

October 22, 2023

Bringing Forth the Light

Prelude Jen Moser, Organist

Welcome and Announcements Elizabeth Feldman

Opportunity for Service Sara Reith

*Hymn "Morning Has Broken" No. 145

*Opening Prayer Elizabeth Feldman
Almighty God, To You all hearts are open, all desires known, and from You no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You, and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Call of Confession Rev. Dr. David Wilcox

Prayer of Confession Rev. Dr. David Wilcox
Holy and merciful God, we confess we have not always taken upon ourselves the yoke of obedience, nor been willing to seek and to do your perfect will. We have not loved You with all our heart and soul, with all our mind and strength; and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. You have called to us in the need of our sisters and brothers, and we have passed unheeding on our way. In the pride of our hearts, and our unwillingness to repent, we have turned away from the cross of Christ, and have grieved Your Holy Spirit. Forgive us, we pray, and help us amend our lives. Amen.

Words of Assurance Rev. Dr. David Wilcox

Prayer for Illumination Rev. Dr. David Wilcox

Thought for the Day...

I trust the next chapter because I know the Author !

Scripture Reading 1 John 4:7-12 Elizabeth Feldman

*Affirmation of Faith Elizabeth Feldman
We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who was created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the church: to celebrate God's presence, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Gloria Patri No. 70

Community of Faith in Prayer Rev. Dr. David Wilcox
Sharing of Concerns and Celebration
The Pastoral Prayer
The Lord's Prayer

*Hymn "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" No. 384

Gospel Reading Romans 5:1-5 Rev. Dr. David Wilcox

Sermon "The Power of Persistent Love" Rev. Dr. David Wilcox

Presentation of Our Gifts Rev. Dr. David Wilcox

Doxology No. 95

Prayer of Dedication Rev. Dr. David Wilcox

*Hymn "Oh Master, Let Me Walk with Thee" No. 430

*Benediction Rev. Dr. David Wilcox

*Postlude Jen Moser, Organist

Thought for the week...

God may say, "Wait," but He never says, "Worry!"

WHAT'S COMING UP?

Opportunities for Worship and Ministry This Week...

Sunday 10/22	Sunday School Class	9:30 a.m.
	Sunday Worship	10:30 a.m.
	Young Adult Class	11:30 a.m.
Monday 10/23	Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
	Prayer Shawl	6:00 p.m.
	Candy Making	6:30 p.m.
Tuesday 10/24	Days for Girls	2:00 p.m.
Saturday 10/28	Halloween Hunt	2:00 p.m.

Candy Making Continues

Oak Chapel's storied tradition of candy making continues tomorrow night (Oct. 23) at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall and continues through mid-November. Be sure to join us for this delicious experience and wonderful ministry.

Grief Share

Surviving the loss of a spouse and then navigating one's way through the holiday season following that loss can be arduous tasks. Shreve Community Church will address those challenges when it presents a GriefShare event on Saturday, Nov. 4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be two sessions: one titled, "Surviving the Holidays" and the second one titled "Loss of a Spouse." For more information, phone 330-567-2051 (Ext. 117).

Youth Fellowship

Wooster United Methodist Church is inviting young people in Grades 6-12 to participate in its Youth Fellowship Group this year. The group will meet on Sundays from 4:15-5:30 p.m. in the gymnasium at Wooster UMC, beginning today. As part of this youth group, the plan is to take a mission trip to Central Appalachia.

Praises and Prayers

Caring and Compassionate God, now more than ever, we need you to intercede as the conflict, violence, and bloodshed escalates. May you bring peace to a shattered world and hope to a broken people. We also ask that you bring comfort to those who are suffering as we lift up the following praises and prayers...

Praises

- *For Rev. Wilcox's leadership in worship and pastoral care
- *For the annual Bazaar and those who worked so hard to make it a success

Prayers

- *For the People of Israel and for peace in the region
- *For Gene and Joyce Varns who are recovering from Covid
- *For Dick and Carol Gasser as Carol recovers from Covid
- *For Pastor John who is recovering from surgery