

**THE PRESBYTERY
OF SCIOTO VALLEY**



**SERVICE OF INSTALLATION OF
THE REV. DR. MATTHEW REEVES**

**AS SENIOR PASTOR OF
WORTHINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

SEPTEMBER 14, 2025 at 3:00 PM

The Presbytery of Scioto Valley

Purpose Statement

As a body of Christ, the Presbytery of Scioto Valley is a trusted and responsive spiritual community building connection and creating vitality across all and within each of our diverse congregations.

Administrative Commission for the Installation

Rev. Joel Esala, Moderator, Covenant Presbyterian Church

Elder Carol Evans, First Presbyterian Church of Delaware

Elder Bill Gilbert, Worthington Presbyterian Church

Commissioned Pastor Peter Okyere, A Light to the Nations

Rev. Betsy Rice, Worthington Presbyterian Church

Rev. Dr. Tom Rice, Worthington Presbyterian Church

Elder Marquell Segelkin, Mifflin Presbyterian Church

Rev. Dr. Jonathan Seitz, Liberty Presbyterian Church

Corresponding Member

Rev. Amber Balista, Canfield Presbyterian Church, Eastminster Presbytery

Worthington Presbyterian Church

Mission

In Christ's love, we connect, serve, and transform.

Session

The Rev. Dr. Matthew Reeves, Moderator

Marian Greuling, Clerk

Class of 2025

Larry Case

Anne Krieger

Kate Lane

Joan Patton

Mark Ranck

Bill Woods

Class of 2026

Dan Foley

Bob Freed

Bill Gilbert

Sheri Holcomb

Ray Mundy

Class of 2027

Mike Farley

Doug Gilmore

Gary Riddle

Suzanne Surface

Deb Timcho

Pastors

The Rev. Dr. Tom Rice

The Rev. Betsy Rice

***All are invited to a reception downstairs
in Fellowship Hall immediately following the service.***

The Installation of
The Reverend Dr. Matthew Reeves
as Senior Pastor of
Worthington Presbyterian Church
September 14, 2025, at 3:00 pm

** Please stand*

WELCOME

Rev. Joel Esala

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

Congregation: **And also with you.**

**CALL TO WORSHIP
IN MUSIC**

“Adagio in Classic Style”
Kim Anderson, organist

David H. Hegarty

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

OPENING SENTENCES (2 Cor. 13:13; Gal. 3:27; Eph. 4:4) Elder Marquell Segelkin

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Congregation: **And also with you.**

Leader: As many of you as were baptized in Christ
have clothed yourselves with Christ.

Congregation: **There is one body and one Spirit,
just as we were called to the one hope of our calling.**

GATHERING PRAYER

Leader: Almighty and eternal God, by your grace you have called us to
this time and place to be your servant people as we follow our
servant Lord.

Congregation: **Make your Holy Spirit move within and among us, that
together we may live a new life in the crucified and risen
Christ. Bind us together in faith, so that as we receive all
spiritual gifts needed for fulfilling our calling, we may
support one another in common ministry; through Jesus
Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*** HYMN #305**

“Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!”

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Rev. Amber Balista

**Merciful and loving God, you have called us to be your people and claimed us
for the service of Jesus Christ. We confess that we have not lived up to our
calling to proclaim the good news in word and deed. We are quick to speak**

when we ought to listen and remain silent when it is time to speak. We put too much faith in our own actions and fail to trust the strength of your Spirit.

O God, forgive our foolish and sinful ways. Strengthen us anew to follow Christ's way in the world. By your Holy Spirit, give us the grace we need to be faithful disciples and fulfill our common calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

(Silent Confession)

* Congregational Response "The Kyrie"

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

* Assurance of Pardon

* Gloria *(from Hymn #581)*

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. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Elder Carol Evans

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 41:8-10

But you, Israel, my servant,
 Jacob, whom I have chosen,
 the offspring of Abraham, my friend;
you whom I took from the ends of the earth
 and called from its farthest corners,
saying to you, "You are my servant;
 I have chosen you and not cast you off";
do not fear, for I am with you;
 do not be afraid, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you; I will help you;
 I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

The Call

arr. Erik Routley

The Chancel Choir – Russell Nagy, Director

*Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life;
Such a Way as gives us breath,
Such a Truth as ends all strife,
Such a Life as killeth death.*

*Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength;
Such a Light as shows a Feast,
Such a Feast as mends in length,
Such a Strength as makes his guest.*

*Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart;
Such a Joy as none can move,
Such a Love as none can part,
Such a Heart as joys in love.*

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 9:35-38

Rev. Dr. Jonathan Seitz

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

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

SERMON

"Harassed and Helpless"

Rev. Dr. Seitz

*** HYMN #275**

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

OFFERING

Pastor Peter Okyere

Today's offering benefits the Presbytery's Pastor Emergency Fund.

Offertory

"Cantilena"

Robert Lau

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.

SERVICE OF INSTALLATION

SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE AND STATEMENT OF ORDINATION

Rev. Esala

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO THE CANDIDATE

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS FOR THE CONGREGATION

Elder Bill Gilbert

Do we, the members of the church, accept Matt as our pastor, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to guide us in the way of Jesus Christ. **We do.**

Do we agree to pray for him, encourage him, to respect his decisions, and to follow as he guides us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church? **We do.**

Do we promise to pay him fairly and provide for his welfare as he works among us; to stand by him in trouble and share his joys? **We do.**

Will we listen to the word he preaches, welcome his pastoral care, and honor his authority as he seeks to honor and obey Jesus Christ our Lord? **We will.**

PRAYER OF INSTALLATION

Rev. Esala

DECLARATION OF INSTALLATION

CHARGE TO THE NEWLY INSTALLED

Acts 10:9-16

Rev. Dr. Tom Rice

About noon the next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray. He became hungry and wanted something to eat, and while it was being prepared he fell into a trance. He saw the heaven opened and something like a large sheet coming down, being lowered to the ground by its four corners. In it were all kinds of four-footed creatures and reptiles and birds of the air. Then he heard a voice saying, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat." But Peter said, "By no means, Lord, for I have never eaten anything that is profane or unclean." The voice said to him again, a second time, "What God has made clean, you must not call profane." This happened three times, and the thing was suddenly taken up to heaven.

CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION

Ephesians 5:1-2

Rev. Betsy Rice

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

*** HYMN #450**

"Be Thou My Vision"

*** BENEDICTION**

Pastor Matt

POSTLUDE

"Fanfare for a Festival"

Carl Simone

Please join us downstairs for a reception in Hazelton Fellowship Hall.

Introducing the Rev. Dr. Matthew Reeves

Rev. Dr. Matt Reeves is the Senior Pastor of Worthington Presbyterian Church. A native of San Diego, CA, he attended The College of Wooster where he met his wife, Heather, and discerned a call to pastoral ministry. A graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary (M.Div.) and the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary (D.Min.), he served as Associate Pastor of Parkville Presbyterian Church in Parkville, MO (2002-2011) and Pastor of Christ Presbyterian Church in Chesterland, OH (2011-2025). He is a Benedictine Oblate to the World Community for Christian Meditation. Matt and Heather have two sons, Evan (21), who lives in Cleveland, and Gareth (19), who is attending Columbus State.

Rev. Amber Balista

Rev. Amber Balista is the Associate Pastor for Christian Education at Canfield Presbyterian Church in NE Ohio. After years in youth ministry and as a Pharmacy Technician, Amber attended University of Dubuque Theological Seminary. Upon graduation, she wanted to bring together skills with people, management and ministry for service to God and God's people through service in the church. She is in her second year as a pastor and looks forward to seeing where God is leading next.

Rev. Joel Esala

Rev. Joel Esala is the Moderator of the Presbytery of Scioto Valley. A graduate of The Ohio State University, Reformed Theological Seminary (M.Div), and Princeton Theological Seminary (Th.M.), he served as the Director of Youth and Family Ministries at Trinity Episcopal Church in Solebury, PA (2008-2009), Associate Pastor at Heritage Christian Church (2009-2013), and Executive Director of Family and Children's Ministries at Central College Presbyterian Church in Westerville (2013). In May 2016 he was ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and in November 2017 accepted a call as the pastor of the Circleville Presbyterian Church. He is currently Pastor of Covenant Presbyterian Church in Columbus.

Elder Carol Evans

Carol Evans is a Ruling Elder and Clerk of Session at First Presbyterian Church of Delaware. She has served on the Committee on Ministry and has been on many mission trips with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Carol is a retired teacher, coach and athletic director at Buckeye Valley High School.

Elder Bill Gilbert

Bill has been a member of WPC for 25 years and recently retired from a career in project and program management consulting. Over the years, he has served the church in many roles, including as a deacon, elder, Sunday school teacher, and on multiple committees and search teams. Currently, he is active with Session and the Youth Committee, and he recently served as chair of the Pastor Nominating Committee. Bill and his wife, Jill, have two children, Ashley and Luke, and he enjoys biking, golfing, and running.

Pastor Peter Okyere

Pastor Peter Okyere leads immigrant and refugee ministry within the Scioto Valley Presbytery and serves as founding pastor of A Light to the Nations, a Christ-centered, multicultural outreach ministry. He blends digital strategy with pastoral care to nurture authentic discipleship. A graduate of the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, he is grounded in prayer, family, and a Spirit-led vision for the global Church.

Rev. Dr. Tom Rice

Prior to coming to Worthington Presbyterian Church in 2015, Tom was the senior pastor and head of staff at First Presbyterian Church in Royal Oak, MI for 11 years. Ordained in 1994, he served congregations in Illinois and Michigan as associate pastor. During his early calls Tom was well regarded in the PC(USA) for his skills in, and knowledge of, youth ministry. He has led mission trips to Mexico, Cuba, Jamaica and Honduras. Tom holds degrees from Harvard University (B.A.), Princeton Theological Seminary (MDiv.), and Columbia Theological Seminary (DMin.).

Rev. Betsy Rice

Betsy is a graduate of the University of Michigan (B.S.) and Princeton Theological Seminary (MDiv.). She was ordained in 1992 as associate pastor at Fox Valley Presbyterian Church in Geneva, IL, where she served for seven years. When her children were young, Betsy served as a supply preacher in the Detroit Presbytery, as parish associate for pastoral care at First Presbyterian Church in Royal Oak, MI, and as co-chair of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry. Prior to seminary she taught high school mathematics. Betsy joined the Worthington Presbyterian Church staff in 2016.

Elder Marquell Segelkin

Marquell Segelken is a ruling elder from Mifflin Presbyterian Church in Gahanna. She is a registered nurse and has been the Faith Community Nurse at Mifflin for the past 10 years. On a Presbytery level she has previously served on the Committee on Ministry, Commission for Congregational Life and several administrative commissions.

Rev. Dr. Jonathan Seitz

Rev. Dr. Jonathan Seitz is the Associate Pastor for Adult Ministries at Liberty Presbyterian Church. He met his wife, Emily, at the College of Wooster (Ohio). The son of Presbyterian pastors, Jonathan also began to feel called to ministry during college. He attended Princeton Theological Seminary for his theological training and PhD. He and Emily were Presbyterian Church USA Mission Co-Workers for more than fifteen years, where he taught at Taiwan Graduate School of Theology in Taipei. They have three teenagers: Samuel, Eva, and Eli.

A special thank you is extended to all who have made this day possible: the members of the PNC of Worthington Presbyterian Church, for their hard work and dedication throughout the search process; the congregation of Worthington Presbyterian Church, for their prayer and devotion to being the church together; the Installation Commission and the Presbytery of Scioto Valley; Worthington Presbyterian Church staff; and all who have traveled from near and far; and to Bryce Koechlin for taking photos during today's service.