

# HERITAGE SUNDAY

**covenant**  
**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

May 17, 2026 – 10am

**Presbyterian Heritage Sunday**

*Covenant is an accepting, welcoming community sharing the glory of God's love with all.*

## PRELUDE

"Highland Cathedral" by Roever & Korb

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Surely the dead go on living—

**People: The dust of their DNA clings to our clothes.**

Leader: Time turns them to soil, out of soil blooms a wild meadow.

**People: And still we long for the dead in the form that we knew them—**

Leader: a laugh recognizable, an embrace familiar.

**People: The power of the Holy Spirit is her longing for intimacy—**

Leader: to know and to be known. To love and to be loved.

**People: And so it is with us—we long, we cherish, we embrace, we yearn.**

Leader: We miss the dead & we, courageously, go on living. Let us lift our eyes to God.

\*Please rise in body or spirit

## \*HYMN #45

### "I to the Hills Will Lift My Eyes"



*Although the first stanza of this paraphrase of Psalm 121 draws heavily on 17th-century Scottish psalters, most of this version dates from the early 20th century. In its original source the tune printed here is one of twelve not assigned for use with a specific psalm.*

1 I to the hills will lift my eyes;  
from whence shall come my aid?  
My help is from the Lord alone,  
who heaven and earth has made.

3 Your faithful keeper is the Lord,  
your shelter and your shade.  
'Neath sun or moon, by day or night,  
you shall not be afraid.

2 God will not let your foot be moved;  
your guardian never sleeps;  
God's watchful and unslumbering care  
protects and safely keeps.

4 From evil God will keep you safe,  
provide for all you need.  
Your going out, your coming in,  
God will forever lead.

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION



**Loving God,  
we confess that we do not always bring honor and  
glory to your name.  
We are rebellious and weak;  
we flee before your goodness.**

**Forgive, restore, and strengthen us by the grace and  
mercy of Christ,  
that we may rise up again in peace to love and  
serve your world. Amen.**

(Silence for Personal Confession)

## WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

## HYMN #580

“Glory Be to the Father”



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.

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord, be with you all. **And also with you.**

## HYMN #188

“Jesus Loves Me”

## TALK WITH CHILDREN

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION



## THE FIRST READING

1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11 (NRSVUE)



This is the good news we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved. **Thanks be to God.**

## THE GOSPEL READING

John 17:1-11 (NRSVUE)

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY



Threefold One,  
relationship in unity,  
love given and received  
through all the ages long:  
give us that unity  
which is not enclosed  
but alive and accepting  
with the open heart of love;  
through Jesus Christ, the glory of God. Amen.

## SERMON

“The Art of Oneing”

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER



**Our Father who art in heaven...** (Hymnal p. 35. We say “debts & debtors.”)

## INVITATION TO THE OFFERING



## OFFERTORY

“For the Beauty of the Earth” by John Rutter

## \*DOXOLOGY #606



**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION



**\*HYMN**

“You Belong”



1 In our light, in our darkness,  
In our hopes, in our fears,  
You have purpose here.  
In our highs, in our lows  
In our joys, in our sorrows,  
In our rights, in our wrongs,  
When we're weak and when we're strong,  
In our story, in our song, you belong.

Refrain:

You belong just as you are,  
Here in this place.  
You are the image of God.  
You belong, come raise your voice,  
Come hear the word,  
Listen to God, and know that you belong.

2 In your prayer, in your silence,  
In your grief, in your tears,  
God will hold you near.  
In your strength, in your weakness,  
In your storm, in your peace,  
When you give all you can,  
When you question where you stand,  
When you hate what you see,  
Growing pains have made you weak,  
You are still given grace, you are justified by faith.  
You still have a gift and song, you belong. Refrain

3 We on earth have no sorrow  
That God cannot feel;  
God will help us heal.  
We are called in this place,  
In our hearts, and in our faith;  
To tell the story and the song; we belong.  
Tell the story, sing the song; we belong.

## \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

"Celtic Hallelujah" by Walker & O'Carroll

"Finlandia" by Sibelius

† From Prayers for an Inclusive Church by Steven Shakespeare. New York: Church Publishing, 2009.

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### **Assisting in Worship Today:**

Beth Askue – Liturgist

Makoto Winkler – Vocalist

Robert McEvoy and Heather Brown – Bagpipers

Cherie Brooks – Director of Music

Katie Wynkoop – Organist/Pianist & Assistant Director of Music

Brian Biller – Media Production Specialist

Erin Wise – Director of Children's & Youth Ministries

Rev. Joel A. Esala – Pastor

### **THIS WEEK AT COVENANT**

**Bible Study** - Wednesday at 1:00pm in the Lounge. Join Bible Study with the QR code.

**Centering Prayer**- Thursday at 8:30am in the Lounge



# JEAN A. MORTLAND SCHLOARSHIP

Established in 2007 to honor her love of music, education, and faith, the Jean A. Mortland scholarship is awarded annually to support an individual pursuing degrees in music or theology who shows vocational excellence. Funded by her bequest and donations.

**APPLY** | [BIT.LY/JAMAPP26](https://bit.ly/JAMAPP26)

**DEADLINE** | 06.01.26



EXPERIENCE FAITH,  
WORSHIP, AND COMMUNITY.

# A LIGHT TO THE NATIONS

IMMIGRANT-LED WORSHIP  
CELEBRATION



GATHER WITH US FROM 3 - 4 PM FOR A MEANINGFUL TIME OF  
WORSHIP, FOLLOWED BY ETHNIC FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP

WORthington  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
773 HIGH ST., WORthington

31 MAY

SUNDAY

3-5 PM

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE PRESBYTERY OF SCIOTO VALLEY COMMITTEE ON REPRESENTATION

# VBS

JUNE 15-18, 9-11:30AM

## PARTICIPATE

3 YRS - 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

[https://bit.ly/  
CPCVBS2026](https://bit.ly/CPCVBS2026)



## VOLUNTEER

RISING 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE  
& ABOVE

[https://bit.ly/  
CPC26VBSVOL](https://bit.ly/CPC26VBSVOL)



Optional Dates:

Set up

June 13:

9 am-12 pm

Tear down

June 18:

11:30am



## 2026 UA AREA PRIDE EVENTS

YOU ARE INVITED TO  
ATTEND WITH A GROUP  
FROM COVENANT!

- June 1 | 5pm Pride Flag Raising
- June 13 | 12-3 pm Hilliard Pride Event
- June 16 | 7:00 pm Interfaith Prayer Service
- June 20 | 10:30am Walking in Columbus Pride March
- June 28 | 1-5pm UA Pride event

PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE TO BE ADDED TO  
THE LIST OF INTERESTED ATTENDEES &/OR TO  
THE CARPOOL LIST.



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