



March 13, 2022

The Second Sunday in Lent

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 WORSHIP GOD

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

THE MUSIC FOR GATHERING

"O Lamb of God" (BWV 618)

Johann Sebastian Bach

THE INTROIT

"Bonse Aba"

trad. Zambian; arr. Andrew Fischer

Bonse aba mu pokelela balipele maka akuba bana. Kuba bana bakwa lesa. Muya yaya bakwa lesa.

All that sing have the right to be called the children of God.

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

- One We are invited to walk with God,
We are welcomed by God as people of the covenant.
- All How awesome to stand in the presence of our Creator!**
We bring our praise to glorify God.
- One God calls us by name and gives us new names.
We are summoned to faithfulness and fruitfulness.
- All God not only speaks to us but also listens.**
God hears our cries and meets our need.
- One Let the ends of the earth remember and turn to God.
Let the families of all nations worship the Creator.
- All We will pay our vows to the One who calls us.**
We praise the God of all nations and all peoples.

***THE OPENING HYMN . . . no. 49**

"The God of Abraham Praise"

Leoni/Jewish Melody
Moses Maimonides and Daniel ben Judah Dyan

**The God of Abraham praise, who reigns enthroned above,
the Ancient of Eternal Days, the God of love!
The Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven confessed,
we bow before your holy name, forever blest.**

**Your spirit still flows free, high surging where it will.
In prophet's word you spoke of old and you speak still.
Established is your law, and changeless it shall stand,
deep writ upon the human heart by your strong hand.**

**Your goodly land we seek, with peace and plenty blest,
a land of sacred liberty and Sabbath rest.
There milk and honey flow, and oil and wine abound,
and trees of life forever grow with mercy crowned.**

**You have eternal life implanted in the soul;
your love shall be our strength and stay, while ages roll.
We praise you, living God! We praise your holy name:
the first, the last, beyond all thought, and still the same!**

***THE CALL TO CONFESSION**

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

**God of our ancestors, we come to you,
confessing that we have set our minds on human things.
We have sought to gain the world - so many things to buy, so many things to do.
Yet we are not satisfied.
Life's meaning eludes us.
Your ways seem out of date;
your promises appear as the hopes and dreams of a past generation.
But in our hearts we sense an eternal design which is for all generations,
a way of life more satisfying than we have allowed ourselves to explore.
O God, we confess our need for you.**

***THE SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

***THE KYRIE . . . no. 551**

"Lord, Have Mercy"

Land of Rest; arr. Richard Proulx
Traditional Liturgical Text

**Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.**

***THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

***THE RESPONSE . . . no. 437**

"You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy!"

Wayfaring Stranger/ Appalachian Folk Melody
Traditional Liturgical Text

**You are the Lord, giver of mercy!
You are the Christ, giver of mercy!
You are the Lord, giver of mercy!**

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THE WORDS OF WELCOME

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

WE HEAR THE WORD OF LIFE

THE PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

THE LESSON FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates, the land of the Kenites, the Kenizzites, the Kadmonites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites, and the Jebusites."

THE PSALM FOR THE DAY

Psalms 27

- One The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?
the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?
- All When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh,
it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who stumbled and fell.**
- One Though an army should encamp against me,
yet my heart shall not be afraid;
- All and though war should rise up against me,
yet will I put my trust in the LORD.**
- One One thing have I asked of the LORD; one thing I seek;
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;
- All to behold the fair beauty of the LORD, to seek God in the temple.**
- One For on the day of trouble the LORD shall shelter me in safety;
the LORD shall hide me in the secrecy of the holy place
and set me high upon a rock.
- All Even now the LORD lifts up my head above my enemies round about me.**
- One Therefore I will offer in the holy place an oblation
with sounds of great gladness;
I will sing and make music to the LORD.
- All Harken to my voice, O LORD, when I call;
have mercy on me and answer me.**
- One You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face."
Your face, LORD, will I seek.
- All Hide not your face from me,
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.**

One You have been my helper; cast me not away;
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.

All Though my father and my mother forsake me, the LORD will sustain me.

One Show me your way, O LORD;
lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.

**All Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries, for false witnesses have risen up against me,
and also those who speak malice.**

One What if I had not believed that I should see the goodness of the LORD
in the land of the living!

**All O tarry and await the LORD's pleasure; be strong, and the LORD shall comfort your heart;
wait patiently for the LORD.**

THE ANTHEM

"Put Your Trust in God"

Jack Warren Burnam

*Put your trust in God, for I will yet give thanks to him, who is the help of my countenance and my God.
As the deer longs for the waterbrooks, so longs my soul for you, O God.
My soul is a-thirst for God, for the living God.
I pour out my soul when I think on these things: how I went with the multitude and led them into the house of God,
with the voice of praise and thanksgiving, among those who keep holy day.
Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? And why are you so disquieted within me?*

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 13:31-35

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

THE SERMON

"Credible Threat - Incredible Promise"

the Rev. Dr. Alan Finnan

WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO A HOLY LENT

A TIME OF INTENTIONAL SILENCE

*THE HYMN . . . no. 421

Irish/A Collection of Hymns and Sacred Poems, 1749

"Have Mercy, God, Upon My Life"

David Gambrell

**Have mercy, God, upon my life, and make me clean within:
pour out your ever-faithful love and wash away my sin.**

**My guilt is heave on my mind; I know what I have done:
against your justice I have sinned, against you, God, alone.**

**Now teach me wisdom in my soul; I long to see your face.
Let bones, once broken, sing with joy, and heal me by your grace.**

**Create in me a faithful heart, a spirit right and new.
Sustain me with your saving love and keep me close to you.**

**Then I will praise you with my heart, my mind, my soul, my voice.
You save the least and seek the lost; let all the world rejoice!**

THE RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

The Presentation

The Profession of Faith

*The Apostle's Creed (*in unison*)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Welcome

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 Call to Prayer

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

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.**

Linda Scholes

WE DISPERSE TO SERVE GOD AND NEIGHBOR

*THE CLOSING HYMN . . . no. 826

"Lift High the Cross"

Crucifer/Sydney Hugo Nicholson
George William Kitchin

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.

Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod, the Lamb victorious, Christ, the Son of God.

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.

All newborn servants of the Crucified bear on their brow the seal of Christ who died.

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree, your death has brought us life eternally.

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.

So shall our song of triumph ever be: praise to the Crucified for victory.

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.

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*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*THE POSTLUDE

"Will You Come and Follow Me"

Robert Nicholls

Leading worship this morning:

Guest Preacher the Rev. Dr. Alan Finnan
Liturgist Sue Schriber
Director of Music Robert Nicholls
The Choir of First Presbyterian Church
The Handbell Choir of First Presbyterian Church, Mark G. Fox, director

We welcome Sandra Mants and Sylvia Nichols into membership today.

We welcome and thank the Rev. Dr. Alan Finnan for joining our worship for the second Sunday in a row.

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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.

During this time of loss, the **Elders and Deacons** of First Presbyterian Church **are available** for your questions and concerns. Please don't hesitate to be in touch with your Deacon or any of the Elders either directly or via the church office if you have a need.

Sunday School - it's not just for kids! Join Pete Ruthenburg and John Whinrey in the "**Bible Bunch**" room at **9:30 a.m.** as they lead the in-person class based on the PC(USA) Curriculum, *The Present Word*. Not able to join in-person? Longtime Bible Bunch teacher Jean Beckman leads an online session of the class **via Zoom on Sundays at 2:00 p.m.** If you would like to join this virtual class, email Jean Beckman at jb37@evansville.edu to be added to the Zoom invitation list.

As local pandemic conditions improve, the Session is making gradual changes to First Pres' **COVID safety protocols**. Next **Sunday, March 20**, we will open some of the seating in the Sanctuary, and add seating to the Wide Awake service. The Session continues to ask all in congregated settings to wear a mask, use sanitizer, and social distance when possible, so we may continue to offer a safe place to those who are vulnerable.

Have you been struggling with how to **connect to First Pres online**? Struggle no more! Jerusha Van Camp welcomes your tech questions in a classroom format at **9:30 a.m. in Kerr Chapel on March 20**. If you have a specific question, let Jerusha know ahead of time by email or phone: 812-423-6297; jerusha@firstpresevansville.com.

Some people give up favorite foods for Lent. How about providing food for someone who is hungry instead? The Mission Committee has arranged for First Pres to be the regular provider of **lunch** for the guests of **United Caring Services** on the second Friday of each month. Our next day during lent is **Friday, April 8**. You can be of service without needing to enter UCS or work on a serving line. The Mission Committee has funds available to reimburse your costs. They can also suggest menus or shopping lists if you're uncertain about how to get started. Contact Mission Committee chair Ronda Hurt [(812) 202-9961 or ronda2265@gmail.com] to volunteer or for more information.

Weekly Calendar

Elder of the Week: Casey Calvert

Sunday, March 13

Daily Reading: Psalm 84

7:30 a.m. Band Rehearsal

8:30 a.m. Wide Awake Worship

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, March 14

Daily Reading: John 4:27-42

Tuesday, March 15*Daily Reading: John 4:43-54*

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

Thursday, March 17*Daily Reading: John 5:19-29*

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

Wednesday, March 16*Daily Reading: John 5:1-18*

7:00 p.m. Deacons Meeting (online)
 8:00 p.m. Session Meeting (online)

Friday, March 18*Daily Reading: John 5:30-47***Saturday, March 19***Daily Reading: 7:1-13*

First Presbyterian Church Officers

2022 Session – First Presbyterian Church

As in all Presbyterian congregations, the Session is the leadership team or governing board of the church, responsible for all areas of the church's life and ministry. It includes the pastor and three classes of elders serving three-year terms of service, all elected by the congregation.

Class of 2022

Jill Griffin
 Dan Korb
 Bonnie Rinks
 Sue Schriber

Class of 2023

Mark Fox
 Sue Hartig
 Michelle Haywood
 Gerald Summers

Class of 2024

Casey Calvert
 Ronda Hurt
 Gary Morris
 Michael Thissen

the Reverend Larry Langer serves as Moderator.

2021 Board of Deacons – First Presbyterian Church

In Presbyterian congregations, Deacons are ministers of sympathy, witness and service, after the example of Jesus. At First Pres, they are involved in congregational care, hospitality and fellowship, and bereavement. Deacons also serve in three classes for terms of three years each. Deacons are elected by the congregation and accountable to the Session.

Class of 2022

Sue Korb
 Marilyn Kunkle
 Sarah Pearce
 Gina Ungar
 Kathryn Van Camp
 Sam Wolf

Class of 2023

Tony Aiken
 Lisa Foerster-Daniels
 Abby Greenwell
 Jake Kohlmeyer
 Jessica Montgomery
 Tracy Shaw

Class of 2024

Dick Bernhardt
 Jane Bernhardt
 Nancy Bizal
 Lisa Calvert
 MT Hallock Morris
 Glen Killion

2022 Board of Trustees – First Presbyterian Church

The Trustees at this church are responsible for managing and investing the church's endowment and trust funds and providing for the church's appropriate insurance coverage. They serve in three classes for three-year terms. Trustees are elected by the congregation and accountable to the Session.

Class of 2022

Joan Fedor-Bassemier
 Mark Krahlung

Class of 2023

Kristi Cirignano
 Jingle Hagey

Class of 2024

Anne Asbury
 Dick Mahrenholz



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First Presbyterian Church
 is a partner congregation with
 the Covenant Network
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