

# *Avon Lake Presbyterian Church*

*Friends in Christ, Serving Together with Love*



**October 27, 2024  
23rd Sunday after Pentecost**

# **STEPS OF FAITH**

**REV. DR. KRISTIAN BENDORAITIS**

*Hearing assistance available: FM receivers  
and earpieces are stored near the AV room.  
See sound technician with questions.*

*Coffee House Worship: in education wing foyer.  
Enjoy a more casual environment while  
Worship is livestreamed from the sanctuary.*

**GATHERING MUSIC**

*God of Grace and God of Glory*  
CWM RHONDDA

Setting by Ralph C. Schultz

**WELCOME****HANDBELL PRELUDE**

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*  
EIN' FESTE BURG

Martin Luther  
Arr. Kevin McChesney

*"The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress." Psalm 46:7*

**CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT**

*Praise the Name of Jesus*

Roy Hicks, Jr.

*All Hail the Pow'r of Jesus' Name!*  
CORONATION

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: In deep gratitude we come to worship God.

**All: We recognize God as the source of all goodness.**

One: All good gifts come from the Spirit of God:

**All: love, peace, joy, patience, kindness, gentleness are all of God.**

One: We come with grateful hearts, not for things, but for who God is.

**All: We gather to show our gratitude in song and prayer.**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**All: Here we are Lord! We come from the busy-ness of our daily lives, from the hubbub of our work and play, from the hue and cry of the world around us, we come to worship you. In this hour, we long to meet you, to feel your presence surrounding us, enveloping us, loving us. We long to settle into silence, laying aside our worries and our cares, aware of your presence around us, before us, within us. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.**

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*  
EIN' FESTE BURG

No. 275

Congregation: Verses 1, 2, 4    Choir only: Verse 3

**CHILDRENS' SERMON**

Cheryl Dean

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**All: It seems we cannot decide, God of gifts. We say we will live to serve others but end up meeting only our needs. We claim to live in a way that honors Christ, but we do not take you to work, school, home. We believe that the gospel can transform lives, (at least, for those who need it – not us). We try to hold onto things we need to let go. Forgive us,**

**Presence of Peace. Instead of grumblers, may we be ambassadors of grace. Instead of being scared we might not get what we want, may we trust that you will take care of our needs. Instead of pretending to trust you, may we be faithful examples of a life with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, so that we can reach out and bring the kingdom of God to everyone we meet.**

*Let us take a moment for personal reflection.*

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: This is the good news: there is no ranking in God's kingdom. God graces everyone with the same gifts: mercy, love, restoration, new life. God has kept the covenant. Nothing can separate us from God's love. Nothing. We have been forgiving, we have been made new people. Hear the good news that you are loved. Thanks be to God. Amen.

### **ANTHEM**

*One Faith, One Hope, One Lord*

Craig Courtney

### **\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: Jesus continually shares God's peace with us. As we gather today, let us be strengthened by sharing God's peace with one another. As we journey through our weeks, let us share it with others. May the peace of Christ be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*Awesome Power*

John G. Elliott

Awesome power, boundless grace;  
None can fathom all Your ways,  
Truth and love are found in Your heart alone;

Righteousness surrounds Your throne.  
Holy, holy, holy Lord most high;  
Holy, holy, holy Lord most high.

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

#### **PRAYER RESPONSE**

*Thank You, Lord!*

Dennis. L. Jernigan

For all that You've done, I will thank You,  
For all that You're going to do.  
For all that You've promised, and all that  
You are  
Is all that has carried me through,  
Jesus, I thank You!

And I thank You, thank You, Lord.  
Thank You, thank You, Lord.  
Thank You for loving and setting me free,  
Thank You for giving Your life just for me.  
How I thank You, Jesus, I thank You,  
Grateful thank You. Thank You.

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

[Exodus 16:1-4a, 13-21](#)

Cris Till

### **SERMON**

"Steps of Faith"

Rev. Dr. Kristian Bendoraitis

\*OFFERING/DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* No. 606

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER

\*CLOSING HYMN *God of Grace and God of Glory* No. 307  
CWM RHONDDA

### BENEDICTION

One: Each week we remind ourselves

**All: to go out into the world. Return no one evil for evil, strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak, and honor every person. Every person. And rejoice in the Lord always.**

One: And now may the grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with each of you, all your loved ones, and all your concerns, now and forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Now Unto Him* David Morris

Now unto Him who is able to keep you from falling,

And to make you stand in His presence

Blameless and with great joy,

To the only God, our Savior; through Jesus Christ, our Lord,

Be the glory and the majesty, dominion and authority,

Both now and ever; Amen!

### POSTLUDE

*Nun Danket Alle Gott*

ST. DENIO

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

EIN' FEST BURG

Music by Johann Cruger

Setting by John A. Behnke

Martin Luther

Arr. Russell Schulz-Widmar

# Welcome to Avon Lake Presbyterian Church!

*“In awe, we Receive God’s Grace and Gospel.  
In gratitude, we Respond with Worship and Servanthood.  
In love, we Represent Jesus Christ as we minister to transform lives  
in family, community, and the world.”*

*As you join us for worship at Avon Lake Presbyterian Church, we hope that you will sense God’s presence, be caught up in joyful praise, be challenged by God’s Word and leave strengthened to live for Christ in the world.*

*In the event you need to step out of the Sanctuary, speaker systems are in both the foyer and the nursery so that you may listen to the worship service. When leaving the Sanctuary during the service, take care to close the door softly.*

**Please silence cell phones** during our worship services.

**Offerings** may be given through [SimpleGive](#) and are always appreciated. Scan this code with your smartphone to easily access SimpleGive.



**Confidential prayers** from the Healing Prayer Ministry are available at the back of the sanctuary after worship.

**There’s still time for Socktober!** The Mission committee will continue to collect donations through the end of the month. Needed: socks of all sizes, children’s pajamas and nightgowns.

**Handicap parking spaces** were added to both ends of the parking lot during the summer when the restriping occurred. Please be sure to reserve these spaces for those who need them.

**Youth Revival** will meet this evening at 6:00 p.m. Pre-teens and teens in grades 5-12 are invited to join us!

**Join us for a Fall Potluck!** Sign up in the narthex and let us know what dish you will be bringing to share with our church family on Sunday, November 3 following the worship service.

**Check the calendar!** As our church grows with adult, youth, and preschool programming, and to be able to accommodate everyone's needs, please check the schedule prior to making plans at ALPC. The calendar can be viewed on the church website in "ALPC Members Connect." If you or your committee would like to be added to the calendar, please call or email Kenzi in the church office.

**It’s time to order 2025 giving envelopes.** Please let the church office know if there is a change to your information or envelope preferences (i.e., don’t currently have envelopes and would like them).

**Saints Alive articles are due today.** Please make sure your article is emailed to [alpresby@avonlakepc.org](mailto:alpresby@avonlakepc.org) on time. If your committee has nothing to submit, please send Kenzi a note.

## *Welcome!*

Please welcome Sharon Core, General Presbyter for the Presbytery of the Western Reserve. We are so pleased to have you join us in worship today.

### *This Week at the Church*

- Monday:** Walking Group meets at the church at 8:30 a.m. Session will meet at 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday:** Letters to John study group will meet at 1:30 p.m. in the Session room. Prayer Group will meet at 3:00 p.m. on Zoom.
- Wednesday:** Walking Group meets at the church at 8:30 a.m. Bible Study will meet at 12:00 in the church office. Handbell Choir will meet in the Sanctuary at 6:45 p.m., followed by Chancel Choir at 8:00 p.m.
- Thursday:** Yoga begins at 6:30 p.m.
- Friday:** Walking Group meets at the church at 8:30 a.m.
- Next Sunday:** All Saints Day Worship begins at 10:00 a.m. The Chosen study group will meet at 11:45 a.m. in the church library.
- Birthdays:** Joyce Bihary, 10/28; Carol Nussle, 10/28; John Kneiss, 10/30; George Lawson, 11/1; Rick Fortney, 11/1; Jagger Dahl, 11/2

*Please keep in your prayers this week...*

**Karen Francy** who is back home and recovering well.

**Linda Kurak** as she lives through the effects of Parkinson's disease.

**Noel Peel** and **Charlie & Debbie Swartz** who need continued healing.

**Jen Lombardo** who has Metastatic breast cancer.

### *Church Leaders and Volunteers*

**Pastor**

**Rev. Dr. Kristian Bendoraitis**

**Director of Music**

**Rick Fortney**

Greeters

Lynn & Kay Bondurant

Worship Assistant

Cris Till

Soundroom

Gary Uhl

Projections

Elizabeth Shoemaker, AmyLynn Kaspar

Ushers

Matt & Sybil Wendling

Accompanists

Doug Day, Muriel Homer

Trumpet

Ty Hansen

Trombone

Lilly Vandenberg

## *Chancel Choir*

Jackie Day  
Tammy Dusek  
Cathy Graves  
Sue Mabe  
Makayla McAfee  
Susan Richardson  
Marcy Uhl

Sarah Waggoner  
Gail Carter  
Joan Wojcicki Fortney  
Deb Gantz  
Barb Graves  
Jan Mackert  
Sharon Pervo  
Beth Shoemaker

Dave Brunner  
Clay Dusek  
Jeff Hansen  
Doug Day  
Mike Dean  
Ed Homer  
Bob Palisin

## *Handbell Choir*

Doug Day  
Gail Carter  
Linda Swartz  
Cheryl Dean

Jan Mackert  
Sharon Pervo  
Muriel Homer  
Sarah Waggoner  
Kathy Navarro

Dave Brunner  
Barb Graves  
Cathy Graves  
Joan Wojcicki Fortney

**Avon Lake Presbyterian Church**

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