



July 31, 2022

The Eighth 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

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

One We are children of God, learning to walk.
All **Day by day, we are learning to be the church.**
One God is a loving parent, teaching us to walk.
All **God loves us, leads us, and feeds us.**

*THE OPENING HYMN . . . no. 14

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

*Dix; Conrad Kocher
Folliott Sandford Pierpoint*

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely given;
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

***THE CALL TO CONFESSION**

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

Nurturing God, you continue to lead us in upright ways
on account of your love for us.
Yet we do not always follow your call;
we turn away from you and go our own way.
Forgive us, and return us to our rightful home in you,
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

***THE SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

***THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***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 107:1-9, 43

One Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good,
for God's mercy endures forever.
All **Let the redeemed of the Lord proclaim**
that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,
One gathering them in from the lands;
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.
All **Some wandered in desert wastes;**
they found no path to a city where they might dwell.
One They were hungry and thirsty;
their spirits languished within them.
All **Then in their trouble they cried to the Lord,**
and you delivered them from their distress.
One You led them on a straight path
to go to a city where they might dwell.
All **Let them give thanks to you, Lord, for your steadfast love**
and your wonderful works for all people.
One For you satisfy the thirsty soul
and fill the hungry with good things.
All **Whoever is wise will ponder these things,**
and consider well the Lord's steadfast love.

THE LESSON FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Hosea 11:1-11

When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son. The more I called them, the more they went from me; they kept sacrificing to the Baals and offering incense to idols. Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk, I took them up in my arms; but they did not know that I healed them. I led them with cords of human kindness, with hands of love. I was to them like those who lift infants to their cheeks, I bent down to them and fed them. They shall return to the land of Egypt, and Assyria shall be their king, because they have refused to return to me. The sword rages in their cities, it consumes their oracle priests, and devours because of their schemes. My people are bent on turning away from me. To the Most High they call, but he does not raise them up at all. How can I give you up, Ephraim? How can I hand you over, O Israel? How can I make you like Admah? How can I treat you like Zeboiim? My heart recoils within me; my compassion grows warm and tender. I will not execute my fierce anger; I will not again destroy Ephraim; for I am God and no mortal, the Holy One in your midst, and I will not come in wrath. They shall go after the Lord, who roars like a lion; when he roars, his children shall come trembling from the west. They shall come trembling like birds from Egypt, and like doves from the land of Assyria; and I will return them to their homes, says the Lord.

One The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

THE SPECIAL MUSIC

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Colossians 3:1-11

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory. Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. But now you must get rid of all such things - anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from our mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but in Christ is all and in all!

One The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

THE SERMON

Jerusha Van Camp

“New and Improved”

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

A TIME OF INTENTIONAL SILENCE

***THE HYMN . . . no. 847**
"Our Hope, Our Life"

O Waly Waly; English folk melody
Martin E. Leckebusch

**Our hope, our life are in the Lord, the God we honor and confess.
Why crave renown or opulence? They fade, those things we now possess.
Some flaunt their gold; some trust its power, but what they cherish will decay;
And still the ransom for a soul remains a price too great to pay.
Though wealth or learning may be ours, or fame that spreads throughout the land,
The shackles of mortality prevent so much that we have planned.
Beyond this age of shame and sham we glimpse a better destiny:
The Lord will lift us free from death to dwell in praise eternally.**

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

We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ; that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peace-maker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells; that God's life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world.

- Confession of Belhar, 10.5

THE MORNING OFFERING

The Invitation to the Offering
The Offertory

You may send a check to the church office, or give online at <http://firstpreseovansville.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

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. 550**

"Give Praise to the Lord"

*Laudate Dominum; C. Hubert H. Parry
Ps. 149; The New Metrical Version of the Psalms*

**Give praise to the Lord, and sing a new song; amid all the saints God's praises prolong;
a song to your Maker and Ruler now raise, all children of Zion: rejoice and give praise.**

**With timbrel and harp and joyful acclaim, with gladness, O God, we praise your great name;
for now in your people good pleasure you seek; with robes of salvation you cover the meek.**

**In glory exult, all saints of the Lord; with song in the night high praises accord;
go forth in God's service and strong in God's might to conquer all evil and stand for the right.**

**For this is God's word: the saints shall not fail, but over the earth their power shall prevail;
all kingdoms and nations shall yield to their sway. To God give the glory; sing praises for aye.**

***THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

THE POSTLUDE

Leading worship this morning:

Guest Preacher	Jerusha Van Camp
Bridge Co-Pastors	Wendy and John VanderZee
Liturgist	Scott Wylie
Guest Organist	Neal Biggers

We welcome and thank Neal Biggers for leading our music today. Director of Music Robert Nicholls is on vacation and will return to worship next Sunday.

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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 is upon us, and that means book bags and backpacks are being pulled out of closets and readied for the new school year. **Next 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! **Next 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!

We are still planning for the **Carry-In Breakfast on Sunday, August 14**, provided the CDC COVID-19 level reduces to Yellow or Green. The schedule for the morning will be: 8:30 a.m. Wide Awake Worship in the Sanctuary; 9:30 a.m. Carry-In Breakfast in Fellowship Hall; 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship. We'll provide the beverages and the tableware; you bring a dish to share and the fellowship. *Please note: if the CDC COVID-19 level remains Red, the breakfast will be cancelled.* Mark your calendars and join us!

Weekly Calendar

Elder of the Week: Michael Thissen

Sunday, July 31

Daily Reading: Psalm 66

- 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, August 1

Daily Reading Mark 8:11-21

Tuesday, August 2

Daily Reading: Mark 8:22-33

Wednesday, August 3

Daily Reading: Mark 8:34-9:1
11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

Thursday, August 4

Daily Reading: Mark 9:2-13

Friday, August 5

Daily Reading: Mark 9:14-29

Saturday, August 6

Daily Reading: Mark 9:30-41



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

