



## 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

#### THE INTROIT

"O Lord, Open Thou Our Lips"

Margaret Burk

*O Lord, open thou our lips and our mouths shall show forth thy praise.*

*O God, make speed to save us: O Lord, make haste to help us.*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:*

*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.*

*Praise ye the Lord. The Lord's name be praised.*

#### \*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

One God calls us to service,

**All rather than honor.**

One God calls us to love the unknown,

**All rather than the familiar.**

One We come to this time of worship, trusting in the grace of Jesus Christ,

**All who is the same yesterday, today, and forever.**

**\*THE OPENING HYMN . . . no. 403**  
"Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty"

*Unser Herrscher*; Joachim Neander  
Benjamin Schmolck

Open now thy gates of beauty, Zion, let me enter there,  
where my soul in joyful duty waits for God who answers prayer;  
O how blessed is this place, filled with solace, light, and grace.

Gracious God, I come before thee; come thou also unto me;  
where we find thee and adore thee, there a heaven on earth must be;  
to my heart O enter thou; let it be thy temple now.

Speak, O Lord, and I will hear thee; let thy will be done indeed;  
may I undisturbed draw near thee, while thou dost thy people feed.  
Here of life the fountain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

**\*THE CALL TO CONFESSION**

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

Merciful God, forgive us for we exalt ourselves and mock the humble. We choose to believe we are self-sufficient rather than trust in your strength. Open us to your spirit, that we might serve all people without regard to the outcome, devoting ourselves to your honor alone. We pray in Jesus' name.

**\*THE SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

**\*THE DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

**\*THE RESPONSE . . . no. 844, verse 3**  
"Incline Your Ear, O Lord, to Me"

*Danby*; English Folk Melody  
Michael Morgan

With steadfast love and mercy sure, God hears confession and forgives;  
redeemed, the soul in which God dwells,  
and blessed, the heart in which God lives!

**THE WORDS OF WELCOME**

The Greetings Among the People of God  
The Announcements  
The Dedication of our Church Musicians and Educators

**WE HEAR THE WORD OF LIFE**

**THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

## THE PSALTER LESSON

Psalm 122

- One I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."  
All **Now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.**  
One Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself.  
All **To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,  
the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord.**  
One For there are the thrones of judgement, the thrones of the house of David.  
All **Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.**  
One Peace be within your walls and quietness within your towers.  
All **For my kindred and companions' sake, I pray for your prosperity.  
Because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek to do you good."**

## THE ANTHEM

"Lead Me, Lord" from *Praise the Lord, O My Soul* Samuel Sebastian Wesley

*Lead me, Lord, in thy righteousness; make thy way plain before my face.  
For it is thou, Lord, only, that makest me dwell in safety.*

- Psalm 4:9, 5:8

## THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Hebrews 13:1-3, 15-16

Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.

Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise - the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

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

## 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 107 in the education wing.*

## THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

1 John 4:7-12, 19-21

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

We love because he first loved us. Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

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

## THE SERMON

the Rev. Anna Von Winckler

“Accept. Accepted. Accepting.”

## WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

### A TIME OF INTENTIONAL SILENCE

\*THE HYMN . . . no. 347

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

*Picardy; French Melody  
Liturgy of St. James, 4<sup>th</sup>C*

**Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;  
ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his hand  
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.**

**King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood,  
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood,  
he will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.**

**Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,  
as the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,  
that the powers of hell may vanish as the shadows clear away.**

**At his feet the six-winged seraph, cherubim, with sleepless eye,  
veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,  
“Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Lord most high!”**

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

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.**

**The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,  
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,  
and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.**

**The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles  
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,  
engages us through the Word proclaimed,  
claims us in the waters of baptism,  
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,  
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.**

**In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage  
to pray without ceasing,  
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,  
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,  
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,  
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

*- from A Brief Statement of Faith, PC(USA)*

**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.*

*"Teach Me, O Lord, the Way of Thy Statutes"*

Thomas Attwood

*Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes and I shall keep it unto the end.*

*- Psalm 119:33*

**\*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 Offertory Response**

*"Thank you for the World So Sweet"*

arr. Robert Nicholls

*Thank you for the world so sweet; thank you for the food we eat;*

*Thank you for the birds that sing; thank you, God, for everything.*

*- E. Rutter Leatham*

**THE PRAYERS**

The Sharing of Joys and Concerns

The Prayers of the People

One God 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. 619**

"Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven"

*Lauda Anima*; John Goss  
Henry Francis Lyte

**Praise, my soul, the God of heaven; glad of heart your carols raise;  
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, who, like me, should sing God's praise?  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the Maker all your days!**

**Praise God for the grace and favor shown our forebears in distress;  
God is still the same as ever, slow to chide, and swift to bless:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Sing our Maker's faithfulness!**

**Like a loving parent caring, God knows well our feeble frame;  
Gladly all our burdens bearing, still to countless years the same.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! All within me, praise God's name.**

**Angels, teach us adoration; you behold God face to face.  
Sun and moon, and all creation, dwellers all in time and space:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace!** *Text Adapt. © 1974 Ecumenical Women's Center*

**\*THE SENDING AND BENEDICTION**

**THE CHORAL RESPONSE**

"Amen siakudumisa"

S. C. Molefe

*Sing praises! Amen, we praise your name, O God!*

**THE POSTLUDE**

## Leading worship this morning:

Pastor                      Anna von Winckler  
Liturgist                 Jean Beckman  
Director of Music       Robert Nicholls  
The Choir of First Presbyterian Church

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## Happening at First Presbyterian Church

Please plan to attend the **Congregational Meeting today following this service**. This purpose the brief meeting is to vote on whether or not to dissolve the Board of Trustees and have their responsibilities taken on by Session.

**Next Sunday at 4:00 p.m.**, we welcome Charles Du Preez and Leanne Hampton for a free concert of **Clarinet and Flute works**. Bring your family and friends downtown for a lovely way to wind down your weekend.

You can help support those in our congregation who occasionally need a little extra care. Is **preparing a meal for others in need** one of your ministry gifts? Join our First Web Meal Train group for updates on opportunities to serve in this way. Send an email to [lora@fpcevv.com](mailto:lora@fpcevv.com) or fill out the [form](#) on First Web.

Stand up for **Justice and Peace** at First Pres! You're invited to learn more about the justice and peacemaking those of us in the First Pres community can take part in. Learn about **opportunities** within our congregation and community, and work we do with organizations like CAJE (Congregations Acting for Justice and Empowerment). For more information, please reach out to Gina Robinson Ungar ([gina.robinson.ungar@gmail.com](mailto:gina.robinson.ungar@gmail.com)) or Jake Kohlmeyer ([sayheyjake@gmail.com](mailto:sayheyjake@gmail.com)).

## Weekly Calendar



*Elder of the Week: Jill Griffin*

**Sunday, September 10**

- 7:30 a.m. Band Rehearsal
- 8:30 a.m. Wide Awake Worship
- 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship  
Children's Sunday School
- 11:30 a.m. Congregational Meeting
- 11:45 a.m. Fellowship Time
- 11:45 a.m. Music Support Committee
- 5:30 p.m. First Light

**Monday, September 11**

- 6:00 p.m. Deacons Meeting at EVPL Central

**Tuesday, September 12**

- 11:00 a.m. Staff meeting
- 3:45 p.m. Choir Teens
- 4:45 p.m. Handbell and Chime Rehearsal
- 5:45 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. Finance & Generosity Meeting

**Wednesday, September 13**

- 6:00 p.m. Session Meeting

**Thursday, September 14**

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

**Friday, September 15**

*Church Office Closed*

**Saturday, September 16**

# *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*

Beginning September 10, the entire congregation is encouraged to take part in the study and discussion of *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*. This book is available in the church office for \$15.75. Discussion groups (in person, online, and hybrid) will meet weekly through November 5, led by pairs of Session members - please sign up for a group below. Lessons learned during this study will inform the Pastor Nominating Committee in their search for our next permanent pastor.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

*If you are signing up for your household, please add additional information below:*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

- ◇ Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in Kerr Chapel with Pastor Anna and Steve Wylie
- ◇ Sundays at 5:30 p.m. in their Washington Ave home with Jerusha and Kathryn Van Camp
- ◇ Mondays at 7:00 p.m. by Zoom with Jill Griffin and Gary Morris
- ◇ Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. in room 103/5 and by Zoom with Sue Hartig and Gerald Summers
- ◇ Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. by Zoom with Michelle Haywood and Bonnie Rinks

Childcare can be provided for in-person attendees upon prior request. If you need childcare to attend in-person, please let us know by checking the box below. You will be contacted for details.

- ◇ Childcare, please!

You can also fill out this form on First Web  
by using this QR code and your smartphone's camera:



***Thank you*** for participating in this important step to First Pres' future!