



November 13, 2022

The Twenty-Third 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](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](https://www.facebook.com/FirstPresbyterianChurchEvansvilleIndiana). 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

"Pastorella" (BWV 590)

Johann Sebastian Bach

#### THE INTROIT

"Ghana Alleluia"

Ghana; arr. Kathy Armstrong

*Let us pray and sing in praise of God, our God in heaven, who gives us life, alleluia, yes!*

#### \*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

One Let us worship God, our light and our salvation.

All **The Lord is the stronghold of our lives.**

One We desire to live in God's house and to seek God in the holy temple.

All **We have come with shouts of joy, to sing and make music to the Lord.**

One Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

All **Teach us your ways and make straight our paths  
in this hour of worship and always.**

#### \*THE OPENING HYMN . . . no. 757

"Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples"

*Kingsfold; English County Songs*

H. Kenn Charmichael

**Today we all are called to be disciples of the Lord,  
To help to set the captive free, make plowshare out of sword,  
To feed the hungry, quench their thirst, make love and peace our fast,  
To serve the poor and homeless first, our ease and comfort last.**

God made the world and at its birth ordained our human race  
To live as stewards of the earth, responding to God's grace.  
But we are vain and sadly proud; we sow not peace but strife.  
Our discord spreads a deadly cloud that threatens all of life.

Pray justice may come rolling down as in a mighty stream,  
With righteousness in field and town to cleanse us and redeem.  
For God is longing to restore an earth where conflicts cease,  
A world that was created for a harmony of peace.

May we in service to our God act out the living word,  
And walk the road the saints have trod till all have seen and heard.  
As stewards of the earth may we give thanks in one accord  
To God who calls us all to be disciples of the Lord.

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**\*THE CALL TO CONFESSION**

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

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**\*THE SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

**\*THE DECLARATION OF PARDON**

One The Apostle Peter proclaims:  
*Jesus bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that free from sin,  
we might live for righteousness; by his wounds we are healed.*  
In Jesus Christ we are indeed forgiven.

All Thanks be to God!

**\*THE RESPONSE . . . no. 444, verse 1**

"Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive"

*Detroit; Supplement to Kentucky Harmony*

Rosamond E. Herklots

"Forgive our sins as we forgive," you taught us, Lord, to pray,  
But you alone can grant us grace to live the words we say.

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**THE WORDS OF WELCOME**

The Greetings Among the People of God  
The Announcements

**WE HEAR THE WORD OF LIFE**

**THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**THE PSALM OF THE DAY**

Psalm 91:1-2, 14-16

One It is good to give thanks to the Lord,  
to sing praises to your name, O Most High,  
All to declare your steadfast love in the morning  
and your faithfulness by night,  
One In old age they still produce fruit;  
they are always green and full of sap,  
All showing that the Lord is upright;  
God is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness therein.

## THE LESSON FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Jeremiah 31:7-9

For thus says the Lord:  
Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,  
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;  
proclaim, give praise, and say,  
“Save, O Lord, your people,  
the remnant of Israel.”  
See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north  
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,  
among them the blind and the lame,  
those with child and those in labor together;  
a great company, they shall return here.  
With weeping they shall come,  
and with consolations I will lead them back;  
I will let them walk by brooks of water,  
in a straight path where they shall not stumble,  
for I have become a father to Israel,  
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

One The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

## THE ANTHEM

“Look at the World”

John Rutter

*Look at the world, everything all around us; Look at the world and marvel every day.  
Look at the world, so many joys and wonders, so many miracles along our way.  
Praise to thee, O Lord, for all creation; give us thankful hearts that we may see  
all the gifts we share and every blessing: all things come of thee.  
Look at the earth, bringing forth fruit and flowers; Look at the sky, the sunshine and the rain.  
Look at the hills, look at the trees and mountains, valley and flowing river, field and plain.  
Think of the spring, think of the warmth of summer, bringing the harvest before the winter's cold.  
Everything grows, everything has a season, till it is gathered to the fathers' fold.  
Every good gift, all that we need and cherish, comes from the Lord in token of his love.  
We are his hands, stewards of all his bounty, his is the earth and his the heavens above.  
Praise to thee, O Lord, for all creation; give us thankful hearts that we may see  
all the gifts we share and every blessing: all things come of thee.*

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## THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT

*Following the Children's Moment, those in PreK through 5<sup>th</sup> grades may go to Sunday School. Parents may pick up their children after worship from Room 104 in the education wing.*

## THE GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 18:35-43

As he approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. When he heard a crowd going by, he asked what was happening. They told him, “Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.” Then he shouted, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” Those who were in front sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he shouted even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” Jesus stood still and ordered the man to be brought to him, and when he came near, he asked him, “What do you want me to do for you?” He said, “Lord, let me see again.” Jesus said to him, “Receive your sight; your faith has saved you.” Immediately he regained his sight and followed him, glorifying God, and all the people, when they saw it, praised God.

One The Gospel of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

## THE SERMON

Rev. John VanderZee

“The Question”

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### A TIME OF INTENTIONAL SILENCE

#### \*THE HYMN . . . no. 708

"We Give Thee but Thine Own"

*Schumann; Mason and Webb's Cantica Laudis*  
William Walsham How

**We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;  
all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.**

**May we thy bounties thus as stewards true receive,  
and gladly, as thou blessest us, to thee our firstfruits give.**

**The captive to release, to God the lost to bring,  
to teach the way of life and peace: it is a Christ-like thing.**

**And we believe thy word, though dim our faith may be;  
whate'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it unto thee.**

### THE RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

#### \*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.**

**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.**

- 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://firstpreveansville.com/giving/>*

"Simple Gifts"

arr. Phyllis Avidan Louke

#### \*The Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings . . . no. 607

"Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"

*Old Hundredth*

Neil Weatherhogg

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. 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. 374**

*Morning Song; Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music*

"O Holy City, Seen of John"

Walter Russell Bowie

O holy city, seen of John, where Christ, the Lamb, does reign,  
within whose four-square walls shall come no night, nor need, nor pain,  
and where the tears are wiped from eyes that shall not weep again!

O shame to us who rest content while lust and greed for gain  
in street and shop and tenement wring gold from human pain,  
and bitter lips in deep despair cry, "Christ has died in vain!"

Give us, O God, the strength to build the city that has stood  
too long a dream; whose laws are love, whose ways are servant-hood,  
and where the sun that shines becomes your grace for human good.

Already in the mind of God that city rises fair.  
Lo, how its splendor challenges the souls that greatly dare,  
and bids us seize the whole of life and build its glory there.

**\*THE SENDING AND BENEDICTION**

**THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

"The Lord Bless You and Keep You"

John Rutter

*The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you and give you peace, Amen.*

**THE POSTLUDE**

**Leading worship this morning:**

Bridge Co-Pastors John and Wendy VanderZee  
Liturgist Kate McKinney  
Director of Music Robert Nicholls  
The Choir of First Presbyterian Church  
The Flute Choir of First Presbyterian Church

The flowers today are given by Barb Witte to the glory of God and in honor of her granddaughter, Chayne Tidd.

Today, we welcome into membership Steven and Julie Wu.

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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. **The current CDC Level is Green/Low**; thank you for practicing good public health.

Our *One God, One Community* partners invite all to come together this **Wednesday, November 16 at 7:00 p.m. in the First Pres Sanctuary for the annual Thanksgiving service**. This is a wonderful opportunity for the people of the Abrahamic faiths to give thanks and praise to the God who lavishes all good gifts upon God's people. Mark your calendars and invite your friends, family, and co-workers to join this festive and meaningful evening.

First Pres is participating in the Evansville Rescue Mission's annual Gobbler Gathering by donating at least **500 boxes of Jiffy Cornbread Mix**. If you didn't get a chance to pick up a case or two before today's deadline, monetary donations are still most welcome: consider how much you would have spent to buy Jiffy mix and mark your donation "*For Jiffy Mix.*" We'll combine all the contributions and write one check to ERM.

Our Security and Safety Committee wants to teach you what to do in an emergency situation here at First Pres. If you haven't already, attend today's final training session in **Fellowship Hall at 9:30 a.m.** Thank you for making time to help First Pres be a safe place to gather!

The choir's annual **bake sale** (and soup and other yummys) has been so successful, the Music Support Committee has decided to hold it twice this year! So, mark your calendars and bring your appetites and shopping bags to church **next Sunday, November 20**. Soups, baked goods, and more will be available for you to purchase for your Thanksgiving celebrations, gift-giving needs, and hunger satiation! Remember, all proceeds help send First Pres musicians to summer camp experiences, so thank you for buying early and buying often!

Since 1888, Presbyterian women have shown deep gratitude for God's blessings by giving to ministries and programs that lift up people and communities. **Next Sunday**, as part of our morning offering, we will receive the **Thank Offering**. This offering provides meaningful support to programs that provide housing, health and nutrition education, life skills and job training, and so much more.

Our Education Committee has received a number of requests for **nursery care** during worship services. With the holidays approaching, that need is expected to increase as more visitors join us. The Committee is urgently creating a team of volunteers to 'staff' the nursery. If you are interested in **taking a turn caring for our littlest worshipers**, contact Michelle Haywood ([mloglhay@gmail.com](mailto:mloglhay@gmail.com)) or make a note on your yellow worship slip. Thank you for making First Pres a place of hospitality for all.

## Weekly Calendar

*Elder of the Week: Jill Griffin*

### **Sunday, November 13**

*Daily Reading: Psalm 46*

- 7:30 a.m. Band Rehearsal
- 8:30 a.m. Wide Awake Worship
- 9:15 a.m. Fellowship Time
- 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 9:30 a.m. Emergency Training
- 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
- 11:15 a.m. Fellowship Time
- 5:30 p.m. First Light

### **Monday, November 14**

*Daily Reading Matthew 17:1-13*

### **Tuesday, November 15**

*Daily Reading: Matthew 17:14-21*

- 3:45 p.m. Choir Teens
- 4:45 p.m. Handbells/Handchimes
- 5:45 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. CAJE Community Assembly  
at Old National Events Plaza

### **Wednesday, November 16**

*Daily Reading: Matthew 17:22-27*

- 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. One God, One Community  
Thanksgiving Service

### **Thursday, November 17**

*Daily Reading: Matthew 18:1-9*

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

### **Friday, November 18**

*Daily Reading: Matthew 18:10-20*  
Church Office Closed

### **Saturday, November 19**

*Daily Reading: Matthew 18:21-35*

#### **First Presbyterian Church Staff:**

Bridge Co-Pastors  
Director of Music  
Children and Youth Ministry Coordinator  
Parish Visitor  
Office Administrator  
Administrative Assistant

John and Wendy VanderZee  
Robert Nicholls  
Carrie Aiken  
Carolyn Stilwell  
Lora Blaylock  
Jerusha Van Camp



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First Presbyterian Church  
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