June 19, 2022 10:30 a.m.
The Second Sunday after Pentecost

# 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: <u>www.firstpresevansville.com</u> 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 <u>YouTube</u> 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

"My Lord, What A Mornin"

trad. Spiritual, arr. Ricky Lombardo

#### \*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

One Let us worship the eternal God,

the source of love and life, who creates us.

All Let us worship Jesus Christ,

the risen one, who lives among us.

One Let us worship the Spirit,

the holy fire, who renews us.

All To the one true God be praise,

in all times and places, Christ.

#### \*THE OPENING HYMN ... no. 410

"God Is Calling through the Whisper"

W Żłobie Leży; Polish Carol Mary Louise Bringle

God is calling through the whisper of the Spirit's deepest sighs, Through the thrill of sudden beauties that can catch us by surprise. Flash of lightening, crash of thunder; hush of stillness, rush of wonder: God is calling - can you hear? God is calling - can you hear?

God is calling through the voices of our neighbors' urgent prayers, Through their longing for redemption and for rescue from despair. Place of hurt or face of needing; strident cry or silent pleading: God is calling - can you hear? God is calling - can you hear? God is calling through the music of sublime and human arts, Through the hymns of hearth and angels, and the carols of our hearts. Lift of joy and gift of singing; days and nights our praises bringing: God is calling - can you hear? God is calling - can you hear?

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#### \*THE CALL TO CONFESSION

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

Merciful God, you made us in your image,
with a mind to know you,
a heart to love you,
and a will to serve you.
But our knowledge is imperfect,
our love inconsistent,
our obedience incomplete.
Day by day, we fail to grow into your likeness.
In your tender love, forgive us, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

#### \*THE SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

#### \*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One To all who turn from sin in sorrow, to all who turn to God in hope,

this is God's Word of grace:

We are accepted, we are forgiven, we are loved.

This gift we have from God.

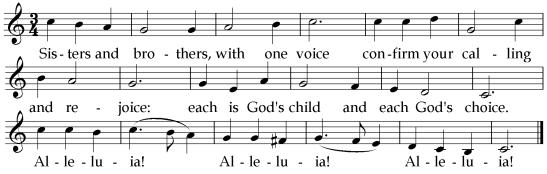
"Sisters and Brothers, with One Voice"

All Thanks be to God.

#### \*THE RESPONSE

Vulpius

arr. John Bell and Graham Maule



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### 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

Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow." Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there.

But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors." Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. The angel of the Lord came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you." He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God. At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He answered, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He answered, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." Then the Lord said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram.

One The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

#### THE SPECIAL MUSIC

"Days of Elijah" Robin Mark

These are the days of Elijah, declaring the Word of the Lord; and these are the days of Your servant, Moses, righteousness being restored; and though these are days of great trials, of famine and darkness and sword; Still we are the voice in the desert crying: "Prepare ye the way of the Lord."

Behold, He comes, riding on the clouds, shining like the sun at the trumpet call; Lift your voice, it's the year of Jubilee and out of Zion's hill salvation comes.

And these are the days of Ezekiel, the dry bones becoming as flesh; And these are the days of Your servant, David, rebuilding a temple of praise; And these are the days of the harvest, the fields are as white in the world; And we are the laborers in Your vineyard, declaring the Word of the Lord.

There is no god like Jehovah.

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THE GOSPEL LESSON Luke 8:26-39

Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me" - for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he

was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

One The Gospel of the Lord. All Thanks be to God.

THE SERMON Sandra Herron

"What Are You Doing Here?"

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

#### A TIME OF INTENTIONAL SILENCE

\*THE HYMN . . . no. 697 "Take My Life"

> Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee; Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise; Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love; Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee, Swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King; Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee, Filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold; Take my intellect and use every power as thou shalt choose, Every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine. Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne, It shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store; Take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee, Ever, only, all for thee.

Hendon; H.A. César Malan Frances Ridley Havergal

#### \*THE PROFESSION OF OUR CHURCH'S FAITH

One What is your only comfort in life and death?

All My only comfort in life and in death

is that I am not my own, but belong

- body and soul, in life and in death -

to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ.

He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.

He also watches over me in such a way

that not a hair can fall from my head

without the will of my Father in heaven:

in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit,

assures me of eternal life

and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on

to live for him.

- from Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 1

#### THE MORNING OFFERING

The Invitation to the Offering

The Offertory

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

\*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

One All these we lift to the Lord;

All Lord, hear our prayer.

The Spoken Prayers

One God, in your mercy,

All hear our 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 SERVE GOD AND NEIGHBOR

#### \*THE CLOSING HYMN ... no. 343

"Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life"

Germany; Gardiner's Sacred Melodies Frank Mason North

Where cross the crowded ways of life, where sound the cries of race and clan, above the noise of selfish strife, we hear your voice, O Son of Man.

In haunts of wretchedness and need, on shadowed thresholds fraught with fears, from paths where hide the lures of greed, we catch the vision of your tears.

From tender childhood's helplessness, from human grief and burdened toil, from famished souls, from sorrow's stress, your heart has never known recoil.

The cup of water given for you still holds the freshness of your grace; yet long these multitudes to view the sweet compassion of your face.

O Master, from the mountainside, make haste to heal these hearts of pain; among these restless throngs abide; O tread the city's streets again;

Till all the world shall learn your love, and follow where your feet have trod; till glorious from your heaven above shall come the city of our God.

#### \*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

#### THE POSTLUDE

"The Lord Bless You and Keep You"

Peter C. Lutkin, arr. Martin Melicharek, III

## Leading worship this morning:

Guest Preacher Sandra Herron

Bridge Co-Pastors John and Wendy VanderZee

Liturgist Michael Thissen
Director of Music Robert Nicholls
Soloist Carrie Aiken

The Flute Choir of First Presbyterian Church, Dick Bernhardt, director

The flowers today are given by Barbara Witte to the glory of God an in honor of her cousins, Elizabeth Stein Wade and Emily Stein Parsons, birthdays.

We welcome and thank our guest preacher, Sandra Herron for joining us today. Sandra founded her management consultancy, MiddlEdge Inc., in 2002 to help congregations and other organizations elevate their mission impact. Sandra has served as a resource since September for the First Pres Strategic Planning Steering Committee and administered our congregational survey this past November. She earned a B.S. in Business from Indiana University and an M.A. in Theology from Fuller Theological Seminary. While at Fuller, Sandra played an early leadership role in the "faith and work" movement. She lives in Indianapolis and spends her free time cooking for friends, hunting for travel bargains, reading mysteries, and taming her unruly but lovable mutts, Fiona and Fergie.

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## **Happening at First Presbyterian Church**

The First Pres Session continues to monitor local pandemic conditions and modify our **COVID safety protocols** as conditions warrant. In our building, mask wearing is strongly recommended, and we encourage the use of sanitizer and social distancing as we practice good public health.

Last week, the Session formed a **Temporary Pastor Search Committee**. This group of Elders will be trained for their task by the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry this month and soon begin the search for an Interim Minister. Please keep Elders Sue Hartig, Gary Morris, Gerald Summers, Michael Thissen, and the entire Session in your prayers as together we move forward with trust in the Holy Spirit's guidance and timing.

For the first time in four years, the **General Assembly** commissioners will gather in person for the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s first hybrid assembly, built around the theme *From Lament to Hope*. The assembly is meeting June 18 to July 9, at the national offices in Louisville. First Pres' own Jerusha Van Camp is serving as an intern for the first two weeks of meetings. You can find out more about what's happening at the 225th General Assembly on the <u>PCUSA</u> website.

## Weekly Calendar

Elders of the Week: Sue Hartig and Gerald Summers

### Sunday, June 19

Daily Reading: Psalm 113

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

10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship

11:15 a.m. Fellowship Time

1:30 p.m. Bible Bunch (online)

#### Monday, June 20

Daily Reading: Luke 21:29-36

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

### Tuesday, June 21

Daily Reading: Luke 21:37-22:13

#### Wednesday, June 22

Daily Reading: Luke 22:14-23 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting

#### Thursday, June 23

Daily Reading: Luke 22:24-30

#### Friday, June 24

Daily Reading: Luke 22:31-38

#### Saturday, June 25

Daily Reading: Luke 22:39-51

9:30 a.m. Diane Igleheart Visitation

10:30 a.m. Diane Igleheart Memorial Service