

**4th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST/
INDEPENDENCE DAY WEEKEND
SUNDAY WORSHIP**

July 3, 2022



**WORTHINGTON
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Brought to you by Jesus...to make a difference

CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JULY 3 (Kevin on Call)

8:00 AM Lawn Chair Church & Communion, Rev. Gregory G. Gibson (East Lawn)
8:00 AM Religious Studies (Zoom)
9:00 AM Summer Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
9:00 AM Adult Education, Rev. Gregory G. Gibson (Chapel + Zoom)
9:00 AM Adult Education, Drinking from the Well (Rm 222 + Zoom)
9:45 AM Care for Babies – age 3 (Nursery)
10:00 AM Worship, Rev. Gibson, (in-person and livestream) (Sanctuary)
11:00 AM Fellowship (East Lawn)
6:30 PM WPC Lemonade Brigade (East Lawn)

MONDAY, JULY 4 (Tom on Call) CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY

6:00 PM Boy Scouts (Rm 112, 113, Youth Room)

TUESDAY, JULY 5 (Betsy on Call)

11:00 PM Pastors Meeting (Rm 222)
2:00 PM Worship Planning (Rm 222)
4:30 PM Nominating Committee (Rm 222)
6:30 PM Tech Meeting – Russ (Zoom)
7:00 PM Prayer Shawl (Living Room)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6 (Betsy on Call)

9:00 AM Staff Meeting
12:15 PM Daily Devotional Teleconference (240-591-0333; access 783190#)
5:00 PM Stephen Leaders
8:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous Open Meeting (Hazelton Hall)

THURSDAY, JULY 7 (Kevin on Call)

FRIDAY, JULY 8 (Kevin on Call)

9:00 AM Living Hope Circle (Hazelton Hall)
12:15 PM Daily Devotional Teleconference (240-591-0333; access 783190#)

SATURDAY, JULY 9 (Betsy on Call)

12:00 PM Voice Lessons – Sharon Stohrer (Chapel)

SUNDAY, JULY 10 (Kevin on Call)

8:00 AM Lawn Chair Church, Rev. Dr. Tom Rice (East Lawn)
8:00 AM Religious Studies (Zoom)
9:00 AM Summer Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
9:00 AM Adult Education (Room 222 + Zoom)
9:45 AM Care for Babies – age 3 (Nursery)
10:00 AM Worship, Rev. Dr. Tom Rice, (in-person and livestream) (Sanctuary)
10:15 AM Summer Sunday School (Chapel, East Lawn)
11:00 AM Fellowship (East Lawn)
6:30 PM WPC Lemonade Brigade (East Lawn)

To reach the on-call pastor: call 614-885-5355, press 1, and leave a message. Your call will be returned.

SEE CHURCH CALENDAR ONLINE



**4th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST/
INDEPENDENCE DAY WEEKEND**

LAWN CHAIR CHURCH

ON THE EAST LAWN

JULY 3, 2022 – 8:00 AM



**WORTHINGTON
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

** Please rise in body or spirit.*

GATHERING MUSIC

America the Beautiful

Samuel Ward, arr. Gail Smith

Melissa Robol, pianist

The music is a call to open one's spirit to God's presence in our midst.

WELCOME AND OPENING SENTENCES

Rev. Betsy Rice

*** HYMN #645**

"Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above"

MIT FREUDEN ZART

*Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.
With healing balm my soul is filled, and every faithless murmur stilled:
to God all praise and glory!*

*What God's almighty power has made God's gracious mercy keepeth;
by morning glow or evening shade God's watchful eye ne'er sleepeth.
Within the kingdom of God's might, lo! all is just and all is right:
to God all praise and glory!*

*The Lord is never far away, but, through all grief distressing,
an ever-present help and stay, our peace and joy and blessing,
as with a mother's tender hand God gently leads the chosen band:
to God all praise and glory!*

*Thus all my toilsome way along I sing aloud thy praises,
that all may hear the grateful song my voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart; both soul and body, take your part:
to God all praise and glory!*

(Johann Jacob Schütz, 1675; trans.;
Frances Elizabeth Cox, 1864, alt)

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

UNISON PRAYER

God of perfect love, you transform sadness to joy, and despair to hope. We are weak, but you are strong. Our ways are flawed, but your ways are true. Forgive us, Lord, and transform us. Take away the sin that burdens us, and restore us to the people you would have us be, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

(A Brief Time for Silent Confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 137: 1-6

By the rivers of Babylon— there we sat down, and there we wept when we remembered Zion. On the willows there we hung up our harps. For there our captors asked us for songs, and our tormentors asked for mirth, saying, “Sing us one of the songs of Zion!”

How could we sing the Lord’s song in a foreign land? If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my right hand wither! Let my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth, if I do not remember you, if I do not set Jerusalem above my highest joy.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 8: 26-40

Rev. Gregory G. Gibson

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, the queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.”

The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached on the Fourth of July”

Rev. Gibson

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

My Country Tis of Thee

Muzio Clementi, arr. Gail Smith

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Rev. Rice

*(All who put their trust in Christ are welcome to receive communion.
Please note: Gluten-free bread is placed in the center of the tray.)*

INVITATION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

* HYMN #339

"Lift Every Voice and Sing"

MATERNA

*Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty.
Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies;
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
let us march on, till victory is won.*

*Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died.
Yet, with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our parents sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;
we have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.*

*God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
thou who hast by thy might led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;
shadowed beneath thy hand may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.*

(James Weldon Johnson, 1900)

* CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Star Spangled Banner

John Stafford Smith, arr. Gail
Smith

To submit a concern to the Prayer Chain, please contact **Dick Jones** at 614-204-7633.

THINGS TO DO & WAYS TO HELP

TODAY

GUEST PREACHER, REV. GREGORY GIBSON -

While working as a pastor in Franklin, Rev. Gregory G. Gibson earned a law degree from the University of Dayton Law School. His work as a civil litigator trial attorney eventually occupied the larger share of his working life, but Gibson continued in active ministry – often in shorter-term pastoral positions. Upon retirement from his law practice, Gibson jumped back into full-time pastoral ministry. In addition, Gibson was an adjunct professor of law and medicine at the University of Dayton, where he continues to teach classes in wide-ranging subjects such as “Greatest Speeches in American History” to “Historical American Art.”

ADULT EDUCATION - “DRINKING FROM THE WELL” Virginia Duym, a WPC member and recently retired professor from Columbus State, is leading a class at 9am in Room 222 and on Zoom. If you don't have a book yet you are welcome to pick one up in the main office. We'll be talking about chapter 3, "**Listen to God,**" full of practical, helpful ways for us to listen for God's voice in our daily walk with God. *

ADULT EDUCATION – “THE GREATEST SPEECH IN AMERICAN HISTORY” Our special guest preacher, Rev. Greg Gibson, will also offer a class at 9am (in the chapel, and only in-person*). He'll be talking about Abraham Lincoln's second inaugural address. Often called "America's Sermon," it was the first time a president had quoted the Bible in a national address. *

*For those going to Virginia's class in Room 222 or not attending in person, Greg Gibson's class will be recorded and available to watch during the week.

THERE IS NO SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY.

THIS WEEK

THE CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED MONDAY, JULY 4.

“COULD YE NOT PRAY WITH ME...?” - Each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 12:15pm our church holds an old-fashioned “Prayer Meetin” for 15 minutes. So, join us from home, car, or another state for a free conference call: 240-591-0333. And then when prompted, enter 783190#. After a brief devotion, we have prayer requests, prayers together, the Lord's Prayer, and benediction. Jesus will be there. Will you?

LOOKING AHEAD

ALL-CHURCH PICNIC JULY 14 at MIROLO

PAVILION - The fun begins at 5:30pm. WPC will provide the hot dogs, veggie dogs, and chips. We'll be playing Capture the Flag, Kickball, and Cornhole. Please RSVP so we can prepare for you and let us know if you can bring a dessert, pack of water or watermelon to share. <https://bit.ly/3NNg7Ok>

FACING LOSS will meet at 1pm, **MONDAY, JULY 18**, in the St John's Episcopal Church Atrium. Margaret Allen will review the book, *This Thing Called Grief: A New Understanding of Loss* by Thomas M. Ellis. His words were a comfort to her when she lost her daughter, Bonnie, at a young age.

The Facing Loss Lunch is on the fourth Monday of each month at noon at the Worthington La Chatelaine Restaurant. Come to the back room and enjoy compassionate fellowship and a good meal. Call Cynthia Woodbeck, SJE, at **614-847-9529** or cwoodbeck235@gmail.com or LouAnn Shearer, WPC at **419-472-1081** with questions. We will not meet in August.

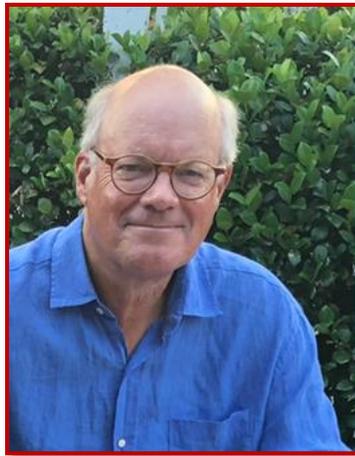
A ONE-TIME MISSION OPPORTUNITY - NNEMAP Food Pantry uses their parking lot on 11th Ave. directly across from the state fairgrounds to raise money by parking cars during the state fair. In the past this project raised over \$7,000 for the pantry. **We need 3 people to staff the NNEMAP parking lot Saturday, AUGUST 6, noon to 4pm.** The job entails directing cars to open spots in the lot, collecting the parking fee, and does not involve driving the cars. Staff of NNEMAP will be there at the beginning and end of the shift for orientation and money collection. The pantry is also open for restrooms and snacks. Couples, families with teenaged children, or individuals are welcome.

To assist or learn more, contact Kathy Wolken at **614-389-0956** or wolkenk4@outlook.com. Please feel free to ask others who might be interested in helping as well.

CALL FOR SUMMER CHOIR MEMBERS

If you love to sing, you are invited to add your voice to our Summer Choir on any Sunday morning in July and August. We meet in the sanctuary at 9am to prepare a beautiful and accessible anthem for the 10am worship service. Just come wearing Sunday clothes (we don't wear choir robes in this season) and have some fun with us! If you would like to see and hear the music in advance, contact David Rives drives@wpcnow.org to receive a copy and a recording via email. Let's make a joyful noise together!

WELCOME REV. GREGORY GIBSON, GUEST PREACHER



While working as a pastor in Franklin, Rev. Gregory G. Gibson earned a law degree from the University of Dayton Law School. His work as a civil litigator trial attorney eventually occupied the larger share of his working life, but Gibson continued in active ministry – often in shorter-term pastoral positions, as well as in roles that melded his two calls. For instance, he served as legal counsel the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (PCUSA), as well as on the denomination’s Advisory Council on Church and Society.

A native of Westchester County in New York, Gibson has been a Presbyterian minister since his 1973 graduation from Princeton Theological Seminary. For more than a dozen years, he was a parish associate at College Hill Community Presbyterian Church in Dayton. In the 1960s, that church chose to become the first intentionally multicultural congregation in the denomination.

Upon retirement from his law practice, Gibson jumped back into full-time pastoral ministry, serving as interim pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Middletown, Ohio, for nearly two years. This tenure was followed a call to Dallas, Texas, to serve as interim pastor at First Presbyterian Church, one of the flagship congregations of Grace Presbytery.

In addition to his work in ministry and law, Gibson was an adjunct professor of law and medicine at the University of Dayton, where he continues to teach classes in wide-ranging subjects such as “Greatest Speeches in American History” to “Historical American Art.” He is an accomplished painter of landscapes and portraits, frequently receiving commissions for official portraits for U.S. and state judges.

Rev. Greg Gibson will teach a class called “The Greatest Speech in American History” in the chapel at 9am. Abraham Lincoln was the first American President to quote the Bible in an inaugural address. This address is often called "America's Greatest Sermon." President Lincoln suggested that the Civil War was God's judgment on the States for the sin of slavery. Greg Gibson will give a fascinating and engaging presentation.

**4th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST/
INDEPENDENCE DAY WEEKEND/
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY**
SANCTUARY (IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM)
JULY 3, 2022 – 10:00 AM



WORTHINGTON
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

** Please rise in body or spirit.*

WELCOME

Rev. Betsy Rice

*The Friendship Pad is located in the pew at the center aisle.
Please sign and pass it to your neighbor.*

CALL TO WORSHIP IN MUSIC

Detroit

arr. Gilbert M. Martin

(from Supplement to Kentucky Harmony, 1820)

Dr. Stephen Jacoby, organist

The music is a call to open one's spirit to God's presence in our midst.

OPENING SENTENCES

*** HYMN #645**

"Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above"

MIT FREUDEN ZART

*Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.
With healing balm my soul is filled, and every faithless murmur stilled:
to God all praise and glory!*

*What God's almighty power has made God's gracious mercy keepeth;
by morning glow or evening shade God's watchful eye ne'er sleepeth.
Within the kingdom of God's might, lo! all is just and all is right:
to God all praise and glory!*

*The Lord is never far away, but, through all grief distressing,
an ever-present help and stay, our peace and joy and blessing,
as with a mother's tender hand God gently leads the chosen band:
to God all praise and glory!*

*Thus all my toilsome way along I sing aloud thy praises,
that all may hear the grateful song my voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart; both soul and body, take your part:
to God all praise and glory!*

(Johann Jacob Schütz, 1675; trans.:
Frances Elizabeth Cox, 1864, alt)

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

UNISON PRAYER

God of perfect love, you transform sadness to joy, and despair to hope. We are weak, but you are strong. Our ways are flawed, but your ways are true. Forgive us, Lord, and

(ALL)

*Christ, our companion, hope for the journey, bread of compassion, open our eyes.
Grant us your vision, set all hearts burning that all creation with you may rise.*

(Susan Palo Cherwien, 1966)

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 8: 26-40

Rev. Gregory G. Gibson

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, the queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"The Greatest Sermon Ever Preached on the Fourth of July"

Rev. Gibson

*** HYMN #339**

"Lift Every Voice and Sing"

LIFT EVERY VOICE

*Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty.
Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies;
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
let us march on, till victory is won.*

*Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died.
Yet, with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our parents sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;
we have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.*

*God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
thou who hast by thy might led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;
shadowed beneath thy hand may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.*

(James Weldon Johnson, 1900)

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

DEDICATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Rev. Dr. Tom Rice

*(Online giving is available anytime via our account with EasyTithe:
text your offering dollar amount to 614-808-8580 or go to www.easytithe.com/wpcgive.)*

OFFERTORY

Mit Freuden zart

arr. Charles W. Ore

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Rev. Betsy Rice and Rev. Dr. Tom Rice

(All who put their trust in Christ are welcome to receive communion. Please come up the center aisle to receive communion and then return to your pew using the side aisle. If you prefer to remain seated, servers are ready to bring communion to you. Gluten-free bread is placed in the center of the tray. Grape juice is red, and wine is white.)

INVITATION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

GOING IN GOD'S NAME

* HYMN #338

"O Beautiful, for Spacious Skies"

MATERNA

*O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,
for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,
and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea!*

*O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,
who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life!
America! America! God mend thine every flaw;
confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law!*

*O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years
thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears!
America! America! May God thy gold refine
till all success be nobleness and every gain divine!*

(Katharine Lee Bates (1893, alt.)

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Gibson

POSTLUDE

Mit Freuden zart

arr. Finn Videro

*We request that you remain seated during the postlude as it is the final "Amen" to our worship.
If you are unable to do so, please exit quietly. Thank you.*

WORSHIP LEADERS

Ushers: **Team B**– Peggy Foster, Paul Wilcox, Captains
Carillon: **Linda Ranck** Audio: **Andrew DeWeese**
Video/Livestream: **Emerson Greuling, Russ Nagy, Bill Yost**

To submit a concern to the Prayer Chain, please contact **Dick Jones** at 614-204-7633.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

*The flowers on the chancel are given to the glory of God
by Jerry Kneubel in honor of the May 21, 2022 marriage of Adam and Kayla Gunter*

WORTHINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MINISTRY DIRECTORY

Rev. Dr. Julia Wharff Piermont – Senior Pastor
Rev. Dr. Tom Rice – Pastor for Discipleship
Rev. Betsy Rice – Pastor for Member Ministries
Rev. Kevin Horrigan – Parish Associate for Visitation
Nicholas Robison – Director for Youth Ministries
Shine Wu Robison – Youth Worship Leader
Jenni Whitford – Director for Children’s Ministries
Dr. David Rives – Director of Music
Dr. Stephen Jacoby – Organist
Melissa Robol – Chapel Pianist
Russ Nagy – New Connections Music Leader
Eric McLaughlin – Executive Administrator

A complete Staff Directory may be found at www.wpcnow.org

773 HIGH STREET, WORTHINGTON, OH 43085-4140 TEL: 614-885-5355



WORTHINGTON
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH