

## Sermon Notes

Message Title: “The Heart of the Matter” Jim Jennings

Series: Up & Out

Scripture: Matthew 22:34-40

Date: January 12th, 2025

Why do we “do” church? What is our purpose for being?

The church is to be the “living heart” of Jesus in the world today.

The heart of the matter for the church, our purpose: to love God and love others.

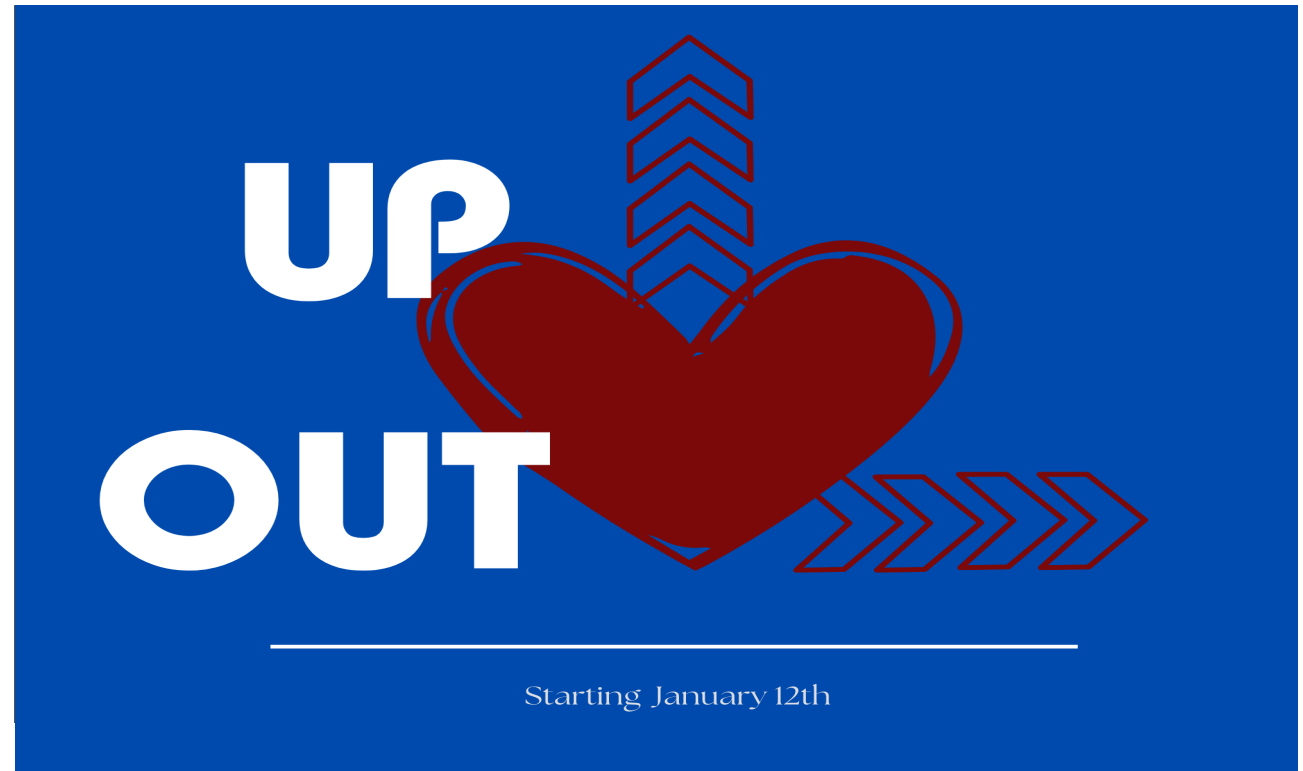
We can only give away what we have already received. We must receive God’s love in our own hearts.

Galatians 5:6 “The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.”

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Jim Jennings – Senior Pastor  
Jodi Packard – Pastor of Family Ministry

CCLI# 2017930



**January 12th, 2025**

## Welcome to Perrysburg First!

We are delighted you've chosen to worship with us this morning. Our weekly service is at 10:15am on Sundays and offers Children's Church and a nursery. Adult Sunday school is at 9am. We have additional programming for children and youth on Wednesday evenings and adult bible studies throughout the week! Perrysburg First Church is a great place to connect with God and discover community!

### STAY CONNECTED



Perrysburg First Church



419-874-1911



perrysburgfirst.church



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## Today's Service

### Prelude

### Welcome/Announcements

**Opening Hymn #417** "O, For a Heart to Praise My God" (v.1-5)

### Response of Worship

**Leader:** Our God of grace and glory has redeemed us and calls us by name, saying "You are mine."

**People:** **The voice of the LORD is full of majesty, cleansing with the fire of love. So we are faithful.**

**Leader:** As God's beloved Son embraced his mission in the waters of baptism, so we are inspired with Holy Spirit fire.

**People:** **We are known and loved. And we join in the Spirit's transforming work, in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ.**

**All:** **All praise to him, who lives and reigns for ever and ever.**

**Hymn of Response #420** "Breathe on Me, Breath of God" (v.1-4)

### Prayer/Lord's Prayer

**Special Music** "The Gift of Love" by Hal Hopson

**Chancel Choir**

**Scripture** Matthew 22:34-40

**Ed Wolf**

**Message** "The Heart of Matter"

**Jim Jennings**

**Closing Hymn #384** "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" (v.1-4)

### Benediction

### Postlude

### Worship Participants:

Organist/Pianist: Tim Cloeter

Liturgist: Ed Wolf

Sound Booth: Dax Rice & Logan McGurk

### Ministry Partners Spotlight

Thank you to our Children's Ministry Partners today:  
Children's Church (Grades K-2): Pastor Jodi & Amanda Graven  
Children's Church (Grades 3-5): Dan Packard & Kerrie Long  
Nursery (ages 0-PreK): Rich Bensman & Libby Graven

### The Good & Beautiful Community Study

Our daily encounters with other people are the arenas in which we work out our faith, where our relationship with Jesus becomes "incarnate" – takes on flesh. In *The Good and Beautiful Community*, author James Bryan Smith provides practical steps to help us come to know, and grow, in how best to live our Christian faith in relationship with others. Join me on Wednesday evenings, from 6:15 to 7:30 as we engage with this wonderful and insightful book. Group begins January 29. Please let me know if interested or call the church office at 419-874-1911.  
~ Pastor Jim

### PCU Donations

For the month of January, our church is asked to donate pasta and in February, Shampoo. Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

### Sanctuary Flowers Today

Happy Birthday Marty Oakley!  
Blessings,  
-Judy & Susan Brandon

### Sanctuary Flowers Calendar

If you would like to sponsor flowers for our Sunday morning worship, our 2025 calendar has plenty of openings! Sign-up on the calendar just outside of the restrooms on the Sanctuary level. The cost of flowers is \$25.

### Connection Cards

Welcome to First! We're so glad you've chosen to worship with us this morning. We'd love to help you get connected here at First. You can fill out the connection card and drop it in the basket in the upper narthex as you leave. We will be sure to follow up. Blessings!

### Inclement Weather Policy

**Level 1:** Worship services and church programs will plan to meet as scheduled.  
**Level 2:** Worship services and church programs meeting will be dependent on severity of the conditions. We will send out an all-call & text and post to our Facebook page all cancellations once the decision has been made to cancel. Also feel free to call the church office.  
**Level 3:** Everything is cancelled. Please stay home!  
**Note:** In all situations, please use your best judgement when deciding to venture out.