



February 26, 2023

The First Sunday in Lent

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](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](https://www.youtube.com/) channel.

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

**You may rise in Body or Spirit.*

THE PRELUDE

"Amazing Grace"

Iaian Farrington

THE INTROIT

"Create In Me a Clean Heart"

Healey Willan

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation, and uphold me with thy free Spirit.

-12

- Psalm 51:10

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

One People of God, on this wilderness journey, what will you eat?

All **The word of the Lord is our daily bread.**

One People of God, in this time of temptation, how will you live?

All **Our faith is in the faithfulness of God.**

One People of God, at this kingdom crossroad, whom will you serve?

All **We worship the Lord our God alone.**

*THE OPENING HYMN . . . no. 757

"Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples"

Kingsfold; English County Songs

H. Kenn Carmichael

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*)

Lord God, you know the ways of good and evil. You know the things that tempt us and the things that give us life. You know our nakedness, and you know our sin. We confess that we have disobeyed your word, denying your providence and care and relying on our own cleverness.

Have mercy on us, we pray: cover us with your grace, feed us with your bread of life, and re-create us in your image; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

***THE SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

***THE DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

***THE RESPONSE . . . no. 183, verse 1**

"Come to Me, O Weary Traveler"

Austin; William P. Rowan
Sylvia G. Dunstan

"Come to me, O weary traveler; come to me with your distress;
Come to me, you heavy burdened; come to me and find your rest."

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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 PSALTER LESSON

Psalm 32

One Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

All Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them
and in whose spirit is no deceit.

One When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

All For day and night your hand was heavy on me;
my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.

One Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity.

All I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord."
And you forgave the guilt of my sin.

One Therefore let all the faithful pray to you while you may be found;
surely the rising of the mighty waters will not reach them.

**All You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble
and surround me with songs of deliverance.**

One I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.

**All Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding
but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you.**

One Many are the woes of the wicked,
but the Lord's unfailing love surrounds the one who trusts in him.

**All Rejoice in the Lord and be glad, you righteous;
sing, all you who are upright in heart!**

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. And the Lord God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die."

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'"

"You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

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

THE ANTHEM

"We Shall Walk Through the Valley"

Spiritual; arr. Undine Smith Moore

Lord, we shall walk, shall walk in peace.

We shall walk through the valley in peace, if Jesus himself shall be our leader.

There will be no trials there, if Jesus himself shall be our leader.

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT

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

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Romans 5:12-19

Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned -

To be sure, sin was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not charged against anyone's account where there is no law. Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who is a pattern of the one to come.

But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. For if, by

the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!

Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

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

THE SERMON

Rev. Anna von Winckler

"Whom To Trust"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

A TIME OF INTENTIONAL SILENCE

*THE HYMN . . . no. 459

Munich; Neuvermehrtes Meningsches Gesangbuch
William Walsham How

"O Word of God Incarnate"

O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky:
we praise you for the radiance that from the hallowed page,
a lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.

The church from you, dear Savior, received this gift divine;
and still that light is lifted on all the earth to shine.
It is the chart and compass that, all life's voyage through,
amid the rocks and quicksands still guides, O Christ, to you.

O make your church, dear Savior, a lamp of purest gold
to bear before the nations your true light, as of old;
O teach your wandering pilgrims by this our path to trace,
till, clouds and storms thus ended, we see you face to face.

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*in unison*)

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba Father.
In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image,
male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.
But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.
Ignoring God's commandments,
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.
We deserve God's condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.
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, PC(USA)

THE MORNING OFFERING

The Invitation to the Offering

The Offertory

Envelopes are available in the pew rack, or you may give online at firstpresevoansville.com/giving

“Solemnity”

*The Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings . . . no. 606

“Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow”

Robert Nicholls

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

The Sharing of Joys and Concerns

The Prayers of the People

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.167

“Forty Days and Forty Nights”

Aus Der Tiefe Rufe Ich; att. Martin Herbst

George Hunt Smyttan

**Forty days and forty nights you were fasting in the wild;
forty days and forty nights tempted, and yet undefiled.**

**Shall not we your sorrow share and from worldly joys abstain,
fasting with unceasing prayer, strong with you to suffer pain?**

**Then if Satan on us press, flesh or spirit to assail,
victor in the wilderness, grant that we not faint nor fail!**

**So shall we have peace divine: holier gladness ours shall be;
round us, too, shall angels shine, such as served you faithfully.**

**Keep, O keep us, Savior dear, ever constant by your side,
that with you we may appear at the eternal Eastertide.**

*THE SENDING AND BENEDICTION

THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE

“Peace I Leave with You”

Amy Beach

*Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you. Not as the world giveth give I unto you.
Let not your heart be troubled.*

THE POSTLUDE

“Carillon in D”

Robert Nicholls

Leading worship this morning:

Pastor Anna von Winckler
Liturgist Jessica Montgomery
Director of Music Robert Nicholls
The Choir of First Presbyterian Church
The Handbell Choir of First Presbyterian Church

The flowers today are given by Martha Goldman to the glory of God and in memory of Jean and Don Korb.

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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 Yellow/Medium**; please continue to practice good public health.

The First Pres Music Department is pleased to announce a **Soup and Bread Sale today**. Soups include split pea, lentil, chili, taco soup, broccoli cheese, and many more for **only \$10/quart**. First-come, first-served sales will take place at 9:30 and 11:30 this morning. All proceeds help our musicians attend summer music camps.

The Shepard Brass, featuring members of the University of Evansville Conservatory of Music, will present a free **concert** for brass, percussion, and organ in the First Pres Sanctuary **today at 5:00 p.m.** Bring your family and friends downtown for a wonderful afternoon of music.

Weekly Calendar

Elder of the Week: Gary Morris

Sunday, February 26

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. Adult Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
11:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
5:30 p.m. First Light

Monday, February 27

Tuesday, February 28

11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
3:45 p.m. Choir Teens
4:45 p.m. Handbells/Handchimes
6:00 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal

Wednesday, March 1

Thursday, March 2

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

Friday, March 3

Church Office Closed

Saturday, March 4