



March 12, 2023

The Third 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.firstpresevensville.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 WORSHIP GOD

**You may rise in Body or Spirit.*

THE PRELUDE

"Kind Maker of the World"
"Lord, who Throughout these Forty Days"

A la venue de Noël; arr. Robert Nicholls
St. Flavian; arr. Robert Nicholls

THE INTROIT

"How Did My Heart Rejoice"

Robert Nicholls

*How did my heart rejoice to hear my friends devoutly say,
"In Zion let us all appear to keep the solemn day."*

I love her gates, I love the road; the church adorned with grace stands like a palace built for God, to show God's milder face.

*Peace be within this sacred place, and joy a constant guest;
with holy gifts and heavenly grace be all believers blest. Amen.*

- Isaac Watts

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

One O come, let us worship and bow down;
All **let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker.**
One The hour is coming and is now here.
All **In spirit and truth, let us worship God.**

*THE OPENING HYMN . . . no. 261

"Peoples, Clap Your Hands!"

Genevan 47; Genevan Psalter
Psalm 47; para. Joy F. Patterson

Peoples, clap your hands! Shout to God with joy!
King of all the earth is the Lord most high; All humanity stands in awe of God.
With a mighty hand God brings nations low, and beneath our feet casts down every foe;
Our inheritance comes from God the Lord.

God ascends the throne with a joyful cry,
And with trumpet sound has gone up on high; sing your praise to God, sing with joyful voice
Rules, peoples, now join to serve the Lord; for earth's mighty ones all belong to God,
Who exalted reigns: now with psalms rejoice!

***THE CALL TO CONFESSION**

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

Lord, you know who we are. You know everything we have done. We thirst for things that will never satisfy us. We commit ourselves to things that will never last. We worship things that will never bring salvation.

Still, you offer us the gift of living water. Still, you offer us the gift of eternal life. Forgive us, O Lord, and give us this living water, so that we may never thirst again. Amen.

***THE SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

***THE DELCARATION 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 95

One Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;

All let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

One Let us come before him with thanksgiving
and extol him with music and song.

All For the Lord is the great God, the great King above all gods.

One In his hand are the depths of the earth,
and the mountain peaks belong to him.

All The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

One Come, let us bow down in worship,
let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;

**All for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture,
the flock under his care.**

One Today, if only you would hear his voice,
"Do not harden your hearts as you did at Meribah,
as you did that day at Massah in the wilderness,

**All where your ancestors tested me;
they tried me, though they had seen what I did.**

One For forty years I was angry with that generation;
I said, 'They are a people whose hearts go astray,
and they have not known my ways.'

All So I declared on oath in my anger, "They shall never enter my rest."

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Exodus 17:1-7

The whole Israelite community set out from the Desert of Sin, traveling from place to place as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. So they quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink."

Moses replied, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you put the Lord to the test?"

But the people were thirsty for water there, and they grumbled against Moses. They said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to make us and our children and livestock die of thirst?"

Then Moses cried out to the Lord, "What am I to do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me."

The Lord answered Moses, "Go out in front of the people. Take with you some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink." So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel. And he called the place Massah and Meribah because the Israelites quarreled and because they tested the Lord saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

One The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

THE ANTHEM

"Pie Jesu" from *Requiem*

John Rutter

*Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem,
requiem æternam, dona eis Domine,
sempiternam requiem.*

Blessed Lord Jesus, grant them rest,
Rest eternal, grant them, Lord,
Everlasting rest.

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 GOSPEL LESSON

John 4:5-26, 39-42

So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon.

When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." "Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?" Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water."

He told her, "Go, call your husband and come back." "I have no husband," she replied. Jesus said to her, "You are right when you say you have no husband. The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true." "Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem." "Woman," Jesus replied, "believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth,

for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth." The woman said, "I know that Messiah" (called Christ) "is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us." Then Jesus declared, "I, the one speaking to you - I am he."

Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I ever did." So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. And because of his words many more became believers. They said to the woman, "We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world."

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

THE SERMON

Rev. Anna von Winckler

"Waters of Hope and Healing"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

A TIME OF INTENTIONAL SILENCE

*THE HYMN . . . no. 432

Repton; C. Hubert H. Parry
Fred Pratt Green

"How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord"

**How clear is our vocation, Lord, when once we heed your call to live according to your word
and daily learn, refreshed, restored, that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.**

**But if, forgetful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear; if worldly pressures fray the mind
and love itself cannot unwind its tangled skein of care: our inward life repair.**

**We marvel how your saints became in hindrances more sure: whose joyful virtues put to shame
the casual way we wear your name, and by our faults obscure your power to cleanse and cure.**

**In what you give us, Lord, to do, together or alone, in old routines or ventures new,
may we not cease to look to you: the cross you hung upon, all you endeavored, done.**

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*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

“Lord, how long wilt thou be angry?” (Z 25)

Henry Purcell

Lord, how long wilt thou be angry: shall thy jealousy burn like fire for ever?

O remember not our old sins, but have mercy upon us, and that soon: for we are come to great misery.

Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of thy name: O deliver us, and be merciful unto our sins for thy name's sake.

So we that are thy people, and the sheep of thy pasture, shall give thee thanks for ever:

and will always be shewing forth thy praise, from one generation to another.

- Psalm 75:5, 8-9, 14

***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

The Sharing of Joys and Concerns

The Prayers of the People

One . . .wellspring of mercy,

All hear our prayer.

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. 324**

“For All the Faithful Women”

Nyland; Finnish Folk Melody

Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr.

For all the faithful women who served in days of old,

to you shall thanks be given; to all, their story told.

They served with strength and gladness in tasks your wisdom gave.

To you their lives bore witness, proclaimed your power to save.

We praise your name for Miriam, who sang triumphantly

While Pharaoh's vaunted army lay drowned beneath the sea;

For Ruth, who left her homeland and ventured forth in faith,

Who pledged to serve and worship Naomi's God till death.

We sing of busy Martha, who toiled with pot and pan

While Mary sat in silence to hear the word again.

We praise the other Mary, who hastened to the tomb

And found her Lord arisen, dispelling doubt and gloom.

Lord, hear our praise of Dorcas, who served the sick and poor.

Her hands were cups of kindness, her heart and open door.

O God, for saints and servants, our fervent prayer we raise,

That, faithful in your service, our lives may sing your praise.

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***THE SENDING AND BENEDICTION**

THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE

"God Be In My Head"

Henry Walford Davies

*God be in my head and in my understanding; God be in mine eyes, and in my looking;
God be in my mouth and in my speaking; God be in my heart, and in my thinking;
God be at mine end, and at my departing.*

- *Sarum primer, 1558*

THE POSTLUDE

Leading worship this morning:

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

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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.

Join Pastor Anna for a **Lenten Bible study** on the Magrey deVega book, *Savior: What the Bible says about the Cross*. Two sessions are available: Tuesday nights at 7:00 p.m. via [Zoom](#) and Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the Bible Bunch room. The study will run through March 29. *Please note: This Thursday's class (3/8) will meet at 1:00 p.m.*

The **One God, One Community** Congregations are hosting a day of open houses today! Visit one or all of our partners in faith throughout the afternoon: from 2:00 to 3:15, tour Temple Adath B'Nai Israel and the Islamic Center; from 3:30 to 4:45, visit First Pres and Memorial Baptist, and from 4:00 to 5:00, drop by St. Ben's. Tours, historical tidbits, and of course, refreshments will be available at all 5 houses of worship.

Director of Music Robert Nicholls will present a **free concert** of keyboard music in the Sanctuary next Sunday, **March 19 at 4:00 p.m.** Invite your neighbors, co-workers, family, and friends to join you downtown for an afternoon of engaging music played on our many instruments. Composers represented include JS Bach, Cesar Franck, Mel Bonis, Jehan Alain, Herbert Howells, and David Briggs.

Work on this year's **Interfaith Habitat House** is nearing completion, and your next opportunity for hands-on work is **Sunday, March 26**. Check the evansvillehabitat.org website for specific details and to sign-up.

Weekly Calendar

Elder of the Week: Sue Schriber

Sunday, March 12

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
11:45 a.m. Music Support Committee
2:00 p.m. OGO Open Houses
First Light leaves from FPC

Monday, March 13

Tuesday, March 14

9:00 a.m. Lambs' Donor Breakfast
11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
3:45 p.m. Choir Teens
4:45 p.m. Handbells/Handchimes
6:00 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal
7:00 p.m. Lenten Bible Study (Zoom)

Wednesday, March 15

10:00 a.m. Lenten Bible Study

Thursday, March 16

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

Friday, March 17

Church Office Closed

Saturday, March 18



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

