



**Fairmont Presbyterian Church
Kettering, Ohio
September 19, 2021**

FAIRMONT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Service for the Worship of God

Fairmont Presbyterian Church nurtures and guides people to live inspired lives.

September 19, 2021

10:30am

17th Sunday after Pentecost

To Care for the Body of Christ Together:

1. Please wear a protective face mask throughout today's service. Masks are available at each entrance. We wear masks to protect each other and provide a place of welcome for all people, especially our children.
2. Please observe the pew closures and observe appropriate social distancing.
3. Please wear a nametag.

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Brian Maguire

Prelude

Alleluia, Sing to Jesus

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Call to Worship (Psalm 67)

Leader: May God be gracious to us and bless us and shine upon us, that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.

People: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Leader: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

People: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Leader: The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us. May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere our God. Come let us worship our Lord.

Hymn 260

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

Hyfrydol

1 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! his the triumph,
his the victory alone!
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of every nation
has redeemed us by his blood."

2 Alleluia! Not as orphans
are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! he is near us;

faith believes nor questions how.
Though the cloud from sight received him,
when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise:
"I am with you evermore"?

3 Alleluia! Bread of angels,
here on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluia! here the sinful
flee to you from day to day.
Intercessor, friend of sinners,
earth's redeemer, hear our plea
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.

4 Alleluia! King eternal,
Lord omnipotent we own;
Alleluia! born of Mary,
earth your footstool, heaven your throne.
As within the veil you entered,
robed in flesh, our great high priest;
here on earth both priest and victim
in the eucharistic feast.

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Rev. Kelley Shin

Blessed and blessing God, your love and glory abounds yet we desire control and fear your reign. We doubt when we should trust and hide when we should follow. Forgive us our ignorance and our ingratitude. Forgive us our sin. Open our perception to the horizons of your hope. Transform our hearts to the shape of your love. Change our lives to follow you so that together we may be your church...*(silent prayers of confession)*...Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Congregational Response #581

Glory Be to the Father

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Passing of Christ's Peace

We ask you to remain in place and share Christ's peace through your words and your eyes, not your hands and hugs.

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Time with Our Children

Loralei Harding

After the Time with Children, children ages 3 - 5th grade may leave for their Sunday School classes.

Children will be directed to the appropriate class in the Sunday School wing.

Anthem

Bless His Holy Name

Mark Shepperd

Praise the Lord, O my soul; bless his holy name. Praise the Lord, O my soul; bless his holy name. Forget him not whose meekness still bears with all your sin, who heals your ev'ry weakness, renews your life within. Praise the Lord, O my soul; bless his holy name. Praise the Lord, O my soul; bless his holy name. He offers all his treasure of truth and righteousness, his love beyond our measure, he pities our distress. Praise the Lord, O my soul; bless his holy name. Praise the Lord, O my soul; bless his holy name. For as a tender father pities his children here, God in his arms will gather all those who like children fear. Praise the Lord, O my soul; bless his holy name. Praise the Lord, O my soul; bless his holy name. Praise the Lord, O my soul; bless his holy name.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Numbers 6:22-27

The LORD spoke to Moses, saying: Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them,

The LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;
the LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Invoking Heaven

Rev. Brian Maguire

Hymn 31

Let Us with a Gladsome Mind

Monkland

1 Let us with a gladsome mind
praise the Lord who is so kind:
for God's mercies shall endure,
ever faithful, ever sure.

2 God, with all-commanding might,
filled the new-made world with light:
for God's mercies shall endure,
ever faithful, ever sure.

3 All things living God does feed;
with full measure, meets their need:
for God's mercies shall endure,
ever faithful, ever sure.

4 Let us with a gladsome mind

praise the Lord who is so kind:
for God's mercies shall endure,
ever faithful, ever sure.

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer (concluding with the 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 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.

Invitation to Discipleship

We will not be passing the offering plates to collect tithes and offerings today. There is a basket by each exit door for the collection of tithes and offerings. (*Loose coins go to Children and Youth Ministries.*)

Choir Anthem

Like a River in My Soul

Tim Osiek

I've got peace like a river, like a river in my soul. I've got peace like a river, soothing river, calmly flow.
When the world closes in, feel the stillness within. I've got peace like a river, like a river in my soul. I've got love like an ocean, like an ocean in my soul. I've got love like an ocean, endless ocean, deep and full,
When you're lost and alone, let the waves bring you home. I've got love like an ocean, like an ocean in my soul. In my soul, in my soul. I've got joy, I've got joy, I've got joy like a fountain in my soul. I've got joy like a fountain, like a fountain in my soul. When your hope nearly dies, just remember, once again you shall rise!
I've got joy like a fountain, peace like a river in my soul, like a fountain like an ocean, like a river in my soul.

Doxology

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, Ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Prayer of Discipleship

Hymn 547

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

Ar Hydy Nos

1 "Go, my children, with my blessing,
never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you,
you are my own.
In my love's baptismal river
I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing,
you are my own."

2 “Go, my children, sins forgiven,
at peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you,
what I can cure.
Here you heard my dear Son’s story;
here you touched him, saw his glory.
Go, my children, sins forgiven,
at peace and pure.”

3 “Go, my children, fed and nourished,
closer to me.
Grow in love and love by serving,
joyful and free.
Here my Spirit’s power filled you;
here my tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished,
joyful and free.”

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

In dir ist Freude

J.S. Bach

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Within the Fellowship

For prayer concerns or if you would like to be part of the Email Prayer Chain Team, please contact:
Rev. Kelley Shin at kshin@fairmontchurch.org.

For emergencies, contact Rev. Brian Maguire at (937) 269-2864 or Rev. Kelley Shin at (937) 751-0752.

Announcements

Wearing Masks Indoors at Fairmont Is Now Required

Upon the recommendation of our Physicians’ Advisory Panel, the Session of Fairmont Church this week has imposed a temporary requirement that all individuals (other than those with prohibitive medical conditions and very young children) are required to wear masks when inside Fairmont. We have been closely monitoring the levels of Covid infections in our community and believe that a temporary mask requirement is a necessary safety precaution to protect our members, visitors, and staff. We anticipate removing this requirement just as soon as epidemiological conditions improve in our community. Please be safe and keep each other safe.

Connections: Every Wednesday at 7:00p.m., we will be looking at how the Bible was put together and especially at what did not make it in. We will consider the process of creating both the Old and New Testament Canons and those collections of literature that were either not included or ignored.

September 22: Old Testament Canon

September 29: The Apocrypha, the bits the
Protestants leave out

Connections: Wednesday 7:00pm

Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84170790852>

Zoom Meeting ID: 841 7079 0852

Thursday Evening Bible Study: Join us every Thursday night for Bible Study at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom. Each week we will be examining the Bible text for the following Sunday. This Thursday we will be exploring Psalm 30. Watch for Fairmont's weekly Beside Still Waters email for the link or here:

Bible Study: Thursday, 7:30pm

Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86422990477>

Zoom Meeting ID: 864 2299 047

Youth Ministry

Our weekly Youth Ministry Program will begin again today, **Sunday, September 19, 2021** .

We will be meeting **both outside and indoors in-person**. When we are inside we will be FULLY masked with windows open and fans running. All staff and volunteers are fully vaccinated.

We will be meeting at a new time on Sundays:

4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

We will be sharing:

-Bible Study

-Games

-Dinner

For our first Sunday back (**September 19th**) Brench and Julie Boden will be providing their famous: "*Brenchiladas and Brownies*"

DATE: Sunday, September 19th

TIME: 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

PLACE: Fairmont Youth Room #109, Fellowship Hall, and Outdoors

ADDRESS: 3705 Far Hills Avenue, Kettering, Ohio, 45429

Worship Staff

Pastor/Head of Staff

Associate Pastor

Children's Ministry Coordinator

Director of Music

Praise and Worship Leader

Church Organist

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Brian's Nerdy Notes

Question: What is the oldest known Biblical text in the world?

Answer: The Aaronic Blessing, Number 6: 22-27

The oldest known extant Biblical writing and the only one that predates the Babylonian destruction of Jerusalem (c. 586 BC) is a tiny sliver scroll that was etched with a fine wooden stylus shortly before the end of Judah. The bulletin cover photo of this scroll was taken in February 2020 by pastor Brian. The scroll is presently located in the Israel Museum in Jerusalem.

This little scroll, less than two inches wide, was tightly wound and would have originally had a cord run through it so that it could be worn as a necklace. It is believed that ancient Jews would have worn such miniature scrolls as a form of protective amulet. Many such scroll necklaces have been found, but none older than this one.

The scroll was found in a small cave tomb just west of the old city. The tomb had long since been looted and had been used for storage by the Ottomans. The lead archeologist, Gabriel Barkay, had a tiny budget so he relied on volunteer students as diggers. One student, named Nathan, frequently bothered Barkay and so he was sent off to clean up the tomb so they could photograph it. Barkay thought that this would keep Nathan occupied and generally out of Barkay's hair for the afternoon. What Barkay did not know was that Nathan took a hammer with him and after cleaning up the grade did what most bored 13 year old boys would do and started randomly pounding things. Thinking the floor was all stone, Nathan hit it only to discover that it broke. He had hit a small panel of pottery on the floor of the grave. He ran to tell Barkay who quickly discovered a hidden pottery cache beneath the tomb. Inside the cavity they found 125 items made of silver, 40 iron arrowheads, gold, ivory, glass, ceramics, oil lamps, bone and 150 semi-precious stones.

Among these treasures, Judy Hadley, one of Barkay's graduate students (originally from Toledo), found a dirty, tarnished, purplish cylinder that looked like a used cigarette butt. Careful examination revealed it to be tightly wound little silver scroll. Because the metal was so tightly wound and so brittle, all attempts to unroll it would have destroyed it. It took years of trial and error until the Israel museum developed a technique to unwind the scroll without destroying it. Finally around 2002 the scroll was unwound and the proto-Hebrew script could be read. All the researchers immediately recognized the Aaronic blessing.

This scroll predates the oldest of the Dead Sea Scrolls from the Qumran community by more than 400 years and is the oldest Biblical text currently known. And it says:

יְבָרְכֶךָ יְהוָה, וַיִּשְׁמְרֶךָ
יְאָר יְהוָה פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ, וַיַּחַנְנֶךָ
יִשָּׂא יְהוָה פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ, וַיִּשֶׂם לְךָ שְׁלוֹם

260 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter, his the
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in sor - row
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of an - gels, here on earth our food, our
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om - nip - o - tent we

throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the vic - to -
 now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be - lies nor
 stay; Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to you from
 own; Al - le - lu - ia! born of Mar - y, earth your foot - stool,

ry a - lone! Hark! The songs of peace - ful Zi - on
 ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re - ceived him,
 day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of sin - ners,
 heaven your throne. As with - in the veil you en - tered,

The author regarded this text as a communion hymn, a theme that seems eclipsed by the attention to Christ's exaltation, but a helpful reminder that such hymns are not always quiet and meek. This text is sung to various tunes, but this rousing Welsh one is a favorite choice.

JESUS CHRIST: ASCENSION AND REIGN

thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus out of
when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our hearts for -
earth's re - deem - er, hear our plea where the songs of
robed in flesh, our great high priest; here on earth both

ev - ery na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."
get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more"?
all the sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
priest and vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.

Let Us with a Gladsome Mind 31

(Psalm 136)

1 Let us with a glad - some mind praise the
 2 God, with all - com - mand - ing might, filled the
 3 All things liv - ing God does feed; with full
 4 Let us with a glad - some mind praise the

Lord who is so kind:
 new - made world with light:
 mea - sure, meets their need: for God's mer - cies
 Lord who is so kind:

shall en - dure, ev - er faith - ful, ev - er sure.

These few stanzas are among the least florid of the two dozen that make up the rather flamboyant paraphrase of Psalm 136 written by the fifteen-year-old who would become one of the greatest English poets. It is set here to a sprightly tune with Moravian connections.

Go, My Children, with My Blessing 547

1 "Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, nev-er a-lone.
 2 "Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure.
 3 "Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, clos-er to me.

Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy-ful and free.

In my love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you mine for-
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto-ry; here you touched him, saw his
 Here my Spir-it's pow-er filled you; here my ten-der com-fort

ev-er. Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."
 glo-ry. Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure."
 stilled you. Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, joy-ful and free."

Because this Welsh melody usually sets evening texts, the author was asked to create one for use in daytime. His recasting of the Aaronic blessing in Numbers 6:22–27 imagines that passage as a benediction that might be spoken by God at the conclusion of a worship service.