



May 14, 2023

The Sixth Sunday of Easter/Mothering Sunday

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 WORSHIP GOD

**You may rise in Body or Spirit.*

THE PRELUDE

"Come Sing, O Church, In Joy"
"Holy, Holy, Holy"

*Darwall's 148th
Nicaea*

THE INTROIT

"Bonse Aba"

trad. Zambian; arr. Andrew Fischer

Bonse aba mu pokelela balipele maka akuba bana. Kuba bana bakwa lesa. Muya yaya bakwa lesa.
All that sing have the right to be called the children of God

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

One Bless the Lord, O people, sing!
All Let the sound of praise ring out.
One Come and hear what the Lord has done,
All the Lord who has made everything!

*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)*

Loving God, we do not always keep your commandments; we fail to love you; our conscience is not clear. Wash us in the water of life that we may live again through the grace and mercy of Jesus, our resurrected Savior. Amen.

***THE SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

***THE DELCARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

***THE RESPONSE . . . no. 29, verse 1**

"O God, You Search Me"

O God, You Search Me; Bernadette Farrell
Psalm 139

**O God, you search me and you know me. All my thoughts lie open to your gaze.
When I walk or lie down you are before me: ever the maker and keeper of my days.**

© 1992, Bernadette Farrell. Published by OCP Publications

THE WORDS OF WELCOME

The Greetings Among the People of God
The Minute for Mission
The Recognition of Musicians and Teachers

WE HEAR THE WORD OF LIFE

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE PSALTER LESSON

Psalm 66:8-20

One Praise our God, all peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard;
he has preserved our lives and kept our feet from slipping.
All For you, God, tested us; you refined us like silver.
One You brought us into prison and laid burdens on our backs.
**All You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,
but you brought us to a place of abundance.**
One I will come to your temple with burnt offerings and fulfill my vows to you -
All vows my lips promised and my mouth spoke when I was in trouble.
One I will sacrifice fat animals to you and an offering of rams; I will offer bulls and goats.
All Come and hear, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me.
One I cried out to him with my mouth; his praise was on my tongue.
All If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened;
One but God has surely listened and has heard my prayer.
All Praise be to God, who has not rejected my prayer or withheld his love from me!

Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened." But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. For it is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits - to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also - not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand - with angels, authorities, and powers in submission to him.

One The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

THE ANTHEM

"O Clap your Hands"

John Rutter

*O clap your hands together all ye people, O sing unto God with the voice of melody:
for the lord is high and to be feared; He is the great king upon all the earth.
He shall subdue the people under us and the nations under our feet.
He shall choose out an heritage for us - even the worship of Jacob, whom he loved.
God is gone up with a merry noise and the lord with the sound of the trump
Oh, sing praises unto our God, sing praises unto our King,
for God is the king upon all the earth; sing ye praises with understanding.*

- Psalm 47:1-7

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.

A LITANY FOR MOTHERING SUNDAY

One To those who gave birth this year to their first child - we celebrate with you.

All **To those who lost a child this year - we mourn with you.**

One To those who are in the trenches with little ones every day
and wear the badge of food stains - we appreciate you.

All **To those who experienced a loss this year through miscarriage,
failed adoptions, or running away - we mourn with you.**

One To those who walk the hard path of infertility, fraught with pokes, prods,
tears, and disappointment - we walk with you.

Forgive us when we say foolish things. We don't mean to make this harder than it is.

All **To those who are foster moms, mentor moms, and spiritual moms - we need you.**

One To those who have warm and close relationships with your children - we celebrate with you.

All **To those who have disappointment, heartache,
and distance with your children - we sit with you.**

One To those who lost their mothers this year - we grieve with you.

All **To those who experienced abuse at the hands of your own mother -
we acknowledge your experience.**

One To those who lived through driving tests, medical tests, and the overall testing of motherhood -
we are better for having you in our midst.

All **To those who will have emptier nests in the upcoming year - we grieve and rejoice with you.**

One And to those who are pregnant with new life, both expected and surprising -
we anticipate with you.

All **This Mother's Day, we walk with you.**

**Mothering is not for the faint of heart and we have real warriors in our midst.
We remember you.**

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Acts 17:22-31

Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: "People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: to an unknown god. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship - and this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

"The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. 'For in him we live and move and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.'

"Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone - an image made by human design and skill. In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead."

One The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

THE SERMON

Rev. Anna von Winckler

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

A TIME OF INTENTIONAL SILENCE

*THE 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 serve 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 tiled 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 herat 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 AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*in unison*)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

- *The Apostles' Creed*

THE MORNING OFFERING

The Invitation to the Offering

The Offertory

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

"Voluntary in A minor"

*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 Offertory Response

"We Give Thee But Thine Own"

Robert Nicholls

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

THE PRAYERS

The Sharing of Joys and Concerns

The Prayers of the People

One Lord, in your mercy,

All receive 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. 490

"Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters"

Beach Spring; The Sacred Harp

Ruth Duck

Wash, O God, your sons and daughters, newborn creatures of your womb.
Number them among your people, raised like Christ from death and tomb.
Weave them garments bright and sparkling; compass them with love and light.
Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit, holy dove and heart's delight.

Every day we need our nurture; by your milk may we be fed.
Let us join your feast, partaking cup of blessing, living bread.
God, renew us guide our footsteps, free from sin and all its snares,
One with Christ in living, dying, by your Spirit, children, heirs.

O how deep your holy wisdom! Unimagined, all your ways!
To your name be glory, honor! With our lives we worship, praise!
We your people stand before you, water-washed and Spirit-born.
By your grace, our lives we offer. Re-create us; God, transform!

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*THE SENDING AND BENEDICTION

THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE

"Fourfold Amen"

Caroline Saltzman

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 Handchime Choir of First Presbyterian Church, Abby Greenwell, director

The Litany for Mothering Sunday is based on *A Poem for Mother's Day...For All Women*, written by Amy Young.

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Happening at First Presbyterian Church

Thank you for supporting **Little Lambs by participating in today's diaper drive**. If you didn't have a chance to bring new diapers, wipes, and other baby necessities, your monetary donations (made to Little Lambs, please) are most welcome and will support Little Lambs' spring fundraiser: *Walking for Dreams*. Their goal is \$15,000, which will earn them an extra \$2,500 to help local families in need! Walking for Dreams is Sunday, May 21 on the Evansville Riverfront. For more information or to join the walk, see walkingfordreams.org and look for Little Lambs or contact Little Lambs (812-425-5262 or amysoellner.littlelambs@gmail.com).

We're looking for a few more folks to join the ranks of volunteers who prepare and clean up the **Sunday refreshments**. You don't need to be a master chef - just follow a few simple instructions to put the kettle on, and set out yummys. If you're interested in helping share hospitality with your First Pres friends, please make a note on your yellow worship slip or contact Sue Schriber (sschriber0826@gmail.com).

Weekly Calendar

Elder of the Week: Gary Morris

Sunday, May 14

7:30 a.m. Band Rehearsal
8:30 a.m. Wide Awake Worship
9:15 a.m. Fellowship Time
9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School
9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
10:00 a.m. Handbell Rehearsal
10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
11:30 a.m. Fellowship Time

Monday, May 15

10:00 a.m. Mission Committee

Tuesday, May 16

11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

Wednesday, May 17

5:30 p.m. Worship Committee

Thursday, May 18

6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Friday, May 19

Church Office Closed

Saturday, May 20

First Presbyterian Church Staff:

Pastor
Director of Music
Children and Youth Ministry Coordinator
Parish Visitor/Administrative Assistant
Office Administrator

Anna von Winckler
Robert Nicholls
Carrie Aiken
Jerusha Van Camp
Lora Blaylock



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First Presbyterian Church
is a partner congregation with
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