



August 28, 2022

The Twelfth 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

**You may rise in Body or Spirit.*

THE MUSIC FOR GATHERING

"Prelude in C Major"

Johann Ludwig Krebs

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

One God calls us to service,
All rather than honor.
One God calls us to love the unknown,
All rather than the familiar.
One We come to this time of worship,
All trusting in the grace of Jesus Christ,
One who is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

*THE OPENING HYMN . . . no. 463

"How Firm a Foundation"

*Foundation; American Folk Melody
"K" in John Rippons' A Selection of Hymns*

**How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?**

**"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed, for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.**

**When through the deep waters I call thee to go, the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless, and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.**

**When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie, my grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.**

**The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose, I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."**

***THE CALL TO CONFESSION**

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

Merciful God, forgive us for continually turning from you and your ways. We believe we are self-sufficient until we realize that we are not. Remind us once more of your faithful love for us. Awaken us to your priorities, that our lives may be a true reflection of your will. Open us to your spirit, that each day may hold time for prayer and a growing relationship with you. And hear our silent prayers:

***THE SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

One God rejoices when we repent and return, offering us finest wheat and honey from the rock to sustain us in new life. Rejoice! For you have been reconciled to God and to one another. With joy, seek the honor of God's service.

All Amen.

***THE RESPONSE . . . no. 67, verse 1**

"My Song Forever Shall Record"

Puer Nobis Nascitur; 15th C

Psalm 89; The New Metrical Version of the Psalms

**My song forever shall record the tender mercies of the Lord;
Your faithful love will I proclaim, and every age shall know your name.**

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 81:10-16

One I am the Lord your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.

All **Open your mouth wide and I will fill it.**

One "But my people did not listen to my voice; Israel would not submit to me.

All **So I gave them over to their stubborn hearts, to follow their own counsels.**

One O that my people would listen to me, that Israel would walk in my ways!

All **Then I would quickly subdue their enemies,
and turn my hand against their foes.**

One Those who hate the Lord would cringe before him,
and their doom would last forever.

All **I would feed you with the finest of the wheat,
and with honey from the rock I would satisfy you."**

THE LESSON FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Jeremiah 2:4-13

Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. Thus says the Lord: What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves? They did not say, "Where is the Lord who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?" I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things. But when you entered you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination. The priests did not say, "Where is the Lord?" Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal, and went after things that do not profit.

Therefore once more I accuse you, says the Lord, and I accuse your children's children. Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look, send to Kedar and examine with care; see if there has ever been such a thing. Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit. Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the Lord, for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water.

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

THE SPECIAL MUSIC
"Amazing Grace"

arr. Gary Lombardo

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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

THE SERMON

"Back to the Future"

Rev. Wendy VanderZee

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

A TIME OF INTENTIONAL SILENCE

***THE HYMN**

“Come and Find the Quiet Center”

Beach Spring; The Sacred Harp
Shirley Erena Murray

Come and find the qui - et cen - ter in the crowd - ed
 Si - lence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and
 In the Spir - it let us trav - el, o - pen to each
 life we lead, find the room for hope to en - ter, find the
 slows the pace, God it is who speaks and names us, knows our
 oth - er's pain, let our loves and fears un - rav - el, cel - e -
 frame where we are freed: Clear the cha - os and the
 be - ing, touch - es base, mak - ing space with - in our
 brate the space we gain: There's a place for deep - est
 clut - ter, clear our eyes that we can see all the
 think - ing, lift - ing shades to show the sun, rais - ing
 dream - ing, there's a time for heart to care, in the
 things that real - ly mat - ter, be at peace, and sim - ply be.
 cour - age when we're shrink - ing, find - ing scope for faith be - gun.
 Spir - it's live - ly schem - ing there is al - ways room to spare.

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***THE PROFESSION OF OUR CHURCH'S FAITH** *(in unison)*

In everlasting love,
 the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people
 to bless all families of the earth.
 Hearing their cry,
 God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage.
 Loving us still,
 God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
 Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
 Like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
 God is faithful still.

- from A Brief Statement of Faith, PCUSA

THE MORNING OFFERING

The Invitation to the Offering
The Offertory

*You may send a check to the church office, or give online at <http://firstpresevanville.com/giving/>
"1st Movement from Pièce d'Orgue"*

Johann Sebastian Bach
Old Hundredth
Thomas Ken

*The Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings . . . no. 606
"Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"

**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. 722

"Lord, Speak to Me that I May Speak"

Canonbury; Robert Schumann
Frances Riley Havergal

Lord, speak to me that I may speak in living echoes of your tone.
As you have sought, so let me seek your erring children, lost and lone.
O lead me, Lord, that I may lead the wandering and the wavering feet.
O feed me, Lord, that I may feed your hungering ones with manna sweet.
O teach me, Lord, that I may teach the precious truths which you impart.
And wing my words that they may reach the hidden depths of many a heart.
O fill me with your fullness, Lord, until my very heart o'erflow
in kindling thought and glowing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.
O use me, Lord, use even me, just as you will, and when, and where
until your blessed face I see, your rest, your joy, your glory share.

*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

"Final Movement from *Pièce d'Orgue*"

Johann Sebastian Bach

Leading worship this morning:

Bridge Co-Pastors Wendy and John VanderZee
Liturgist Gary Morris
Guest Organist Neal Biggers
The Flute Choir of First Presbyterian Church, Dick Berhnardt, Director

The flowers today are given by Emma and Robert Nicholls to the glory of God and in celebration of their 20th wedding anniversary.

We welcome and thank Neal Biggers for joining us on the organ bench this Sunday. Director of Music Robert Nicholls will return to the office this week.

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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.

The Mission Committee coordinates a **monthly meal** to be served to the clients of **United Caring Services**. Our September cooking team is looking for **donations of desserts** - like pies or cobblers serving about 10 each. If you can share a sweet finish for the meal on September 9, please contact Debbie Meyer (doors2@twc.com; 812-568-6102).

As the new school year settles in, our church musicians are returning to their weekly rehearsals and offerings in worship. **Now is a perfect time to join** - adults and children - **First Pres' music ensembles**. If you're interested in joining a musical group, contact Director of Music Robert Nicholls in the church office.

On **September 11, Sunday School for Children returns** at a new time! Sunday School will be offered for all children ages PreK-5th grades **during 10:30 a.m. worship**. The children will be invited to come forward during worship for the Children's Moment, and will be dismissed to go to their class afterwards. The children will return to worship during the closing hymn. If you are interested in volunteering to assist or teach a Sunday school class, please contact the church office. A volunteer training class will be offered before Sunday School commences.

Weekly Calendar

Elder of the Week: Jill Griffin

Sunday, August 28

Daily Reading: Psalm 108

7:30 a.m. Band Rehearsal

8:30 a.m. Wide Awake Worship

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship

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

6:30 p.m. First Light at the Forester-Daniels'

Wednesday, August 31

Daily Reading: Mark 15:1-11

11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

Thursday, September 1

Daily Reading: Mark 15:12-21

4:45 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal

6:00 p.m. Full Choir Rehearsal

Monday, August 29

Daily Reading Mark 14:53-65

Friday, September 2

Daily Reading: Mark 15:22-32

Tuesday, August 30

Daily Reading: Mark 14:66-72

Saturday, September 3

Daily Reading: Mark 15:33-39



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

