



First  
Presbyterian  
Church of Monroe

1820 to 2020

Celebrating  
200 Years  
of Faith  
&  
Service



**November 1, 2020**

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The mission of the First Presbyterian Church is to be ambassadors for Jesus Christ and to proclaim his salvation in worship, education, and outreach.

# All Saints' Sunday, Communion Sunday, and Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

## OPENING WORDS

Come, come know the Lord our God.

**God desires to enlighten the eyes of our heart.**

God longs to give us hope,

**And show us the rich inheritance of the saints.**

## PRELUDE

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses,

**Let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely.**

Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.

**Together let us worship God!**

## OPENING HYMN #624

“I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art”

- 1 I greet thee, who my sure Redeemer art, my only trust and Savior of my heart, who pain didst undergo for my poor sake; I pray thee from our hearts all care to take.
- 2 Thou art the King of mercy and of grace, reigning omnipotent in every place: so come, O King, and our whole being sway; shine on us with the light of thy pure day.
- 3 Thou art the life, by which alone we live, and all our substance and our strength receive; sustain us by thy faith and by thy power, and give us strength in every trying hour.
- 4 Thou hast the true and perfect gentleness; no harshness hast thou and no bitterness. O grant to us the grace we find in thee, that we may dwell in perfect unity.
- 5 Our hope is in no other save in thee; our faith is built upon thy promise free; Lord, give us peace, and make us calm and sure, that in thy strength we evermore endure.

## PRAYER OF ADORATION

## HYMN #649

“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

(Stanza 1 only)

- 1 Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

## CALL TO CONFESSION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Eternal God, in every age you have raised up men and women to live and die in faith. We confess that we are indifferent to your will. You call us to proclaim your name, but we are silent. We call us to do what is just, but we remain idle. You call us to live faithfully, but we are afraid. In your mercy, forgive us. Give us courage to follow in your way, that joined with those from ages past, who have served you with faith, hope, and love, we may inherit the kingdom you promised in Jesus Christ. Amen. *(continue in silent confession)***

## HYMN #579

“Lord, Have Mercy”

*Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. May the God of mercy, who forgives you all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

## SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## SONG OF AFFIRMATION #647

“Give Thanks”

*Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One; give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son. Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One; give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son. And now let the weak say, “We are strong”; let the poor say, “We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!” And now let the weak say, “We are strong”; let the poor say, “We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!” Give thanks. Give thanks.*

## CHILDREN'S TIME

## PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

FIRST READING – Joshua 3:7-17

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING – 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Binding Us Together In Love”

Dr. Matt Meinke

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – Brief Statement of Faith

**With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

HYMN #730

“I Sing a Song of the Saints of God”

- 1 I sing a song of the saints of God, patient and brave and true, who toiled and fought and lived and died for the Lord they loved and knew. And one was a doctor, and one was a queen, and once was a shepherdess on the green: they were all of them saints of God, and I mean, God helping, to be one too.
- 2 They loved their Lord so dear, so dear, and God’s love made them strong; and they followed the right, for Jesus’ sake, the whole of their good loves long. And one was a soldier, and one was a priest, and one was slain by a fierce wild beast: and there’s not any reason, no, not the least, why I shouldn’t be one too.
- 3 They lived not only in ages past; there are hundreds of thousands still; the world is bright with the joyous saints who love to do Jesus’ will. You can meet them in school, or in lanes, or at sea, in church, or in trains, or in shops, or at tea; for the saints of God are just folk like me, and I mean to be one too.

CALL TO OFFERING

*Please reflect on the blessings God has given you and how you might reach out.*

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY #606

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**We thank you for your promise of wisdom and revelation to make to those who put their faith in you. Enlighten our hearts, that we may know the hope and the riches of your inheritance among the saints. May these offerings join with those of the saints of history in your holy service. Amen.**

## PASTORAL PRAYER

### LITANY—Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

**You make me lie down in green pastures and lead me beside still waters.**

You revive my soul and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

### ROLL CALL OF SAINTS

*Linda M. Beeler*

*Annabelle M. Carter*

*Natalie "Nan" (Merica) Eckfeld*

*Richard Orland Eder*

*Dolores Josephine Jenkins*

*Patrick Liedel*

*Stephen L. Ondrovick, Jr.*

*Rudolph "Rusty" Shorter*

*Mary E. West*

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

### INVITATION

This is the joyful feast of the people of God!

People will come from north and south

and from east and west

to sit at the table in the kingdom of God.

According to Luke,

when our risen Lord was at the table with his disciples,

he took the bread,

blessed and broke it,

and gave it to them.

Then their eyes were opened,

and they recognized him.

This is the Lord's Table.  
Our Savior invites those who trust him  
to share the feast that he has prepared.

#### THE TABLE IS PREPARED

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Praise to you, O God, for all your works,  
You created the world and called it good  
and made us in your image to live together in love.

You made a covenant with us,  
and even when we turned from you,  
you remained ever faithful.

“Holy, Holy, Holy” #552

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

Thank you, O God, for sending us your Son.

He lived among us and told your story.

He healed the sick and welcomed sinners.

He shared our pain and died our death,  
then rose to new life that we might live,  
and all creation be restored.

Remembering your boundless love  
revealed to us in Jesus Christ,  
we break bread and share the cup,  
giving ourselves to you  
to live for him in joy and praise.

Great is the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died, Christ is Risen, Christ will come again.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us  
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine  
that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ  
and that we may be his body for the world.

By your Spirit unite us with Christ and one another  
until we feast with him and with all your saints  
in your eternal realm of justice and peace.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor are yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

#### 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not  
into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the  
power and the glory forever. Amen.**

#### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

We give you thanks that the Lord Jesus,  
on the night before he died, took bread,  
and after giving thanks to you, he broke it,  
and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat. This is my body, given for you.  
Do this is remembrance of me.

In the same way Jesus took the cup, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood,  
shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.  
Whenever you drink it, do this is remembrance of me.

#### THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*All who profess Christ as their Lord and Savior are welcome to partake of the meal  
he has prepared for us.*

## COMMUNION PRAYER

God of abundance,  
with this bread of life and cup of salvation  
you have united us with Christ,  
making us one with all your people.

Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit  
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world  
and continue forever in the risen life  
of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HYMN #326

### “For All the Saints”

- 1 For all the saints who from their labors rest, who thee by faith before the world confessed, thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might; thou, Lord, their captain in the well found fight; thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
- 3 O blest communion, fellowship divine! We feebly struggle; they in glory shine; yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.
- 4 And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long, steals on the ear the distant triumph song, and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 5 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, through gates of pearl streams in the countless host, singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia! Alleluia!

## CHARGE AND BLESSING

Go out into the world in peace;  
have courage;  
hold on to what is good;  
return no one evil for evil;  
strengthen the fainthearted;  
support the weak, and help the suffering;  
honor all people;  
love and serve the Lord,  
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord be kind and gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.  
**Amen.**

## POSTLUDE

**Children's Message:** Tom Bajkiewicz

**Ushers:** John Chesman and Marilyn Marshall

**About our Guest Pastor:**

Dr. Matt Meinke serves as the General Presbyter for Maumee Valley Presbytery (a gathering of 67 PCUSA congregations in SE Michigan and NW Ohio), previously coming from Indian Nations Presbytery in Oklahoma as stated clerk, leader, and pastor. A native of Wisconsin, choir director, organist, and storyteller, Matt has served churches in Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Arkansas, and Oklahoma, graduating from Westminster College (New Wilmington, PA), Princeton, and Drew University (D. Min.).