



**Fairmont Presbyterian Church
Kettering, Ohio
January 22, 2023**

FAIRMONT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Service for the Worship of God

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

January 22, 2023

10:30am

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Brian Maguire

Prelude

If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee

J.S. Bach

Call to Worship (*from Psalm 27*)

Maggie Sancken Schumm

Leader: Hear, O Lord, when we cry aloud; be gracious to us and answer us!

People: "Come," my heart says, "seek God's face!" Your face, Lord, do I seek. Do not hide your face from me.

Leader: Teach us your way, O Lord, and lead us on a level path.

People: We believe that we shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

Leader: Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

Hymn 393

O Day of Rest and Gladness

Es Flog Ein Kleins Waldvögelen

1 O day of rest and gladness,
O day of joy and light,
O balm for care and sadness,
most beautiful, most bright;
on you, the high and lowly,
through ages joined in tune,
sing "Holy, holy, holy"
to the great God triune.

2 On you, at earth's creation
the light first had its birth;
on you, for our salvation
Christ rose from depths of earth;
on you, our Lord victorious
sent Spirit forth from heaven.
And thus on you, most glorious,
a triple light was given.

3 On you, God's people, meeting,
the Holy Scripture hear,
Christ's living presence greeting,
through bread and wine made near.
New graces ever gaining

from this our day of rest,
we reach the rest remaining
to spirits of the blest.

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Sojourning God, you travel alongside us through the chances and changes of this life. You abide with us even when we wander far away from you. When we stumble and when we fall, you are always ready to lift us up and embrace us. Forgive our foolishness when we stray from you. Forgive our cowardice when we doubt you are there. Forgive our sin and draw us close to you, guiding us along the right pathway that leads to your Kingdom...*(time for silent prayer)*...Amen.

*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

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Time with Our Children

Loralei Harding

Anthem

From the End of the Earth

Alan Hovhaness

Chancel Choir

Prayer for Illumination

Leader: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us full of grace and truth.

People: In Him was life, and that life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it.

Leader: Come to us now by the power of your Spirit to reveal your truth and illumine our lives.

People: We ask this in the name of our teacher, the Christ, Jesus. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Matthew 2:19-23

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled. "He will be called a Nazorean."

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Where Least Expected

Rev. Brian Maquire

Hymn 816*If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee*

Wer Nur Den Lieben Gott

1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee,
with hopeful heart through all thy ways,
God will give strength, whate'er betide thee,
to bear thee through the evil days.
Who trusts in God's unchanging love
builds on the rock that nought can move.

2 Only be still, and wait God's leisure
in cheerful hope, with heart content
to take whate'er thy Keeper's pleasure
and all-discerning love hath sent.
No doubt our inmost wants are clear
to One who holds us always dear.

3 Sing, pray, and swerve not from God's ways,
but do thine own part faithfully.
Trust the rich promises of grace;
so shall they be fulfilled in thee.
God never yet forsook at need
the soul secured by trust indeed.

Affirmation of Faith (in unison)**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.

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.*

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.**

Anthem

O Savior Sweet
Chancel Choir

J.S. Bach

Invitation and Prayer of 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*.)

Hymn 848

Trust in God

Song 13

1 Trust in God and you will be
sheltered for eternity;
like a mountain, strong and sure,
by God's grace you will endure.

2 Lift your eyes to see the hills,
through the ages standing still,
wrapped around the city walls:
so our God surrounds us all.

3 In the promised, holy land
may the wicked never stand;
but where good and kindness reign,
may the peace of God remain.

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Trumpet Tune

Charles Callahan

(Music and words are used with permission of CCLI License #930368.)

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.

Announcements

Connections: The World of the New Testament. Throughout 2024, we will be exploring the life and ministry of Jesus of Nazareth through the lens of the Gospel of Matthew. Jesus lived during a particular time and at a particular place and that time and that context decisively shaped both his message and how it was recorded in the Gospels. Throughout the winter and spring of 2023, we will be examining the context of the first century A.D. in Palestine and beyond so we can better understand Jesus' message and meanings. If you wish to go deeper, you are invited to follow along with two companion books: *The World of the New Testament* by Joel Green and Lee Martin McDonald (Baker Publishing, 2013) and *The New Testament and Its World* by N.T. Wright and Michael Bird (SPCK/Zondervan, 2019) available online and at bookshops.

January 25 Judaism before Jesus Part One – The Persian and Greek Periods

Wednesdays, 7:00pm

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82945327813>
Meeting ID: 829 4532 7813

Join us for Bible Study this Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom. We will be prayerfully considering the text for the following Sunday morning. You do not need any preparation and everyone is welcome. This week we will be reflecting on Matthew 3:1-12. You are invited.

Thursdays, 7:00pm

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82002536057>
Meeting ID: 820 0253 6057

Mission Beyond the Congregation: Our 5th Sunday special offering on Jan 29th will support the Artemis Center, whose mission is to empower survivors to heal and live free of domestic violence. In the spirit of hands-on support, we are also collecting wish list items:

Paper towels	Toilet paper	All-purpose cleaning spray	Glass cleaning spray
Disinfectant wipes	Swiffer starter kits	Laundry pods	Dryer Sheets
Hand soap	Dish soap	Body wash	Shampoo
Conditioner	Lip Balm	Umbrellas	Full & Queen size blankets

Join us on the 29th between services, writing notes of encouragement too.

We are pleased to let you know that our final total for the Art, Antique & Craft Show was \$15,000! These funds have been divided between the Dayton Food Bank, Kettering Backpack Program and World Food Kitchen. It was a great day and couldn't have been as successful without help from numerous volunteers and those who supported our vendors and the other areas like the silent auction, bake sale, lunch, vintage room and wreaths. We are already accepting items for our vintage room. Christmas things you couldn't use, jewelry, decorative items etc. Again, thank you from Carolyn and our committee. Happy New Year!

Epiphany Prayer Star Word We will be sharing in a year-long spiritual practice as a congregation. You are invited to take an Epiphany star with a "prayer word" on it. This word is your "prayer word" for the year 2023. Through the year, each of us are to use this word in prayer, in Bible study, in faith conversations, in study, and in times of reflection and meditation to see how God will speak to us through this one "prayer word." Epiphany Prayer Star Words are available in baskets in the Fellowship Hall and the Sanctuary.

On Saturday, February 4, 2023, at 11:30 am, The Women of Fairmont will hold another interesting Gathering in Fellowship Hall. Amy Duiker, a minister at Sugarcreek Presbyterian Church, will be talking about The Broken Bus, a non-profit organization. She and her husband love this ministry and work hard to help the homeless. The bus has blankets, clothing, food, and personal supplies to give to the homeless. We will have a nourishing meal of white turkey chili, cornbread, salad, and dessert. Being together in this warm and welcoming group is a great place to be on a Saturday in February. Please join us. Also, please let Jennifer Mason in the church office know that you plan to attend. No charge.

When is the Annual Meeting? In 2022 we switched from calendar year accounting to fiscal year accounting to correspond more closely to our program calendar. Our current fiscal year will end on June 30, 2023, and we will be holding our annual meeting in July of 2023 instead of early February as we have done in the past.

Stewardship Update 2023: Total pledges thus far are \$577,005. Thank you for your continued giving.

What is Per Capita and why is it \$53.10? The Presbyterian Church is a connectional church. That means that we share in mutual ministry and accountability with and for each other. One of the ways we do that is by sharing in the cost of the denomination. This is done through individual assessments based on the number of members in each church. These assessments, called “per capita,” are mandatory and are used to support the work of the General Assembly and the Synod. Those funds are obtained either from our general Fairmont revenues or from special offerings of individuals who wish to pay their share individually. The total per member assessment for 2023 is \$53.10. That is the cost of being a member of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) denomination as opposed to the local congregation. If you would like to directly pay your share of our commitment to the greater church, the amount per member is \$53.10.

From the Building and Grounds Team: Now that winter weather is here, please be careful when walking in the parking lots—they do get slick when wet!

Winter Weather Reminder: Fairmont Presbyterian Church programs are cancelled and the church office will be closed on days when the Kettering City Schools are closed (not merely delayed) for weather reasons. As always, please use common sense and do not drive if you feel the conditions are unsafe.

Brian's Nerdy Bible Notes

He was known as Jesus of Nazareth. That is how he was identified during his life and in his death. Indeed, that is the title written on a board over his head on the cross. Yeshua Ho Naziri, that is what they actually called him. And it is not a particularly auspicious title.

Nazareth was an insignificant hilltop village in the lower Galilee. It is not mentioned in the Old Testament. It was home to perhaps 200-300 people clustered around a well in the southern facing slope of a ridge line overlooking the Jezreel Valley. The hill itself was made of soft chalky stone that made it easy for residents to dig artificial caves put up a wall on one side and call it home. Based on the meager archeological findings, mostly from the basement of the Sister of Nazareth Convent, it appears to have been a rather poor community, but one in which everyone was uniformly poor.

Nazareth is not an auspicious starting place for a messiah. Bethlehem had its historic connections to the House of David. Jerusalem of course was the center of Judaism. Hebron was associated with the patriarchs and Bethel with the first shrine. But Nazareth had no such pedigree. Nazareth was nowhere. Indeed, Jesus' Nazareth origins were considered an insult. “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” John 1:46.

Nazareth is also in the middle of the Galilee, a region that was not historically Jewish. The New Testament refers to it as Galilee of the Gentiles because of its diverse population. It had only been incorporated into the Jewish sphere of influence a century before Jesus when the local population had been conquered and forcefully converted (i.e. circumcised). In the decades immediately preceding Jesus' birth, thousands of settlers from Judah moved into the area displacing resident pagans and establishing Jewish villages like Nazareth.

The whole of Galilee remained a patchwork of pagan and Jewish towns and villages that were sometimes in conflict. The one major city of the region, Sepphoris, lay in a fertile valley about an hour's walk north of

Nazareth. In other words, Nazareth was an exurb of a major city. Sepphoris, although Jewish, was also thoroughly a part of the Roman world with two shopping malls, baths, and a theater that could seat 5000.

Despite the bucolic images of Nazareth we learn in Sunday School, Nazareth was a complex place to grow up on the cross roads of cultures, religions, and civilizations. Discontent would occasionally burst into open revolt, which was savagely crushed. Competition between communities would sometimes lead to sectarian violence.

Meanwhile a new family in town, a construction worker named Joseph and his young family simply tried to get by.

Worship Staff

Pastor/Head of Staff	Brian Maguire: bmaguire@fairmontchurch.org
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GATHERING

393 O Day of Rest and Gladness

1 O day of rest and glad - ness, O day of joy and light,
 2 On you, at earth's cre - a - tion the light first had its birth;
 3 On you, God's peo - ple, meet - ing, the Ho - ly Scrip - ture hear,

O balm for care and sad - ness, most beau - ti - ful, most bright;
 on you, for our sal - va - tion Christ rose from depths of earth;
 Christ's liv - ing pres - ence greet - ing, through bread and wine made near.

on you, the high and low - ly, through a - ges joined in tune,
 on you, our Lord vic - to - rious sent Spir - it forth from heaven.
 New grac - es ev - er gain - ing from this our day of rest,

sing "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly" to the great God tri - une.
 And thus on you, most glo - rious, a tri - ple light was given.
 we reach the rest re - main - ing to spir - its of the blest.

In this text the first day of the week represents a threefold commemoration of Creation, Resurrection, and Pentecost—each an encounter with Trinitarian activity centered on one of the Three Persons. The tune name recalls the secular German song adapted for use with several hymns.

If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee 816



1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee, with hope - ful
 2 On - ly be still, and wait God's lei - sure in cheer - ful
 3 Sing, pray, and swerve not from God's ways, but do thine



heart through all thy ways, God will give strength, what - e'er be -
 hope, with heart con - tent to take what - e'er thy Keep - er's
 own part faith - ful - ly. Trust the rich prom - is - es of



tide thee, to bear thee through the e - vil days. Who trusts in
 plea - sure and all - dis - cer - ning love hath sent. No doubt our
 grace; so shall they be ful - filled in thee. God nev - er



God's un - chang - ing love builds on the rock that nought can move.
 in - most wants are clear to One who holds us al - ways dear.
 yet for - sook at need the soul se - cured by trust in - deed.



This hymn is a testimony of experience. The original seven-stanza German text (based on Psalm 55:22) and its tune were created by the author/composer at the age of twenty in thanksgiving for finding employment many weeks after being left almost penniless following a robbery.

TRUSTING IN THE PROMISES OF GOD

Trust in God

848

(Psalm 125)



1 Trust in God and you will be shel-tered for e - ter - ni - ty;
 2 Lift your eyes to see the hills, through the a - ges stand-ing still,
 3 In the prom-ised, ho - ly land may the wick-ed nev - er stand;



like a moun-tain, strong and sure, by God's grace you will en - dure.
 wrapped a-round the cit - y walls: so our God sur-rounds us all.
 but where good and kind - ness reign, may the peace of God re - main.



Psalm 125 is one of the songs that would have been sung by Jewish pilgrims going to Jerusalem. As the imagery of this paraphrase suggests, it was probably reserved for use during the final ascent to the city, closing with a prayer for peace wherever God's faithful people dwell.

