



May 8, 2022

Fourth 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](http://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

"In Remembrance"

Buryl Red; arr. Nora Kile

#### THE INTROIT

"Siyahamba"

*trad. South African*

*Siyahamb' eukukhanyen' kwenkos'.*

We are marching in the light of God.

#### \*THE OPENING HYMN . . . no. 268

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

*Diademata; George Job Elvey  
Matthew Bridges*

**Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;  
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own!  
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.**

**Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,  
rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified:  
no angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,  
but downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.**

**Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scepter sways  
from pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise.  
His reign shall know no end; and round his pierced feet  
fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.**

Crown him the Lord of years, the potentate of time;  
creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime.  
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;  
thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

**\*THE CALL TO CONFESSION**

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

Holy God, we confess that we have strayed from your paths of right relationship and peace, and we have dishonored you, ourselves, and your creation. We repent of these hurtful ways. Forgive us we pray, as we learn to forgive others, and guide us in the way of peace.

**\*THE SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

**\*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**\*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 THE WORD OF LIFE**

**THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**THE LESSON FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES**

Psalm 23

One The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.  
All **He makes me like down in green pastures;  
he leads me beside still waters.**  
One He restores my soul;  
He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.  
All **Even though I walk through the darkest valley,  
I fear no evil; for you are with me;  
Your rod and your staff - they comfort me.**  
One You prepare a table for me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.  
All **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.**

**THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON**

Revelation 7:9-17

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

## THE ANTHEM

"The Call"

Gail Randall

*The call:*

*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 joyes in Love.*

- George Herbert, from *The Temple*

## THE GOSPEL LESSON

John 10:1-16

"Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away - and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

One This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

## THE SERMON

Rev. John VanderZee

"The Crucified Shepherd"

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### A TIME OF INTENTIONAL SILENCE

**\*THE HYMN . . . no. 802**

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

*St. Columba; Irish Melody*  
para. Henry Williams Baker

The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow my ransomed soul he leadeth,  
and where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me,  
and on his shoulder gently laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death’s dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
thy rod and staff my comfort still, thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread’st a table in my sight; thy unction grace bestoweth;  
and O what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days thy goodness faileth never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

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

In life and in death, we belong to God.  
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit,  
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,  
whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.  
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:  
preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,  
teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,  
healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,  
eating with outcasts,  
forgiving sinners,  
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,  
Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain  
and giving his life for the sins of the world.

God raised Jesus from the dead,  
vindicating his sinless life,  
breaking the power of sin and evil,  
delivering us from death to life eternal.

With believers in every time and place,  
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death  
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- from *A Brief Statement of Faith* 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://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 Living God,  
All Hear our prayer.

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. 826

*Crucifer*; Sydney Hugo Nicholson  
George William Kitchin

"Lift High the Cross"

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 RESPONSE

"Amen"

Joey Hubbard

THE POSTLUDE

"Arrival of the Queen of Sheba" from *Solomon* (HWV 67)

George Frederick Handel

## Leading worship this morning:

Bridge Co-Pastors John and Wendy VanderZee  
Liturgist Gary Morris  
Director of Music Robert Nicholls  
The Choir of First Presbyterian Church  
The Flute Choir of First Presbyterian Church, Dick Bernhardt, director

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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.

Thank you for bringing your donations of new **diapers** or toddler and children's underwear with you to church as part of our Mothering Sunday observations. If you didn't have a chance to shop, monetary donations are also welcome - make your check payable to **Little Lambs** and send it to the church office, or give on the Little Lambs [website](#).

The annual Congregations Acting for Justice and Empowerment's **Nehemiah Action** gathering is **tomorrow evening, May 9** (doors open at 6:00 p.m.) at the Old National Events Plaza. As a CAJE member, First Pres' goal is to have **75 people** in attendance when this year's agenda items are presented to the public. You don't have to be an active member of CAJE to attend, but you do need a ticket so attendance can be counted. See First Pres' CAJE coordinators, Gina Robinson Ungar and Tracy Shaw (Tracy: 615-497-3695; [tracy.shaw@experian.com](mailto:tracy.shaw@experian.com) or Gina: 812-204-4291; [gina.robinson.ungar@gmail.com](mailto:gina.robinson.ungar@gmail.com)) for more information and to get your tickets today!

Are you curious about First Pres? Have you been attending and are interested in knowing more or becoming a member? Join Jerusha Van Camp and leaders of the church for a time of **coffee and conversation on Sunday, May 15 at 9:30 a.m.** in Kerr Chapel. This is a great time to ask questions about First Pres and /or the Presbyterian church in general. Drop-ins are welcome, but you can also let us know you're coming (so we have enough coffee!!) by filling out this [form](#) on First Web.

As overall pandemic conditions have improved, Session invites you to enjoy a brief **time of fellowship after each Sunday worship service**, starting today. Beverages and conversation are welcome as we remember to practice social distancing while wearing masks. If you are interested in joining the fellowship team responsible for providing, preparing, and cleaning up this offering, please contact the [church office](#).

## Weekly Calendar

*Elder of the Week: Bonnie Rinks*

### **Sunday, May 8**

*Daily Reading: Psalm 117*

- 7:30 a.m. Band Rehearsal
- 8:30 a.m. Wide Awake Worship
- 9:15 a.m. Fellowship Time
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
- 11:15 a.m. Fellowship Time
- 1:30 p.m. Bible Bunch (online)
- 6:30 p.m. First Light

### **Monday, May 9**

*Daily Reading: Luke 6:1-11*

- 6:00 p.m. CAJE Nehemiah Action  
(at ONB Events Plaza)

### **Tuesday, May 10**

*Daily Reading: Luke 6:12-26*

- 3:45 p.m. Choir Teens
- 4:45 p.m. Handbells and Handchimes

- 5:45 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal

### **Wednesday, May 11**

*Daily Reading: Luke 6:27-38*

- 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting

### **Thursday, May 12**

*Daily Reading: Luke 6:39-49*

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

### **Friday, May 13**

*Daily Reading: Luke 7:1-17*

### **Saturday, May 14**

*Daily Reading: Luke 7:18-35*