

October 22, 2023

The Twenty-Ninth 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

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"

Darwall's 148th; arr. Robert Nicholls

THE INTROIT

"God Has Gone Up"

Jack Warren Burnam

*God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of the ram's horn. Alleluia!
You have gone up on high, and led captivity captive. Alleluia!*

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

One God declares: "I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh.

All Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy.

One The young shall see visions.

All The elders shall dream dreams.

One Both men and women shall prophesy.

All And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

***THE OPENING HYMN . . . no. 12**

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

*St. Denio; Welsh folk melody
Walter Chalmers Smith*

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.**

**Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might:
thy justice, like mountains high soaring above;
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.**

**To all, life thou givest, to both great and small.
In all life thou livest, the true life of all.
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.**

**Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light.
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.
All praise we would render; O help us to see
‘tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!**

***THE CALL TO CONFESSION**

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

Without your power, O God, we are lost. We have done the things we would avoid, and what you desire, we have not done. By your purifying fire transform our lives; guide us into honesty and compassion so that, filled with your peace, our dreams and visions may be one with yours; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

***THE SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

***THE DECLARATION 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 71:5-8, 14-18

One For you are my hope, O Lord God, my confidence since I was young.

All I have been sustained by you ever since I was born;

One from my mother's womb you have been my strength;
my praise shall be always of you.

All I have become a portent to many; but you are my refuge and my strength.

One Let my mouth be full of your praise and your glory all the day long.

All But I shall always wait in patience, and shall praise you more and more.

One My mouth shall recount your mighty acts and saving deeds all day long;
though I cannot know the number of them.

**All I will begin with your mighty works, Lord God;
I will recall your righteousness, yours alone.**

One O God, you have taught me since I was young,
and to this day I tell of your wonderful works.

**All And now that I am old and gray-headed, O God, do not forsake me,
till I make known your strength to this generation
and your power to all who are to come.**

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 107 in the education wing.*

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Jeremiah 29:11-13

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

One The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

THE ANTHEM

"Let All the World in Every Corner Sing"

Greta Tomlins

Let all the world in every corner sing, My God and King!

The heavens are not too high, His praise may thither fly;

the earth is not too low, His praises there may grow.

The Church with psalms must shout, no door can keep them out;

but above all, the heart must bear the longest part.

- from The Temple, George Herbert

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 2:17-21

"In the last days, God says,

I will pour out my Spirit on all people.

Your sons and daughters will prophesy,

your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams.

Even on my servants, both men and women,

I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.

I will show wonders in the heavens above

and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke.

The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood

before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.

And everyone who calls

on the name of the Lord will be saved."

One The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

THE SERMON

Elder Andy Hubbard

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

A TIME OF INTENTIONAL SILENCE

*THE HYMN . . . no. 282

Down Ampney; Ralph Vaughan Williams

"Come Down, O Love Divine"

Bianco da Siena

**Come down, O Love Divine; seek out this soul of mine,
and visit it with your own ardor glowing.**

**O Comforter, draw near; within my heart appear,
and kindle it, your holy flame bestowing.**

**O let it freely burn, till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming.**

**And let your glorious light shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.**

And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling.
For none can guess God's grace, till Love creates a place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

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

We believe that God has entrusted the church
with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ,
that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world;
that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker;
that the church is witness both by word and by deed
to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells;
that God's lifegiving Word and Spirit
has conquered the powers of sin and death,
and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity;
that God's lifegiving Word and Spirit
will enable the church to live in a new obedience
which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world.

- from the Belhar Confession

THE MORNING OFFERING

The Invitation to the Offering

The Offertory

You may give online at firstpresevansville.com/giving or by sending a check to the church.

"Andante in f minor"

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

*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

One God, in your 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. 295**

Sine Nomine; Ralph Vaughan Williams
Sylvia G. Dunstan

"Go to the World!"

**Go to the world! Go into all the earth.
Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth,
baptizing as the sign of our rebirth. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Go to the world! Go into every place.
Go live the word of God's redeeming grace.
Go seek God's presence in each time and space. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Go to the world! Go struggle, bless, and pray;
the nights of tears give way to joyous day.
As servant church, you follow Christ's own way. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,
for I am with you till the age shall end,
when all the hosts of glory cry "Amen!" Alleluia. Alleluia.** © 1991, GIA Publications, Inc.

***THE SENDING AND BENEDICTION**

THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE

"Irish Blessing"

Bob Chilcott

*May the road rise to meet you, may the wind be ever at your back,
may the sun shine warm upon your face, and the rain fall soft upon your fields,
and until we meet again, may God hold you ever in the palm of his hand.*

THE POSTLUDE

"A Meditation on *Draw us in the Spirit's Tether*"

Gerre Hancock

Leading worship this morning:

Guest Preacher Elder Andy Hubbard
Liturgist Tracy Shaw
Director of Music Robert Nicholls
The Choir of First Presbyterian Church
The Chime Choir of First Presbyterian Church, Micaiah Van Camp, Director
The Flute Choir of First Presbyterian Church, Dick Bernhardt, Director

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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.

About Today's Choral Music

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

This arrangement of *Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!* is one of dozens Robert Nicholls has made of hymn tunes for our beginning chimers. It uses limited number of chimes and so can be played by a very small group just starting their musical journeys and learning left from right! The melody is heard twice, the second time with added harmony notes.

God Has Gone Up

Jack Burnam is a prominent composer in the Episcopal Church in America. He has visited First Pres in Evansville many times via a mutual connection with the former RSCM King's College Course. *God has gone up with a shout* was composed for the choir of Immanuel Baptist Church in Wilmington, Delaware, for use as a festive call to worship. The text, from Psalms 47 and 68, is closely associated with the ascension of Jesus into heaven after his resurrection.

Let All the World in Every Corner Sing

Greta Tomlins (1912-1972) was an English composer best known for her sacred choral music and carols. Tomlins was educated at Roedean School and read Music at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford. She continued her studies in composition at the Royal College of Music. Although Tomlins largely wrote vocal music, her *Alpine Suite* for percussion, piano, and strings was also very well received. Tomlins was a fervent champion of women's education: in 1941 she was appointed as a lecturer in music at Homerton College, Cambridge (then a female-only establishment). She was greatly admired by her students, namely for introducing choral singing into the heart of the college's musical life. Weekly choir attendance was compulsory. During these rehearsals on a Friday evening, Tomlins introduced the students to a wide range of music from Hebridean love songs to Handel's *Messiah*. Tomlins' setting of George Herbert's Antiphon *Let all the world in every corner sing*, makes ingenious use of an alternating time signature, addressing the unusual poetic meter with apparent ease, and all allowing the important words to fall on the first beat of the bar. The chorus, "Let all the world in every corner sing, My God and King", is heard four times. Whilst the melody remains the same each time, the other vocal parts have different music, in particular by changing the melodic direction of their parts.

- *Multitude of Voyces*, Olivia Sparkhall

An Irish Blessing

Bob Chilcott (b. 1955) is a British choral composer, conductor, and singer who began his musical activities as a member of the Choir of King's College, Cambridge. He was the tenor in The Kings' Singers for twelve years and is now a freelance director around the world. Chilcott's setting of an *Irish Blessing* was written for Grupo Vocal Olisipo. The compositional language is easy on the ear with a memorable tune that has moments of stylistic flourish but also static inertia. The melody is then repeated accompanied by the full choir in harmony. The end has a threefold setting of "ever in the palm of his hand."

Happening at First Presbyterian Church

Thank you for bringing **full-size hygiene items** (soap, shampoo, toothpaste, laundry detergent, etc.) new socks or underwear, or non-perishable food products to church with you today. First Light will see that they get to the Food and Hygiene Pantry at Young and Established.

First Pres' **LGBTQ small group** will meet next Sunday at noon. Kathryn and Jerusha Van Camp will host the group at their home at 259 Washington Ave. Attendees are invited to bring a side dish. The main dish and drinks will be provided. We hope all First Pres LGBTQ folks will come for lunch! RSVP by phone or text at 812-774-7402.

We hope you will stop by the **“Heart Card” table** in the hallway and share “what your hopes and dreams are for First Pres” as we continue our October focus on generosity. 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!](#)

Plan to have **lunch** with all your First Pres friends on **Sunday, November 5** as we give thanks for the Generosity commitments received in that day’s worship. Following the 10:30 service, we’ll gather in Fellowship Hall for **celebration and food**. The church will supply baked ham, hot rolls, and beverages, and attendees are encouraged to bring a salad, side dish, or dessert to share. Volunteers are needed for setup and/or cleanup - please contact Jane Bernhardt (812-480-9065; richbhart@aol.com) to help out! Let’s celebrate together!

While Pastor Anna is on vacation, **Pastoral needs** may be directed to Parish Visitor Jerusha Van Camp (812-774-7402; jerusha@fpcevv.com); or the Elder of the Week (this week’s elder is Steve Wylie; srwylie@thesteves.com).

Weekly Calendar

Elder of the Week: Steve Wylie

Sunday, October 22

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
5:30 p.m. 5 Practices Discussion Group
5:30 p.m. First Light

5:45 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal
6:00 p.m. Finance/Budget Meeting
6:00 p.m. Outreach/Membership

Wednesday, October 25

1:00 p.m. 5 Practices Discussion Group

Thursday, October 26

4:00 p.m. Choir Beginners
4:45 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal
6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
7:00 p.m. 5 Practices Discussion Group

Monday, October 23

7:00 p.m. 5 Practices Discussion Group

Friday, October 27

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, October 24

11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
3:45 p.m. Choir Teens
4:45 p.m. Handbell and Chime Rehearsal

Saturday, October 28

8:00 a.m. First Light to Mammoth Cave