



# **First Presbyterian Church of Mineral Ridge**

**The 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
November 13, 2022**

Welcome to our church! It is a joy to worship with you on this morning. Please join us after worship in Fellowship Hall for coffee and conversation.

*\*Please stand in body or in spirit.*

**PRELUDE**

**RINGING OF THE BELL**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

***We Gather as God's People***

**OPENING PRAYER** – *Let us pray.*

Holy God, living God, we come to you today to reinvigorate ourselves. Inspire our hearts, feet, & hands to be your expansive love. Help us to retain your essence of compassion and favor for those on the margins. May we embrace your calling of love and justice in “just such a time as this.” **Amen.**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** – *Please stand and join me in the call to worship.*

Faithful, Mordecai reveals his trust in God.

**Rain continues falling, thunder threatens.**

Falling into despair he dons the sackcloth of grief.

**Thunderous evil persists, death will surely follow.**

Esther's life at risk, she chooses the most loving action in "just such a time as this."

**She chooses love and justice and hope.**

Let us worship the One who loves in times like then and times like now.

**Tasting grief, tasting joy, with hesitancy and resolve we are here to worship God.**

**\*HYMN #285**      *God, You Spin the Whirling Planets*

God, You spin the whirling planets,  
Fill the seas and spread the plain,  
Mold the mountains, fashion blossoms,  
Call forth sunshine, wind, and rain.  
We, created in your image,  
Would a true reflection be  
Of Your justice, grace, and mercy  
And the truth that makes us free.

You have called us to be faithful  
In our life and ministry.  
We respond in grateful worship  
Joined in one community.  
When we blur Your gracious image,  
Focus us and make us whole.  
Healed and strengthened as Your people,  
We move onward toward Your goal.

God, Your word is still creating,  
Calling us to life made new.  
Now reveal to us fresh vistas  
Where there's work to dare and do.  
Keep us clear of all distortion.  
Polish us with loving care.  
Thus, new creatures in Your image,  
We'll proclaim Christ everywhere.

**CALL TO CONFESSION** – *Please be seated.*

*God is gracious and merciful and knows our needs even before they reach our lips. Still, we engage in confession, admitting to God all that rests uneasily in our hearts. Confident of God's love, let us make our confession, first in silence.*

**UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION** - *Please join me in the unison prayer of confession.*

**We confess we sin individually against others, we repeat our mistakes, even though we know better. We allow our actions to make it harder for others to reach you. Release us from our flawed ideas and the desires that trip us up. Move us closer to you and away from that which tempts us. Release us from our ignorance and arrogance so that we can live in your beloved community. In the name of the One who was and is to come, Amen.**

**KYRIE #572**

“Lord have mercy upon us, Christ have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy upon us.”

## **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Life is hard. It is harder still to live as Jesus taught and showed us. And, yet, God never gives up on us. God never stops loving and pointing the way. This is Good News. We are beloved.

## **SUNG RESPONSE #280**

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.

*Kindergarten and younger children may now leave with  
Olivia Meyers for Story Circle in Fellowship Hall.*

## **PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

*O God of wisdom, you delight in deep truth. Let these words of scripture teach our hearts, that we may hear your joy and gladness, for the sake of Christ, your wisdom for us. Amen.*

## **FIRST READING**            *Psalm 121*

I lift up my eyes to the hills, from where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and for evermore.

*The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.***

## **SECOND READING**

*Esther 4:1-17*

When Mordecai learned all that had been done, Mordecai tore his clothes and put on sackcloth and ashes, and went through the city, wailing with a loud and bitter cry; he went up to the entrance of the king's gate, for no one might enter the king's gate clothed with sackcloth. In every province, wherever the king's command and his decree came, there was great mourning among the Jews, with fasting and weeping and lamenting, and most of them lay in sackcloth and ashes.

When Esther's maids and her eunuchs came and told her, the queen was deeply distressed; she sent garments to clothe Mordecai, so that he might take off his sackcloth; but he would not accept them. Then Esther called for Hathach, one of the king's eunuchs, who had been appointed to attend her, and ordered him to go to Mordecai to learn what was happening and why. Hathach went out to Mordecai in the open square of the city in front of the king's gate, and Mordecai told him all that had happened to him, and the exact sum of money that Haman had promised to pay into the king's treasuries for the destruction of the Jews. Mordecai also gave him a copy of the written decree issued in Susa for their destruction, that he might show it to Esther, explain it to her, and charge

her to go to the king to make supplication to him and entreat him for her people.

Hathach went and told Esther what Mordecai had said. Then Esther spoke to Hathach and gave him a message for Mordecai, saying, 'All the king's servants and the people of the king's provinces know that if any man or woman goes to the king inside the inner court without being called, there is but one law—all alike are to be put to death. Only if the king holds out the golden sceptre to someone, may that person live. I myself have not been called to come in to the king for thirty days.' When they told Mordecai what Esther had said, Mordecai told them to reply to Esther, 'Do not think that in the king's palace you will escape any more than all the other Jews. For if you keep silence at such a time as this, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another quarter, but you and your father's family will perish. Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this.' Then Esther said in reply to Mordecai, 'Go, gather all the Jews to be found in Susa, and hold a fast on my behalf, and neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. I and my maids will also fast as you do. After that I will go to the king, though it is against the law; and if I perish, I perish.' Mordecai then went away and did everything as Esther had ordered him.

*The Word of God for the People of God. **Amen.***

**SERMON**

*Rev. Kori Robbins*

## ***We Respond to God's Love***

**\*HYMN #369**

*I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*

I'm gonna live so God can use me  
Anywhere, Lord, anytime.

I'm gonna live so God can use me  
Anywhere, Lord, anytime.

I'm gonna work so God can use me...  
Anywhere, Lord, anytime.

I'm gonna work so God can use me...  
Anywhere, Lord, anytime

I'm gonna pray so God can use me...  
Anywhere, Lord, anytime.

I'm gonna pray so God can use me...  
Anywhere, Lord, anytime.

I'm gonna sing so God can use me...  
Anywhere, Lord, anytime.

I'm gonna sing so God can use me...  
Anywhere, Lord, anytime.

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**We believe in God. God who created each of us in the divine image. God who loves our neighbors and our enemies as fully as us.**

**We trust in the love that binds human being to human being and in the love between us and to you.**

**We trust in the grace revealed through Jesus the Christ.**

**We believe in your goodness and desire for all of your creation to live in harmony and peace.**

**Admitting our failures and faults, we pledge anew to learn and grow. We commit our hearts and bodies to strive into the divinity you placed within us.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** – *You may be seated.*

Trusting indeed that you are always there, we pray to you now as your Son taught us, saying together,

**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. All: Amen.**

### **CALL FOR OFFERING**

*In the kingdom of God, we find that generosity of spirit, generosity of possessions & the radical sharing of skills are practiced openly. All gifts are important to God, so as the offering plate comes around, place your hand over it, committing to God that you will use your time, talent and treasures for furthering the work of God's kingdom.*

### **OFFERATORY**

#### **\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE #324**

Open my mouth and let me bear  
Gladly the warm truth everywhere;  
Open my heart and let me prepare  
Love with Thy children thus to share.  
Silently now I wait for Thee, ready my God,  
Thy will to see;  
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit Divine!



**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION** – *Please join me in saying the prayer of dedication.*

**God, thank you, thank you, thank you – for your grace, for this community of faith, for the gifts of our lives. Bless these offerings today that they might be used to further your reign of righteousness here and now. Work through each of us and through the ministries of this congregation that we might glorify you in all we do. Amen.**

### ***We Go Out to Serve God***

**\*HYMN #356**      *Come Thou Fount*

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.

Here I raise mine 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.

O, to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let thy 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.

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*CLOSING RESPONSE #743**

*Step by Step*

O God, You are my God and I will ever praise You  
O God, You are my God and I will ever praise You  
I will seek You in the morning  
And I will learn to walk in Your ways  
And step by step You'll lead me  
And I will follow You all of my days

# ***Prayer List***

## **MEMBERS TO REMEMBER**

Mary Alice Seaborn

Marlyne Young

Helen Redmond

Shirley Dull

## **PRAYERS FOR HEALTH, SUPPORT AND CONCERN**

Logan Morris (Infant Great-Grandson of Tom Morris)

Megan Taylor (Carole's cousin)

Amos Rodgers & Cody Tittle (Marlene's friends)

James Tincher (Marlene's son)

Bill Reddersen (Ted & Darlene Smith's friend)

David Giudici (Emily Pugh's friend)

Clayton & Eileen (Bev Myers' family friends)

Barb and Alan (friends of Suzie McCabe)

Linda Lukehart (Betty Garland's Daughter)

Paul Stevens (Bev Myers' son)

Jim Flores (Marty O'Neill's boyfriend)

James Boyce (Church Custodian)

Larry Schmidt (Meyers' Friend)

Jen & Jon Christmas (Kori's Friends)

Carl Farina (Marty O'Neill's friend)

Karen (Sue McCabe's friend)

Matt Smith (Kathy Graham's friend)

Dennis Copanic (Val Copanic's father)

Dennis Eggert (January Rendes' father)

Graig Colantone (Nicole Pugh's father)

Dareen Craver-Angeloff (Rodney's mother)

Cheryl Fisher (Bev Meyers' Daughter)

Ella McBride (friend of Sherri Craver)

Betty Garland

Tom Crozier

Bill Happney  
The Keeley family  
Family of January Rendes  
Kevin Stanley (Kori's step-father)  
Shannon Poole (daughter of Sherry and Tim Gleason)  
Butch Kelly (Friend of the Garland family)

**PRAYERS FOR HEALTH, SUPPORT AND CONCERN**

Eastminster Presbytery and staff  
Our Mineral Ridge Church Family  
Niles Community Services  
Warren & Youngstown Rescue Missions  
Refugees  
Rev. Kade Mastra (Indonesian Partner)  
Peace and healing for our country  
Casa de Buen Trato  
Needles's Eye  
Ukraine  
World Leaders  
Jed and Jenny Koball (Peru)  
Our PC(USA) coworkers  
Revs. Scott & Elmarie Parker

## Announcements

**We have recently made some updates to our church email addresses. You can reach Pastor Kori at [pastor@fpcmr.org](mailto:pastor@fpcmr.org) and you can reach the general office mailbox at [admin@fpcmr.org](mailto:admin@fpcmr.org). Our previous mailboxes will still be up for awhile while we make this transition.**

The Deacons are taking orders for poinsettias for Christmas. You may also contribute to the Memorial Fund or Deacon's Fund. The names of all donors will appear in the bulletin Christmas Sunday. You can take your plant home any time after the service. Order forms will be located in the back of the Sanctuary and will also be emailed.

Book Club will be held Tuesday, November 22 at 4pm. Please join us!

Our 160th Anniversary is approaching and we're looking for people to volunteer! Interested? Contact Pastor Kori for more information.

We are also looking to start a prayer group. Please contact Pastor Kori if you'd like to be involved.

## **Responsibilities**

*Pastor- Rev. Kori Robbins*

*Liturgist- Bethany Glidewell*

*Elder- Carole Rummell*

*Deacon- Darlene Smith*

*Music- Marnie Bonsall*

## **Thank you for your generosity**

*November 6<sup>th</sup> \$*

*October 30<sup>th</sup> \$952*

*October 23<sup>rd</sup> \$1,630*

## **Birthday Wishes**



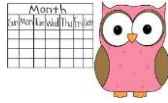
Mary Rose Rebraca 11/14

Darren Garris 11/19

## **Anniversary Wishes**



Linda & Kenneth Lukehart 11/19



## THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, November 13	9:15am	Church School
	9:30am	Tiny Tots
	10:30am	Worship/Fellowship/Congregational Meeting
Monday, November 14	7:00pm	Al-Anon & Al-Ateen
Tuesday, November 15	12pm-2pm	Food Distribution
	6:30pm	Committee Night
Thursday, November 17	8:30am	Community Parish Meeting
	6:30pm	Ladies Night
Sunday, November 20	9:15am	Church School
	9:30am	Tiny Tots
	10:30am	Worship/ Fellowship

## **Staff**

### **Pastor**

Reverend Kori Robbins  
(406)-560-5548  
Pastor@fpcmr.org

### **Christian Education**

Carole Rummell

### **Head of Personnel**

Jane Meyers

### **Administrative Assistant**

April Dahl  
330-652-5712

### **Custodians**

April Mohn/  
James Boyce

## **Hours**

### **Pastor's Office Hours**

Monday-Thursday  
9am-3pm

### **General Office Hours**

Tuesday/Thursday  
9am-1pm

## **Church Info**

**Address**- 3654 Main Street  
Mineral Ridge, OH 44440

### **Email**

Admin@fpcmr.org

### **Phone**

330-652-5712