

Presbytery of Ohio Valley

Docket for Assembly and Liturgy for Worshipful Work

Pyoca Camp and Retreat Center Brownstown, Indiana

May 25, 2023

The presbytery is responsible for the government of the church throughout its district, and for assisting and supporting the witness of congregations to the sovereign activity of God in the world, so that all congregations become communities of faith, hope, love, and witness. As it leads and guides the witness of its congregations, the presbytery shall keep before it the marks of the Church, the notes by which Presbyterian and Reformed communities have identified themselves through history, and the six Great Ends of the Church. – from G.3-0301

Gathering Around the Word

Music for Gathering

Tim Jessen

Declaration of Quorum

Call to Order and Call to Worship (10:00 a.m.) *

Felipe Martinez

L. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
I call to order this Assembly of the Presbytery of Ohio Valley.
Sisters and brothers: grace to you, and peace.

P. To you, also, grace and peace.

L. Alleluia, Christ is risen.

P. Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia.

Opening Hymn № 106*

Alleluia! Alleluia! Give Thanks

Prayer of the Day

L. O God, light of the hearts that see you,
life of the souls that love you, strength of the thoughts that seek you:

**P. to turn from you is to fall,
to turn to you is to rise,
to abide in you is to stand fast forever.**

L. In our work and our worship, today and all days,

P. we pray for your grace and blessing for the sake of Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

Proclaiming the Word

Introduction of the Preachers and Prayer for Illumination

Susan McGhee

Scripture Lesson: Job 1:13-22

Proclamation of the Word: Dawn Black, Pastor of First, Sullivan

Scripture Lesson: Luke 19: 37-40

Proclamation of the Word: John Erickson, Pastor of First, Martinsville

Hymn № 275

God of Our Life

Responding to the Word: Affirmation of Faith

Affirmation of Faith * from A Brief Statement of Faith of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

L. Together, let us say what we believe:

**P: In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"
With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Responding to the Word: The Business of the Assembly

Introductory Business

Welcome

Felipe Martinez

Greetings from the Host Site

Mike Davis

Introductions of New Members and Guests

Joe Kimmel

Seating of Corresponding Members

Joe Kimmel

Consent Agenda:

Minutes of February 25, 2023; Docket; Clerk's Report; Treasurer's Report

The consent agenda is a way to handle non-controversial business with one motion.

*If any member of the body wishes to lift an item from the consent agenda,
please ask to be recognized, and state the item of business you wish to lift.*

It will be dealt with under new business.

Report of the Presbytery Council

Susan McGhee

Report of the Committee on Ministry

Alan Finnan & Mary McClellan

Retirement Recognition of the Rev. Gary Scroggins

Report of the Stewardship Committee

Janet Huber Lowry & Susan McGhee

Small Group Conversation

Book Presentation

Minute for Mission: Recognition of First, Columbus and the Peacemaking Offering

Report on the Synod of Lincoln Trails Assembly

David Holt

Lunch (Order of the Day for 12:00pm)

Greetings from Pyoca

Mike Davis

Commissioning of the Summer Staff

Molly DeWitt & Felipe Martinez

Speak Out Session

This is an opportunity for members to share good news, announcements, or speak on any matter that is not otherwise on the agenda for today.

Those who wish to speak may come to a microphone, share name and congregation or ministry setting, and speak out!

Report of the Executive Presbyter

Susan McGhee

New Business

Responding to the Word: Prayers and Offerings

Necrology Report and Celebration of the Saints

Joe Kimmel and Susan McGhee

Sung Response (please stand) ♪

**For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed;
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blessed.
Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Prayers of the Presbytery

Susan McGhee

Invitation to the Offering of our Treasure

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Sealing the Word: The Holy Meal

Invitation to the Table

Hana Elliott

- L. Jesus Christ, the risen Lord, invites us to this feast, with bread broken for peace, with wine poured in joy.
- P. O Lord, we hear your invitation and remember your work:
from creation to redemption, from redemption to this day,
from this day to the day when you will come again.**
- L. Praise God for this banquet! Praise God for this feast! Praise God who makes all things new.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- L. God be with you.
- P. And also with you.**
- L. Lift up your hearts.
- P. We lift them to the Lord**
- L. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- P. Amen! It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

L. It is indeed right, for you made us, and before us,
you made the world we inhabit, and before the world,
you made the eternal home in which, through Christ, we have a place.

All that is spectacular and all that is plain have their origin in you;
all that is lovely and all who are loving point to you as their fulfillment.

And grateful as we are for the world we know, and the universe beyond our ken,
we particularly praise you, whom eternity cannot contain,
for coming to earth, and entering time in Jesus.

For his life which informs our living,
for his compassion which changes our hearts,
for his clear speaking which contradicts our harmless generalities,
for his disturbing presence,
 his innocent suffering, his fearless dying,
 his rising to life breathing forgiveness,
we praise you and worship him.

Here too our gratitude rises for the promise of the Holy Spirit,
who, even yet, even now,
confronts us with your claims and attracts us to your goodness.

Therefore, we gladly join our voices to the song of the Church on earth and in heaven:

**P. Holy, Holy, Holy Lord! God of power and might
Heaven and earth are full of your glory!
Hosanna in the highest!**

L. And now,
lest we believe that our praise alone fulfills your purpose,
we fall silent,
and remember him who came because the words were not enough.

Setting our wisdom, our will, our words aside,
emptying our hearts and bringing nothing in our hands,
we yearn for the healing,
 the holding,
 the accepting,
 the forgiving
which Christ alone can offer.

(Silence)

Merciful God, send now, in kindness,
your Holy Spirit to settle on this bread and cup,
and fill them with the fullness of Jesus.

And let that same Spirit rest on us,
converting us from the patterns of this passing world,
until we conform to the shape of him whose food we now share. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

- L. And now, with the confidence of God's own children, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
you are invited to pray in whatever language or form is most familiar to you

Breaking the Bread and Taking the Cup

Communion of the People

- You are invited to come forward by the center aisle.
A piece of bread (gluten-free) will be placed in your open hands.
Please take a cup of juice from the tray and return to your seat by the side aisle.
You are welcome to commune once you have taken your seat or wait until the direction of the celebrant.*

Bearing the Word into the World

Prayer after Communion

Hana Elliott

- L. Because we have shared the Living Bread we cannot remain the same.
May God ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us.
P. Amen! May we live to God's glory.

Closing Hymn № 432 *

Song of Hope

We will sing this song twice. Those who wish are invited to sing in Spanish.

Adjournment *

Felipe Martinez

Closing Sentences *

- L. From where we are to where you need us,
P. Christ beside us.
- L. From what we are to what you can make of us,
P. Christ before us.
- L. From the mouthing of generalities to making signs of your kingdom,
P. Christ beneath us.
- L. Through the streets of this world to the gates of heaven,
P. Christ above us.
- L. Surround us with your presence, inspire us with your purpose, confirm us in your love.
P. Amen.
- L. Now to the One who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, glory to God in the Church and in Christ Jesus,
P. from generation to generation, forever. Amen.

Music for Sending *

Tim Jessen

Resources Used in Worship

- + The Book of Common Worship, by the Presbyterian Church (USA). Louisville, Kentucky: Westminster John Knox Press, 2018.
- + A Wee Worship Book, by the Wild Goose Resource Group. Chicago, Illinois: GIA Publications, 1999.