



January 23, 2022

The Third Sunday After Epiphany

10:30 a.m.

Welcome to Worship at First Presbyterian Church

We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate in the worship, service, and program life of First Pres!

Please visit the church website: www.firstpresevansville.com to stay up-to-date on our ministry and service opportunities.

Please visit our Facebook page - [First Presbyterian Church - Evansville, Indiana](#). We hope you'll "like" us!

Please note that this service is being livestreamed on our website and Facebook page, and the recording will be posted to our [YouTube](#) channel.

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

WE GATHER TO CELEBRATE NEW LIFE

**Let those who are able stand at this sign.*

THE MUSIC FOR GATHERING

"Adagio from Trio Sonata No. 1 (BWV 525)

Johann Sebastian Bach

THE INTROIT

"I Will Worship the Lord"

John Rutter

*I will worship the Lord all the days of my life;
I will tell of his glory and will show forth his praise;
I will sing and rejoice, for the Lord is my stronghold. Alleluia!*

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

- One Let the ears of all people be attentive;
the heavens are telling the glory of God.
- All Everything around us proclaims God's handiwork.
let us bow down and worship our Creator.**
- One Day and night, God is at work among us.
We are drawn together into one body, the church.
- All As we commune with God, we know we need one another.
Let us honor the good to be found in all people.**
- One Hear once again the laws and commandments.
Find them sure and right and true for all.
- All We weep and mourn our lack of faithfulness.
We seek true community in which all are honored.**

***THE OPENING HYMN . . . no. 19**
"God of Great and God of Small"

God of Great and Small/Natalie Sleeth
Natalie Sleeth

**God of great and God of small, God of one and God of all,
God of weak and God of strong, God to whom all things belong,
Alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.**

**God of land and sky and sea, God of life and destiny,
God of never-ending power, yet beside me every hour.
Alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.**

**God of silence, God of sound, God by whom the lost are found,
God of day and darkest night, God whose love turns wrong to right,
Alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.**

**God of heaven and God of earth, God of death and God of birth,
God of now and days before, God who reigns forevermore,
Alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.**

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***THE INVITATION TO CONFESSION**

***THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(in unison)*

**God of our Restoration,
whenever we come to you, we realize how far we have strayed
and how much we have forgotten of your law and love.
We have not loved you with our whole hearts,
nor loved our neighbors as ourselves.
Forgive us, heal us, and restore us to our relationship with you;
through Jesus Christ, in whom we trust.**

***THE SILENT CONFESSION**

***THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

***THE RESPONSE . . . no. 581**
"Glory Be to the Father"

Gloria Patri/Henry W. Greatorex
Trad. Liturgical Text

**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.**

THE WORDS OF WELCOME

The Greetings Among the People of God
The Concerns of the Church

WE HEAR THE GOOD NEWS OF NEW LIFE

THE PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

THE LESSON FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law.

And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

THE PSALM FOR THE DAY

Psalm 29

- One The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the firmament shows forth the work of God's hands.
- All One day tells its tale to another,
and one night imparts knowledge to another.**
- One Although they have no words or language,
and their voices are not heard,
- All their sound has gone out into all lands,
and their message to the ends of the world.**
- One In the deep has God set a pavilion for the sun;
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
- All It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
and runs about to the end of it again;
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**
- One The law of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- All The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.**
- One The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
- All More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**
- One By them also is your servant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is great reward.
- All Can people tell how often they offend?
cleanse me from my secret faults.**
- One Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me;
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.
- All Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight,
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.**

THE ANTHEM

"Do Not Be Afraid"

Philip W.J. Stopford

*Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you, I have called you by your name; you are mine.
When you walk through the waters, I'll be with you; you will never sink beneath the waves.
When the fire is burning all around you, you will never be consumed by the flames.
When the fear of loneliness is looming, then remember I am at your side.
When you dwell in the exile of a stranger, remember you are precious in my eyes.
You are mine, O my child, I am your Father, and I love you with a perfect love.*

- Gerard Markland © Kevin Mayhew Ltd.

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

THE SERMON

Kevin Scott Fleming

“Mission Statements”

WE GIVE THANKS FOR THE GIFT OF NEW LIFE

A TIME OF INTENTIONAL SILENCE

*THE HYMN . . . no. 301

Two Oaks/Marty Haugen
Marty Haugen

“Let Us Build A House”

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
All are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
Where all God’s children dare to seek to dream God’s dream anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God’s grace;
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
All are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine, and wheat;
A banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us:
All are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
To heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and love the Word they’ve known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God’s face;
Let us bring an end to fear and danger:
All are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
And loved and treasured, taught and claimed ad words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
All are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.

***THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*in unison*)

To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God's reconciling community. This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God's message of reconciliation and shares God's labor of healing the enmities which separate people from God and from each other. Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit. The church maintains continuity with the apostles and with Israel by faithful obedience to his call.

- from The Confession of 1967, Presbyterian Church (USA)

THE MORNING OFFERING

The Invitation to the Offering

The Offertory

You may send a check to the church office, or give online at <http://firstpresevansville.com/giving/>

The Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings . . . no. 606

"Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"

Old Hundredth

Thomas Ken

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Prayer of Dedication

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Sharing of Joys and Concerns

The Spoken Prayers

The Silent Prayers

The Lord's Prayer (*in unison*)

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.

WE DISPERSE TO SHARE THE GOOD NEWS OF NEW LIFE

***THE CLOSING HYMN . . . no. 307**

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

Cwm Rhondda/John Hughes

Harry Emerson Fosdick

**God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flower.**

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!

From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days, for the living of these days.

**Cure thy children's warring madness; bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.**

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore.

Let the gift of thy salvation be our glory evermore.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore, serving thee whom we adore.

***THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

*THE CHORAL RESPONSE

"Benediction"

Holy, holy, holiness unto the Lord, Love ye one another.

arr. Kevin Siegfried

- Slow March, Brother Ephraim Frost

*THE POSTLUDE

"Toccata in C"

Johann Pachelbel

Leading worship this morning:

Pastor Rev. Kevin Scott Fleming
Liturgist Scott Wylie
Director of Music Robert Nicholls
The Choir of First Presbyterian Church

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Happening at First Presbyterian Church

First Pres is grateful to be able to continue **in-person worship**. If you're joining us in-person, please wear a mask, use sanitizer, and maintain social distancing. We ask everyone to wear masks so that those who are unable to be vaccinated are protected while we are together.

All are welcome to add to the beauty of our Sunday worship by providing **flowers** to be displayed at that day's service. They may be fresh flowers or silk/faux arrangements, and can be ordered by the donor or the church office. To see a list of available dates and choose one to provide flowers for, fill out this [online form](#), or call the church office. Thank you!

Weekly Calendar

Elder of the Week: Michelle Haywood

Sunday, January 23

Daily Reading: Psalm 46

7:30 a.m. Band Rehearsal
8:30 a.m. Wide Awake Worship
9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
1:30 p.m. Bible Bunch (online)
6:30 p.m. First Light

Monday, January 24

Daily Reading: Mark 5:21-43

10:00 a.m. Mission Committee (online)

Tuesday, January 25

Daily Reading: Mark 6:1-13

10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
3:45 p.m. Choir Teen Rehearsal
4:45 p.m. Handbells and Handchimes
5:45 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal

Wednesday, January 26

Daily Reading: Mark 6:13-29

Thursday, January 27

Daily Reading: Mark 6:30-46

4:00 p.m. Choir Beginners
4:45 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal
6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Friday, January 28

Daily Reading: Mark 6:47-56

Saturday, January 29

Daily Reading: Mark 7:1-23