



April 24, 2022

Second Sunday of Easter

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

Improvisation on *Kedron*

THE INTROIT

"Sing Out With Joy"

Jacques Arcadelt

Sing out with joy for all to hear; now is the time of celebration.

All join to sing from far and near: let there be peace in every nation.

Come, hear the merry song today: with one voice we sing together, let all be joyful forever.

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

One Christ is Risen!

All **Christ is risen indeed!**

One Alleluia! Celebrate God in this sacred space!
Celebrate God in all places under heaven!

All **Give praise for God's mighty deeds!**
Give praise for God's resurrecting power!

One Praise God with a fanfare of trumpets.

All **Praise god with the harp and the cello!**

One Praise God with the tambourines and dancing!

All **Praise God with flutes and guitars!**

One Praise God with cymbals and drums!

All **Let everything with life and breath praise God!**

***THE OPENING HYMN . . . no. 255**

O Filii Et Filiae/French Melody
Jean Tisserand

“O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing”

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**O sons and daughters, let us sing with heavenly hosts to Christ our King;
today the grave has lost its sting! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**That night the apostles met in fear; among them came their Lord most dear,
and said, “My peace be with you here.” Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**When Thomas first the tidings heard, how they had seen the risen Lord,
he doubted the disciples’ word. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**“My pierced side, O Thomas, see; and look upon my hands, my feet;
not faithless, but believing be.” Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**No longer Thomas then denied; he saw the feet, the hands, the side;
“You are my Lord and God!” he cried. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**How blest are they who have not seen, and yet whose faith has constant been,
for they eternal life shall win. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

***THE CALL TO CONFESSION**

***THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God of the empty tomb and our empty hearts,
when we are afraid to speak our faith in the world,
forgive us and help us to find our voice.**

**When we are afraid to forgive and to love again,
forgive us and give us the power to forgive.**

**When we are afraid to stand up to misguided authority,
join with the weak to make us all strong.**

**When we are confined by our hurts,
touch us with your wounded hands and set us free.**

**When we are locked behind our doubts and fears,
pass through our barricades, open our hearts, and give us peace. Amen.**

***THE SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

***THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

***THE RESPONSE . . . no. 587**

“Alleluia!”

Celtic Alleluia; Fintan O’Carroll
Traditional Liturgical Text

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE WORDS OF WELCOME

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

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

THE PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

THE LESSON FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Psalm 118:14-29

- One The Lord is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation.
**All Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous;
"The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!**
- One The right hand of the Lord is exalted!
The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!"
- All I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.
The Lord indeed punished me sorely,
but did not hand me over to death.**
- One Open for me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter them and give thanks to the Lord.
- All "This is the gate of the Lord;
here the righteous may enter."**
- One I give thanks to you, for you have answered me
and you have become my salvation.
- All The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.**
- One By the Lord has this been done;
it is marvelous in our eyes.
- All This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**
- One Hosanna! O Lord, save us!
We pray to you, Lord, prosper our days!
- All Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord;
we bless you from the house of the Lord.**
- One The Lord is God and has given us light.
Form a procession with branches up to the corners of the altar.
- All You are my God, and I will thank you;
you are my God and I will exalt you.
Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good;
God's mercy endures forever.**

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Revelation 1:4-8

John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

THE ANTHEM

"An Endless Alleluia"

Jack Warren Burnam

*Sing alleluia forth in duteous praise, ye citizens of heaven, O sweetly raise an endless alleluia.
Ye who have fought and joined the starry throng, ye victors, now take up the eternal song, an endless alleluia.
Almighty Christ, to thee our voices sing glory forevermore; to thee we sing an endless alleluia.*

THE GOSPEL LESSON

John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

One This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

THE SERMON

the Rev. John VanderZee

"Doubt: The Seed of Faith"

WE GIVE THANKS FOR GOD'S GOODNESS

A TIME OF INTENTIONAL SILENCE

*THE HYMN . . . no. 256

Kedron/Elkanah Kelsay Dare

"These Things Did Thomas Count as Real"

Thomas H. Troeger

**These things did Thomas count as real:
the warmth of blood, the chill of steel, the grain of wood, the heft of stone,
the last frail twitch of blood and bone.**

**The vision of this skeptic mind
was keen enough to make him blind to any unexpected act
too large for his small world of fact.**

**His reasoned certainties denied
that one could live when one had died, until his fingers read like Braille
the markings of the spear and nail.**

**May we, O God, by grace believe
and thus the risen Christ receive, whose raw imprinted hands reached out
and beckoned Thomas from his doubt.**

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

**Life in Christ is life eternal.
The resurrection of Jesus is the sign
that God will consummate the work
of creation and reconciliation beyond death
and bring to fulfillment
the new life in begun in Christ.**

- adapted from the Confession of 1967

THE MORNING OFFERING

The Invitation to the Offering
The Offertory

You may send a check to the church office, or give online at <http://firstpreveansville.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 heav'nly 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

One As you sent Christ,
All **now send us.**

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 SERVE GOD AND NEIGHBOR

***THE CLOSING HYMN . . . no. 817**

*Dunlap's Creek/Samuel McFarland
Henry Alford*

"We Walk by Faith and Not By Sight"

**We walk by faith and not by sight; with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."**

**We may not touch your hands and side, nor follow where you trod;
but in your promise we rejoice and cry, "My Lord and God!"**

**Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound
to call on you when you are near and seek where you are found.**

**And when our life of faith is done, in realms of clearer light
may we behold you as you are, with full and endless sight.**

***THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***THE RESPONSE**
"Sevenfold Amen"

John Stainer

THE POSTLUDE
"Good Christians, All, Rejoice and Sing"

Gelobt Sei Gott; arr. Robert Nicholls

Leading worship this morning:

Bridge Co-Pastors John VanderZee, Wendy VanderZee
Liturgist Becky Sparks-Thissen
Director of Music Robert Nicholls
The Choir of First Presbyterian Church
The Chime 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.

First Pres' **bicentennial celebrations** continue! Next Sunday, **May 1** at 10:30 worship, organist Matthew Boatmon will accompany the choir in Edward Elgar's masterwork, *Great Is the Lord*. That afternoon at **4:00 p.m.**, Mr. Boatmon will give a **concert** in our Sanctuary. The concert will close with the choir and Robert Nicholls joining him for the *Kyrie* from Louis Vierne's *Messe Solennele*. This is a great opportunity to invite your friends, neighbors, and co-workers to First Pres!

Session is looking forward to the time when we can enjoy after-worship fellowship time. To that end, a **Fellowship Team** is being formed to prepare, set up, and clean up beverages for such gatherings. If you are interested in **joining this team**, or want more information, please contact the [church office](#).

Weekly Calendar

Elder of the Week: Dan Korb

Sunday, April 24

Daily Reading: Psalm 150
7:30 a.m. Band Rehearsal
8:30 a.m. Wide Awake Worship
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
6:30 p.m. First Light

Monday, April 25

Daily Reading: John 17:1-11
10:00 a.m. Mission Committee (online)

Tuesday, April 26

Daily Reading: John 17:12-19
3:45 p.m. Choir Teens
4:45 p.m. Handbells and Handchimes
5:45 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal

Wednesday, April 27

Daily Reading: John 17:20-26
11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

Thursday, April 28

Daily Reading: Luke 3:1-14
4:00 p.m. Choir Beginners
4:45 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal
6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Friday, April 29

Daily Reading: Luke 3:15-22

Saturday, April 30

Daily Reading: Luke 4:1-13
10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

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Weekly Calendar

Elder of the Week: Ronda Hurt

Easter Sunday, April 17

Daily Reading: Psalm 117

7:45 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

8:30 a.m. Wide Awake Worship

10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship

Monday, April 18

Daily Reading: John 14:1-14

Church office closed

Tuesday, April 19

Daily Reading: John 14:15-31

3:45 p.m. Choir Teens

4:45 p.m. Handbells and Handchimes

5:45 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal

Wednesday, April 20

Daily Reading: John 15:1-11

11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

Thursday, April 21

Daily Reading: John 15:12-27

4:00 p.m. Choir Beginners

4:45 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal

6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Friday, April 22

Daily Reading: John 16:1-15

Saturday, April 23

Daily Reading: John 16:16-33

Easter Flowers Given By:

Anne Asbury in memory of Bill Asbury

The Bernhardt and Mengon Families in memory of Art and Rita Mengon, Mary and Henry Bernhardt, Mr. and Mrs. C.H. Mendenhall, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Mengon, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Rauch, and Mr. and Mrs. Henry F. Bernhardt

Nancy F. Bizal in memory of Rachael Bizal Macklim

Betsy and Bill Brubeck in memory of their parents, Anne and Ed Brubeck and Phyllis and Walter Vonnegut, and Bill's sister, Jean Denton Brubeck

Roger and Susan Colman in memory of Dale and Miriam Billman and Clare Colman

Joan Fedor-Bassemier in memory of Dr. and Mrs. John Fedor, and Edgar Bassemier

Patrick, Jill, Greta, and Graham Griffin in memory of Jim and Marje Gunderson

Bob, Lisa, and Carolyn Jones in memory of Barbara Beckenbach and Karen Bohn

Pam Kimsey in honor of her daughter, Ruth Harmon

Tom, Suzanne, and Jake Kohlmeyer in memory of William H. Freeman and Ruby J. and Leroy C.H. Kohlmeyer; and in honor of Ruby J. Freeman

Dan and Sue Korb in memory of Dan Korb, Sr. and Fern and Bill Roessler; and in honor of Douglass Korb and their children and grandchildren

Douglass Korb in memory of Dan Korb, Sr. and Kevin Fleming; and in honor of their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren

Dave and Marilyn Kunkle in memory of their parents, sister, and Pastor Kevin Fleming

Dick and Lara Mahrenholz in memory of Sandy Mahrenholz

Judy D. McCormick in memory of Kevin Scott Fleming;

and in honor of all the devoted staff and members of the congregation of First Pres

Marcia Meeks in memory of loved ones

Sylvia Nichols in memory of Dale Nichols

Robert, Emma, Elena, and William Nicholls in memory of the Rev. Kevin Scott Fleming

Suzette (Hardy) Reshanov in memory of her son and granddaughter, Chris and Christina Hardy

Gail Riecken in honor of all the little children

Jack and Sue Schriber in memory of Jacob Ball, LaVon Stone, Mildred Dossett, Veleria Horne, and Barbara Studwell; and in honor of Carolyn, Jerusha, Lora, and Robert

Marylu Sonntag in memory of Bill Sonntag

Wendy and John VanderZee in memory of the Rev. Kevin Fleming's life and ministry;

and in honor of their three granddaughters: Annie, Maddie, and Lilly Singleton

Barbara Witte in memory of her father and mother, Harold L. and Lois W. Bootz,

and her and Ed Witte's wedding anniversary.

Julie and Steve Wu in honor of Peter and Elsie Wu and Yong Soon Lim

Pat Wu in memory of Mike Wu

Scott Wylie in memory of Burke Edwards

Steve Wylie and Steve Gibson in memory of James T. and Lois Gibson and the Rev. Dr. Richard Wylie; and in honor of Joan Wylie

Thank You

to all who donated flowers to decorate our building for the Easter season!



609 South East Second Street
Evansville, IN 47713
(812) 423-6297
www.firstpresevansville.com

First Presbyterian Church
is a partner congregation with
the Covenant Network
of Presbyterians.

