



July 24, 2022

The Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

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

"Vater unser im Himmelreich - Chorale and First Variation"
(Our Father who art in Heaven) from *Organ Sonata VI*

Felix Mendelssohn

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

One Great and marvelous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty.

All **Just and true are your ways, King of our hearts.**

One Who will not honor you, Lord, and bring glory to your name?

All **For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship before you.**

*THE OPENING HYMN . . . no. 39

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Faithfulness; William Marion Runyan
Thomas O. Chisholm

**Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not. As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning, new mercies I see. All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!**

**Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning, new mercies I see. All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!**

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow: blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! Great
is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning, new mercies I see. All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

***THE CALL TO CONFESSION**

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

Forgive our sins, O God. Forgive us the sins of our youth and the sins of our age, the sins of our soul
and the sins of our body, our secret and our whispering sins, our presumptuous and careless sins, the
sins we have done to please ourselves, and the sins we have done to please others. Forgive us the sins
that we know and the sins we know not. Forgive them all, O God, forgive them all because of your
great goodness. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

***THE SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

***THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One You spoke through the prophet Isaiah saying:
Come now, let us argue it out, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be like
snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall become like wool.
All In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

***THE RESPONSE . . . no. 652, verse 3**

"A Grateful Heart"

Rockingham
David Gambrell

With saving love you set us free,
and still you dwell in mystery with wisdom none can comprehend.
Your praise, O God, will never end.

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 PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 85

One Lord, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
All You forgave the iniquity of your people; you pardoned all their sin.
One You withdrew all your wrath; you turned from your hot anger.
All Restore us again, O God of our salvation,
and put away your indignation toward us.
One Will you be angry with us forever?
Will you prolong your anger to all generations?
All Will you not revive us again, so that your people may rejoice in you?
One Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.
All Let me hear what God the Lord will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful,
to those who turn to him in their hearts.
One Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.

**All Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.**
One Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,
and righteousness will look down from the sky.
**All The Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.
Righteousness will go before him, and will make a path for his steps.**

THE LESSON FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Genesis 18:20-32

Then the Lord said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know." So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord.

Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" And the Lord said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

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

THE SPECIAL MUSIC

"Fugue" from *Organ Sonata VI*

Felix Mendelssohn

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 11:1-10

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial." And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened."

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

THE SERMON

"The Demands of Mercy"

Rev. Wendy VanderZee

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

A TIME OF INTENTIONAL SILENCE

*THE HYMN . . . no. 465

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

Converse; Charles C. Converse
Joseph Scriven

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit; O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer!

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a solace there.

*THE PROFESSION OF OUR CHURCH'S 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.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

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 PC(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/>

"Andante" from *Organ Sonata VI*

Felix Mendelssohn

*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

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. 548

"May God Support You All Your Days"

*Dickinson College; Lee Hastings Bristol, Jr.
David Gambrell*

May God support you all your days, in times of gladness and in need.
May God remember you with grace and bless your every word and deed.

May God confirm your heart's desire and bring to fullness all your plans.
May God's sustaining love inspire your shouts of praise the joyful dance.

May God be near you when you pray, to help you with a gentle hand.
May God forever guide your way and lead you to the promised land.

Our hope is in the Holy One. The swift and strong will surely fall,
But you will stand with God alone, who hears and answers when you call.

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*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

"Vater Unser in Himmelreich - Allegro Molto"
(*Our Father who art in Heaven*) from *Organ Sonata VI*

Felix Mendelssohn

Leading worship this morning:

Bridge Co-Pastors Wendy and John VanderZee
Liturgist Kate McKinney
Guest Organist Neal Biggers

The flowers today are given by Dan and Sue Korb to the glory of God and in celebration of Douglass Korb's birthday.

We welcome and thank Neal Biggers for leading our music today. Director of Music Robert Nicholls is on vacation.

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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. When the CDC COVID-19 Community Level is Red/High, masking is required and eating in groups is discontinued in our building; when the Level is Yellow/Medium or Green/Low, masking is recommended and eating in groups can resume. **The current CDC Level is Red/High**, so please wear a mask in the building and help us practice good public health.

August will soon be here, and that means book bags and backpacks are being pulled out of closets and readied for the new school year. **On Sunday, August 7**, we invite educators and students to bring their **backpacks and book bags to church for a special blessing** at the start of a new year.

Gathering Choir is your opportunity to experience 10:30 worship from the balcony! **On Sunday, August 7**, join Robert Nicholls in the balcony at 9:30 a.m. to rehearse a simple anthem to be presented in worship that morning. There's no weekly commitment or prior experience necessary - just show up and join the choir for the morning. It's a great way to "try out" singing in the choir. See you in the balcony!

The **church office will be open Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. this week**. Thanks to Children and Youth Ministry Coordinator Jerusha Van Camp for taking care of things while Office Administrator Lora Blaylock is on vacation.

Weekly Calendar

Elder of the Week: Bonnie Rinks

Sunday, July 24

Daily Reading: Psalm 67

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)

6:30 p.m. First Light

Monday, July 25

Daily Reading: Mark 6:14-29

Tuesday, July 26

Daily Reading: Mark 6:30-46

Wednesday, July 27

Daily Reading: Mark 6:47-56

11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

Thursday, July 28

Daily Reading: Mark 7:1-23

Friday, July 29

Daily Reading: Mark 7:24-37

Saturday, July 30

Daily Reading: Mark 8:1-10



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

