

October 8, 2023

The Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:30 a.m.

# Generosity

A GIFT OF THE HEART



**First Presbyterian Church**

609 South East Second Street

Evansville, Indiana 47713

(812)423-6297

[www.firstpreesevansville.com](http://www.firstpreesevansville.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

"Ghana Alleluia"

Ghana; arr. Kathy Armstrong

*Let us pray and sing in praise of God, our God in heaven, who gives us life, alleluia, yes!*

#### \*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

One Sing aloud to God our strength.  
All **Shout for joy to the Lord of Life.**  
One Blessed be the one, holy and living God.  
All **Glory to God forever.**

#### \*THE OPENING HYMN . . . no. 667

"When Morning Gilds the Skies"

*Laudes Domini*; Joseph Barnaby  
German Hymn

**When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!**

**Alike at work and prayer to Jesus I repair: may Jesus Christ be praised!**

**Does sadness fill my mind? A solace here I find: may Jesus Christ be praised!  
Or fades my earthly bliss? My comfort still is this: may Jesus Christ be praised!**

Let earth's wide circle round in joyful notes resound:

may Jesus Christ be praised!

Let air and sea and sky from depth to height reply: may Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this, while life is mine, my canticle divine: may Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this the eternal song through all the ages long: may Jesus Christ be praised!

**\*THE CALL TO CONFESSION**

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

Merciful God, we confess that we desire what is not your will. We fear failure and cling to unquestioned habits. We repent of what we have done and what we have not done.

Show us the path of your prophetic way. Open our eyes to new ventures. Help us love our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us and renew us, in the name of life abundant, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**\*THE SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

**\*THE DELCARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

**\*THE RESPONSE . . . no. 529, verse 1**

"Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether"

*Union Seminary; Harold Friedell*

Percy Dearmer

**Draw us in the Spirit's tether, for when humbly in your name,  
two or three are met together, you are in the midst of them.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Here we touch your garment's hem.**

**THE WORDS OF WELCOME**

The Greetings Among the People of God

The Announcements

The Generosity Minute

**WE HEAR THE WORD OF LIFE**

**THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**THE PSALM**

Psalm 112

One Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord  
and have great delight in the divine commandments!

All Their descendants will be mighty in the land;  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

One Wealth and riches will be in their house,  
and their righteousness will last for ever.

**All Light shines in the darkness for the upright;  
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

One It is good for them to be generous in lending  
and to manage their affairs with justice.

**All For they will never be shaken;  
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

One They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;  
their heart is right; they put their trust in the Lord.

**All Their heart is established and will not shrink,  
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

One They have given freely to the poor,  
and their righteousness stands fast for ever;  
they will hold up their head with honor.

**All The wicked will see it and be angry;  
they will gnash their teeth and pine away;  
the desires of the wicked will perish.**

## THE ANTHEM

“I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes”

Sir H. Walford Davies

*I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?  
My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.  
God will not let your foot be moved; the one who watches over you will not fall asleep.  
Behold, God who keeps watch over Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.  
The Creator watches over you; God is your shade at your right hand.  
So that the sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.  
God shall preserve you from all evil; it is God who shall keep you safe.  
God shall watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.*

- Psalm 121

## THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Timothy 6:17-19

Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

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 SCRIPTURE LESSON

Galatians 5:13, 14, 22, 23, 25

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters, only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become enslaved to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things.

If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

One The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

## THE SERMON

Rev. Anna von Winckler

"Faith that Bears Fruit"

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### A TIME OF INTENTIONAL SILENCE

#### \*THE HYMN . . . no. 773

"Heaven Shall Not Wait"

*Heaven Shall Not Wait*

John L. Bell and Graham Maule

**Heaven shall not wait for the poor to lose their patience,  
the scorned to smile, the despised to find a friend:  
Jesus is Lord; he has championed the unwanted;  
in him injustice confronts its timely end.**

**Heaven shall not wait for the right to share their fortunes,  
the proud to fall, the elite to tend the least:  
Jesus is Lord; he has shown the master's privilege:  
to kneel and wash servants' feet before they feast.**

**Heaven shall not wait for the dawn of great ideas,  
thoughts of compassion divorced from cries of pain:  
Jesus is Lord; he has married word and action;  
his cross and company make his purpose plain.**

**Heaven shall not wait for triumphant Hallelujahs.  
when earth has passed and we reach another shore:  
Jesus is Lord in our present imperfection;  
his power and love are for now and then for evermore.**

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

**We believe in one holy, universal Christian church,  
the unity of the communion of saints of the entire human family.  
And we believe that that this unity of the people of God  
must be manifest and active, in that we love one another;  
that we give ourselves willingly and joyfully to one another,  
that we are share one baptism together,  
that we eat of one bread and drink of one cup together,  
that we confess one name, one Lord, for one cause, with one hope,  
which is the height and the breadth and the depth and the love of Christ,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

*- adapted from the Belhar Confession*

**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.*

*“Offertory”*

*John Ness Beck*

*With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high?  
Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, Shall I come before Him with yearling calves?  
Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of oil?  
Shall I give Him my firstborn for my transgressions, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?  
He has shown you, O man; He has shown you what is good.  
And what does the Lord require of you but to do justly and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?*

*- Micah 6:6-8*

**\*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

*“The Lord Now Bless”*

*Danby; arr. Robert Nicholls*

*The Lord now bless from heaven above, and shine on you with radiant face;  
The Lord who heaven and earth has made illumine you with peace and grace.* - Arlo D. Duba

## 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. 755**  
"Alleluia! Laud and Blessing"

*Weisse Flaggen; Tochter Sion*  
Michael Morgan, Ps. 111, 112

**Alleluia! Laud and blessing to our God whose Word is sure;  
by whose grace we find redemption, in whose love we live secure.  
Righteousness and rich compassion shall attend us all our days;  
may God's promise to be faithful echo through our songs of praise!**

**Alleluia! God sustains us; matchless are the gifts we share:  
light in darkness, hope in conflict, answers to our deepest prayer.  
Our to give as we are given: arms to lift when others fall;  
images of God's great goodness, faithful servants to God's call.**

**Alleluia! Holy Parent, all your children now reclaim;  
may our lives reflect your justice, heirs to your most sacred name.  
Fill our hearts with understanding, brace our weakness by your might;  
awesome honor, born in wisdom; your great glory, our delight!**

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**\*THE SENDING AND BENEDICTION**

**THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

"Gloria Patri" from *Beatus Vir*

Claudio Monteverdi

*Gloria Patri, et Filio,  
et Spiritui Sancto,  
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc et semper,  
et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.*

Glory to the Father, and the Son,  
and the Holy Spirit,  
As it was in the beginning, is now,  
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

- Psalm 112

**THE POSTLUDE**

"The Women at the Tomb"

Dorothy J. Papadakos

## Leading worship this morning:

Pastor                      Anna von Winckler  
Liturgist                  Gary Morris  
Director of Music      Robert Nicholls  
The Choir of First Presbyterian Church

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## About Today's Choral Music

### **Ghana Alleluia**

This joyful and spirited call to prayer was initially arranged by Kathy Armstrong for upper voices only, and Robert Nicholls has augmented the arrangement to be for the whole choir. The top part sings the bulk of the text calling us to pray and praise, giving thanks both for the gift of life and sacrifice of our Savior.

### **I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes**

Henry Walford Davies (1869-1941) was an English composer, organist, and educator who held the title Master of the King's Music from 1934 until his death. He began his career as a chorister at St. George's Chapel, Windsor. His later teachers included Hubert Parry, and Stanford. The most celebrated of Davies' own pupils was Leopold Stokowski. The Anglican Chant Walford Davies wrote for his setting of Psalm 121 is unique: the first and third quarters are sung by soprano and tenor soloists respectively, while the second and fourth quarters have simple harmony, with almost no variation in voicing, sung by the full choir. The effect is of a mantra-like litany, heartfelt in its simplicity.

### **Gloria Patri from *Beatus Vir***

Claudio Monteverdi (1567-1643) is a pivotal composer in the development of Western music, bridging the styles and aesthetics of the Renaissance and the early Baroque, and was the writer of the first Opera, *L'Orfeo*, in 1607. In 1612 he was appointed maestro di cappella at the basilica of St. Mark in Venice. *Beatus Vir* is a setting of the whole of Psalm 112, dating from around 1630, and is organized on a fairly broad scale. Monteverdi developed the *stile concertato* where small groups are contrasted with larger groups, in this case the full chorus. The Gloria (sung in Latin) makes a vibrant, if unusual, Benediction Response and is crowned by one of the most glorious settings of the word "Amen".



## Happening at First Presbyterian Church

The work of **Justice and Peacemaking** at FPC is back, and another CAJE year is kicking off too! Join us for a meeting **today after the 10:30 worship service**. We will discuss CAJE opportunities and what matters to you in our community. Plus, we will brainstorm new opportunities for work around creation care (environment) and more.

The twelfth annual **Silent Movie night** will soon be here! This year Robert is accompanying *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* (1920) on **Saturday, October 21**. As pure and good as Dr. Jekyll is, he is tempted by his peers to explore the darker side of humanity and transforms into the foul Mr. Hyde! The **7:00 p.m.** showing is free and has open seating; donations will be gratefully accepted at the end of the evening.

And if one silent movie isn't enough for you, we are also offering a first-come, first-served **"Dinner and a Movie" special for \$20 starting at 5:45 p.m on October 21**. You'll enjoy a comedy short, Charlie Chaplin's *Easy Street*, followed by home cooked (by the choir) soups and breads in Fellowship Hall, and preferential seating for the 7:00 p.m. feature presentation. Make your reservations now by clicking [HERE](#)!

The Mission Committee invites you to help ease hunger here in Evansville and around the world during the month of October. Download a **"Count Your Blessings" calendar** [HERE](#). Each day of the month suggests a blessing to count and an amount to donate to the CROP Walk.

First Light, our youth group, offers another opportunity this month to **help others**. On **October 22, bring full-size hygiene items** (soap, shampoo, toothpaste, laundry detergent, etc.) new socks or underwear, or non-perishable food products to church with you. First Light will see that they get to the Food and Hygiene Pantry at Young and Established.

Our worship will focus on **generosity** this month, and we hope you will stop by the **"Heart Card" table** in the hallway and share "what you love most about First Pres". In addition, our *Connect* email newsletter features a link to [daily devotionals](#) about generosity. And if you're not receiving *Connect*, but would like to, click [HERE](#)!

The **church office will be closed** Monday - Wednesday this week. Regular office hours will resume on Thursday at 9:00 a.m. **Pastoral needs** may be directed to Parish Visitor Jerusha Van Camp (812-774-7402; [jerusha@fpcevv.com](mailto:jerusha@fpcevv.com)); or the Elder of the Week (this week's elder is Gary Morris; [gary.morris@mclean.kyschools.us](mailto:gary.morris@mclean.kyschools.us)) while Pastor Anna is on vacation this month.

## Weekly Calendar

*Elder of the Week: Gary Morris*

### **Sunday, October 8**

7:30 a.m. Band Rehearsal  
8:30 a.m. Wide Awake Worship  
9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School  
5 Practices Discussion Group  
Choir Rehearsal  
10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship  
Children's Sunday School  
11:30 a.m. Fellowship Time  
11:45 a.m. CAJE House Meeting  
5:30 p.m. First Light  
5:30 p.m. 5 Practices Discussion Group

### **Monday, October 9**

*Church Office Closed*  
7:00 p.m. 5 Practices Discussion Group

### **Tuesday, October 10**

*Church Office Closed*  
6:00 p.m. Finance Committee

### **Wednesday, October 11**

*Church Office Closed*  
1:00 p.m. 5 Practices Discussion Group  
6:00 p.m. Session Meeting

### **Thursday, October 12**

6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal  
7:00 p.m. 5 Practices Discussion Group

### **Friday, October 13**

*Church Office Closed*

### **Saturday, October 14**

## 2023 Session - First Presbyterian Church

*As in all Presbyterian congregations, the Session is the leadership team or governing board of the church, responsible for all areas of the church's life and ministry.  
It includes the pastor and three classes of elders serving three-year terms of service, all elected by the congregation.*

### Class of 2023

Sue Hartig  
Michelle Haywood  
Gerald Summers  
*Vacancy*

### Class of 2024

Casey Calvert  
Ronda Hurt  
Gary Morris  
Steve Wylie

### Class of 2025

Jill Griffin  
Dan Korb  
Bonnie Rinks  
Sue Schriber

The Reverend Anna von Winckler serves as Moderator.