



First Presbyterian Church of Mineral Ridge

**13th Sunday of Pentecost
August 27th, 2023**

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.*

Mighty God of Mercy, we thank you for the resurrection dawn, bringing the glory of our risen Lord who makes every day new. We acknowledge that you have brought us in safety to this new day, and you have called us, your servants, into ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to step out with

good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Come, let us celebrate the forgiving, reconciling love of God.

**For once we were lost and felt so far away;
now we have been found and welcomed home.**

Know that God's love is lavished upon you forever.

We rejoice at the news of forgiveness and hope!

Come, let us celebrate and praise the God of Love.

AMEN!

***HYMN #486** *When the Morning Stars Together*

*When the morning stars together
Their creator's glory sang,
And the angel host all shouted
Till with joy the heavens rang,
Then your wisdom and your greatness
Their exultant music told,
All the beauty and the splendor
Which your mighty works unfold.*

*When in synagogue and temple
Voices raised the psalmists' songs,
Offering the adoration
Which alone to you belongs,*

*When the singers and the cymbals
With the trumpet made accord,
Glory filled the house of worship,
And all knew your presence, Lord.*

*Voice and instrument, in union
Through the ages, spoke Your praise.
Plainsong, tuneful hymns, and anthems
Told your faithful, gracious ways.
Choir and orchestra and organ
Each a sacred offering brought,
While, inspired by your own Spirit,
Poet and composer wrought.*

*Lord, we bring our gift of music;
Touch our lips and fire our hearts,
Teach our minds and train our senses,
Fit us for these sacred arts.
Then with skill and consecration
We would serve you, Lord, and give
All our powers to glorify you,
And in serving fully live.*

CALL TO CONFESSION – *Please be seated.*

Scripture tells us that many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord. With trust and humility, let us return to our God, and make our confession. Please join me in a moment of silent prayer.

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

How easily we leave your side, Lord God, for a place far away. We are blind in our darkness, so open our eyes to our sins. Unless you strengthen our spirits and create our hearts anew, we cannot make the journey home. Guide us to your welcoming arms; to the music and the dancing, for we are easily lost, and only you, our Creator, Sustainer and Redeemer can find us.

KYRIE #572

“Lord have mercy upon us, Christ have mercy upon us,
us, Lord have mercy up on us.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, hear this promise of scripture:

"So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:
everything old has passed away;
see, everything has become new!"

Instead of being bound to his sinful past,
the prodigal son found newness in his father's
forgiveness. So, too, have we found newness in God's
mercy!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

SUNG RESPONSE #582 (GtG)

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
And to the Son, who grace has pardoned me,
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.
Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE – *at this time, all children are invited up to hear a short message! After, kindergarten and younger can be dismissed to Story Circle with Olivia Meyers. Those older than kindergarten may return to their pews. We have activity bags available for their use in the back.*

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION– *Let us pray.*
Compassionate God, all creation delights in your radiant presence of your Word. May the authority of your Spirit bring understanding into our confused minds and truth into our troubled hearts, that we may praise and serve Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING *Deuteronomy 15:1-2, 7-11*

Every seventh year you shall grant a remission of debts. And this is the manner of the remission: every creditor shall remit the claim that is held against a neighbor, not exacting it from a neighbor who is a member of the community, because the Lord's remission has been proclaimed.

If there is among you anyone in need, a member of your community in any of your towns within the land that the Lord your God is giving you, do not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted towards your needy neighbor. You should rather open your hand, willingly lending enough to meet the need, whatever it may be. Be careful that you do not entertain a mean thought, thinking, 'The seventh year, the year of remission, is near', and therefore view your needy

neighbor with hostility and give nothing; your neighbor might cry to the Lord against you, and you would incur guilt. Give liberally and be ungrudging when you do so, for on this account the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake. Since there will never cease to be some in need on the earth, I therefore command you, ‘Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your land.’

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

SECOND READING

Luke 15:11-32

Then Jesus said, ‘There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, “Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.” So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, “How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.’” So he set

off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son." But the father said to his slaves, "Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!" And they began to celebrate.

Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, "Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound." Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, "Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!" Then the father said to him, "Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found." '

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

We Respond to God's Love

***HYMN #522** *Lord, When I Came Into This Life*

*Lord when I came into this life
You called me by my name;
Today I come commit myself,
Responding to Your claim.*

*Within the circle of the faith
As member of Your cast,
I take my place with all the saints
Of future present past.*

*In all the tensions of my life,
Between my faith and doubt,
Let Your great Spirit give me hope,
Sustain me lead me out.*

*So help me in my unbelief
And let my life be true:
Feet firmly planted on the earth,
My sights set high on You.*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We believe in a Creator God, who clothes the world in wildflowers, the God of all creatures great and small. We believe in the God of Christ Jesus the Source of abundance, full of grace and truth. We believe in the extravagant God who turns the other cheek, goes the extra mile, who welcomes

home even the most world-weary of travelers. We believe in the faith-full God of Jesus Christ, who sweated blood in an Olive Grove, and kept the faith to the very end. We believe in the redeeming God who spared no cost, forgave even his brutal crucifiers, had time for a dying thief at his side, and who on the third day did a thing so prodigious that even his friends were dismayed with joy. We believe in the God of Jesus Christ, the Source of abundance wherever we turn and no matter what we do. Amen

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. 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.

OFFERTORY

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE #694 (GtG)**

Great God of every blessing,
of faithful, loving care
You are the fount of goodness,
the daily bread we share.
How can we hope to thank you?
The praise is but a start.
Sincerely and completely, I offer you my heart.

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

**We give you thanks Lord, for the bounty of the
earth and the gift of rest. Accept these gifts, not
just for your work in the world, but as a sacrifice of
praise that reminds us that we can stop and we can
give and still there will be enough for tomorrow.
Amen.**

We Go Out to Serve God

***HYMN #291 (GtG)** *Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness*

Refrain:

*Spirit, spirit of gentleness,
Blow through the wilderness, calling and free.
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness,
Wind, wind on the sea.*

*You moved on the waters; you called to the deep;
Then you coaxed up the mountains
From the valleys of sleep,*

*And over the eons you called to each thing,
'Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings' Ref.*

*You swept through the desert; You stung with the sand;
And you goaded your people with a law and a land.
When they were confound with idols and lies,
Then you spoke through your prophets
To open their eyes. Ref.*

*You sang in a stable; you cried from a hill;
Then you whispered in silence
When the whole world was still.
And down in the city, you called once again
When you blew through your people
On the rush of the wind. Ref.*

*You call from tomorrow; you break ancient schemes;
From the bondage of sorrow the captives dream dreams
Our women see visions; our men clear their eyes.
With bold new decisions your people arise. Ref.*

***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

Names will be taken off after 6 weeks, unless noted.

Megan Taylor (Carole's cousin)

Amos Rodgers & Cody Tittle (Marlene's friends)

James Tincher (Marlene's son)

Clayton & Eileen (Bev Myers' family friends)

Paul Stevens (Bev Myers' son)

Dennis Copanic (Val Copanic's father)

Graig Colantone (Nicole Pugh's father)

Dareen Craver-Angeloff (Rodney's mother)

Cheryl Fisher (Bev Meyers' Daughter)

Ella McBride (friend of Sherri Craver)

Bonnie Jorza (Linda Frayer's Sister-in-Law)

Pam & Sam Clay (Cousins of Debbie Rendes & Diane Reinhart)

Andreas Reichart (Carole Rummell's cousin)

Cheryl Beanblossom (Valerie Copanic's sister)

Alan Bray (friend of Keeley Family)

Family of Melissa Keeley

Joan Williams

John Anderson & Family (Friends of Bill Reinhart)

Rusty Garland

Kathy Garland

Cindi Farina (Marty O'Neill's friend)

Vince Fazio (Marty O'Neill's friend)

PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD

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
Ukraine
World Leaders
Jed and Jenny Koball (Peru)
Our PC(USA) coworkers
Revs. Scott & Elmarie Parker
Earthquake victims in Turkey & Syria
Wildfire Victims in Maui

Announcements

*Information sent after Thursday at 9 am may not make it into
the bulletin.*

As summer winds down, regular monthly meetings will resume. Deacons will meet Monday, August 28th, and Session on Tuesday, August 29th.

**Reminder: Regular worship hours will resume
Sunday, September 10th. See you at 10:30am.**

Our Rally Day/160th Birthday celebration will take place on Sunday, Sept. 10th. A main dish and dessert will be provided. Please bring a side to share. The annual Blessing of the Backpacks will take place the following week Sunday, Sept. 17th.

NAMI mental health training will take place on Saturday, September 30th. Please stay tuned for further updates on this upcoming event.

Cards of encouragement for Rusty Garland would be appreciated. His new address is: Aventura at Humility House, room 19b, 755 Ohltown Rd, Austintown, OH 44515.

Birthday Wishes

Derek Brendlinger 08/28

Elizabeth Smith 08/30

Hailey McMullen 08/30

Karen Shoemaker 08/30

Anniversary Wishes

Kim & Tom Crozier 09/02

Responsibilities

Pastor Rev. Kori Robbins

Liturgist David Rummell

Elder Sue McCabe

Deacon Marty O'Neill

Music Anita Miller

Story Circle Olivia Meyers

Media Alyssa Strange



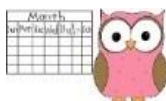
Thank you for your Generosity

We need \$3,000 weekly to make our budget!

August 20th \$1,150

August 13th \$2,076

August 06th \$2,755



THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, August 27th 10:00am Worship/Fellowship

Monday, August 28th 6:30pm Deacon's Meeting
7:00pm Al-Anon/Al-Ateen

Tuesday, August 29th 6:30pm Session Meeting

Thursday August, 24th 4:30pm M.R. Football
Team Dinner

Sunday, September 3rd 10:00am Worship/Fellowship

Staff

Pastor

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

Christian Educator

Carole Rummell

Administrative Assistant

April Dahl
330-652-5712

Custodian

Patty Postlethwait

Story Circle Attendant

Olivia Meyers

Media

Alyssa Strange

Hours

Pastor's Office Hours

Monday-Thursday
9am-3pm

General Office Hours

Tuesday/Thursday
9am-1pm

Church Info

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Phone

330-652-5712

Website

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Clerk of Session: mrfpcclerk@gmail.com