

June 18, 2023

The Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:30 a.m.



## First Presbyterian Church

609 South East Second Street

Evansville, Indiana 47713

(812)423-6297

[www.firstpresevansville.com](http://www.firstpresevansville.com)

# 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](#). 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

"Gott sei gelobet un gebenedeit" (*God be praised and blessed*) Heinrich Scheidemann

#### \*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

One Let all creation sing with gladness;  
**All Make a joyful noise to the Creator!**  
One Come and abide with the One who formed us;  
**All Make a joyful noise to the Creator!**  
One Give thanks, and praise, and bless God's name;  
**All Make a joyful noise to God!**

#### \*THE OPENING HYMN . . . no. 712

*Forest Green; English Folk melody*  
Frank von Christerson

"As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought"

**As those of old their firstfruits brought of vineyard, flock, and field  
to God, the giver of all good, the source of bounteous yield,  
so we today our firstfruits bring, the wealth of this good land:  
of farm and market, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.**

**A world in need now summons us to labor, love, and give,  
to make our life an offering that all may truly live.  
The church of Christ is calling us to make the dream come true:  
a world redeemed by Christ-like love, all life in Christ made new.**

**In gratitude and humble trust we bring our best today,  
to serve your cause and share your love with all along life's way.  
O God who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ your Son,  
help us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.**

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## **\*THE CALL TO CONFESSION**

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

**Almighty God, You have promised liberation for your people, and reconciliation for all of creation. We confess that we have grown weary of waiting. We have lowered our hopes, and scaled our expectations according to the world, rather than believing in your steadfast Word. We confess that we have grown comfortable in our waiting. We cry out for justice, if it doesn't cost us too much. We proclaim your liberation, as long as it doesn't impinge on the freedoms that we value most. We want to follow Jesus, healing the sick and doing good deeds, but we don't want to be mistreated or hated. We don't want to stir up the dust, much less shake it from our feet. Forgive us, we pray. Give us words to speak your liberating Word and endurance to persevere until your kingdom comes.**

## **\*THE SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

## **\*THE DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

### **\*THE RESPONSE . . . no. 378, verse 2**

**"We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom"**

*Merle's Tune*; Hal H. Hopson  
Kathleen R. Moore

**Where is the peaceful kingdom? When will this new day start?  
We long for peace and comfort to reign within each heart.  
Yet not in our lives only, nor simply in our home:  
we pray that all creation will one day find shalom.**

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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

Psalms 100

One Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

**All Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.**

One Know that the Lord is God.

**All It is he who made us, and we are his;  
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.**

One Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;  
give thanks to him and praise his name.

**All For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;  
his faithfulness continues through all generations.**

### THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Galatians 5:1, 3-14

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

Again I declare to every man who lets himself be circumcised that he is obligated to obey the whole law. You who are trying to be justified by the law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace. For through the Spirit we eagerly await by faith the righteousness for which we hope. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

You were running a good race. Who cut in on you to keep you from obeying the truth? That kind of persuasion does not come from the one who calls you. "A little yeast works through the whole batch of dough." I am confident in the Lord that you will take no other view. The one who is throwing you into confusion, whoever that may be, will have to pay the penalty. Brothers and sisters, if I am still preaching circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been abolished. As for those agitators, I wish they would go the whole way and emasculate themselves!

You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

One The Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

## THE SPECIAL MUSIC

“Vocalise”

Sergei Rachmaninoff

## THE CHILDREN’S MOMENT

*Following the Children’s Moment, children may return to their seats, as their Sunday School class is on summer break. Childcare (up to age 4) is available in room 109 in the education wing.*

## THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

2 Corinthians 3:4-6, 12-18

Such confidence we have through Christ before God. Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God. He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant - not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

Jesus called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out impure spirits and to heal every disease and sickness.

Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold. We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to prevent the Israelites from seeing the end of what was passing away. But their minds were made dull, for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. It has not been removed, because only in Christ is it taken away. Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

One The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

## THE SERMON

the Rev. Anna Von Winckler

“Freedom in the Spirit”

## WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

### A TIME OF INTENTIONAL SILENCE

#### \*THE HYMN . . . no. 343

*Germany; Gardiner’s Sacred Melodies*

“Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life”

Frank Mason North

**Where cross the crowded ways of life, where sound the cries of race and clan,  
above the noise of selfish strife, we hear your voice, O Son of Man.**

**In haunts of wretchedness and need, on shadowed thresholds fraught with fears,  
from paths where hide the lures of greed, we catch the vision of your tears.**

**From tender childhood's helplessness, from human grief and burdened toil,  
from famished souls, from sorrow's stress, your heart has never known recoil.**

**The cup of water given for you still holds the freshness of your grace;  
yet long these multitudes to view the sweet compassion of your face.**

**O Master, from the mountainside, make haste to heal these hearts of pain;  
among these restless throngs abide; O tread the city's streets again;**

**Till all the world shall learn your love, and follow where your feet have trod;  
till glorious from your heaven above shall come the city of our God.**

**\*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*in unison*)

**We worship God in the world by standing before the Lord in behalf of all  
people. Our cries for help and our songs for praise are never for ourselves alone.  
We serve humankind by discerning what God is doing in the world and joining  
in God's work. We find guidance in God's deeds in the past and promises for the  
future, as they are witnessed to in Scripture.**

**We affirm that the Lord is at work, especially in movements that free people by  
the gospel and advance justice, compassion, and peace. - from A Declaration of Faith**

**THE MORNING OFFERING**

The Invitation to the Offering

The Offertory

*You may give online at [firstpresevansville.com/giving](http://firstpresevansville.com/giving) or by sending a check to the church office.*

"Adoration"

Florence B. Price

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

*Old Hundredth*

"Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"

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 Incline your ear to us;

**All hear our prayers and supplications.**

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. 733**

*"We All Are One in Mission"*

*Es flog ein kleins Valdvögelein; 17<sup>th</sup> C*

Rusty Edwards

**We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,  
our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.  
A single, great commission compels us from above  
to plan and work together that all may know Christ's love.**

**We all are called for service to witness in God's name.  
Our ministries are different; our purpose is the same:  
to touch the lives of others by God's surprising grace,  
so every folk and nation may feel God's warm embrace.**

**Now let us be united and let our song be heard.  
Now let us be a vessel for God's redeeming word.  
We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,  
our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.**

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**\*THE SENDING AND BENEDICTION**

**THE POSTLUDE**

*"Romance" from Fantasies for Oboe (Op. 2)*

Carl Nielsen

## Leading worship this morning:

Pastor	Anna von Winckler
Liturgist	Gary Morris
Guest Organist	Neal Biggers
Oboe	Emily Boyle

We thank Neal Biggers and Emily Boyle for leading our music today; Director of Music Robert Nicholls is on vacation and will return to the office on Thursday.

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## Happening at First Presbyterian Church

**Gathering Choir** is your opportunity to experience 10:30 worship from the balcony! **On Sunday, July 2**, join Robert Nicholls in the balcony at 9:30 a.m. to rehearse a simple anthem to be presented in worship that morning. There's no weekly commitment or prior experience necessary - just show up and join the choir for the morning. It's a great way to "try out" singing in the choir. See you in the balcony!

*Did you know an anonymous benefactor from the congregation provides for professional routine care of the landscaping?*

## Weekly Calendar

*Elder of the Week: Mark Fox*

### **Sunday, June 18**

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  
10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship  
11:45 a.m. Fellowship Time

### **Monday, June 19**

10:00 a.m. Mission Committee

### **Tuesday, June 20**

11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

### **Wednesday, June 21**

5:30 p.m. Worship Committee

### **Thursday, June 22**

### **Friday, June 23**

Church Office Closed

### **Saturday, June 24**