School

10:45am Worship

Communion

We have large print hymnals and bibles for use! You can find those at the bulletin tables.

Hearing devices can be acquired from our Sound System attendant!

A white sign with black text

Description automatically generated

A stack of cookies with text

Description automatically generatedFIRE UP THOSE OVENS AND MARK YOUR

CALENDARS FOR SEPTEMBER 7!!

We will be baking 200 dozen (Yes! That is 2,400 cookies!) as a Mission Project to aid the Kairos Ministry Team in their Fall Cookie Weekend!

We will begin at 10:00am!! Cookie dough will be provided! Pastor Greg will be helping to distribute 2 dozen cookies to each inmate during the Kairos Weekend.

For more information call the Church Office!! 937-592-6611.

**A black and white logo

Description automatically generated**

SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY!!

Rally Day will be a time for us to draw together for a common purpose! That purpose being a renewal of energy as we seek the power of the Holy Spirit to renew our energy for worship, hearing the word of God, praying and serving.

There will be a COLLABORATIVE ART PROJECT for everyone to be a part of and you don’t want to miss it!

You can enjoy breakfast in the Fellowship Hall! Each committee and association will have information available for you to learn more about the inner workings of the church.

A black and white of kids holding signs

Description automatically generatedThe activities begin at 9:30am, with Communion being observed during the Worship Service!