

November 12, 2023

The Thirty-second 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

#### THE INTROIT

"Let Us with a Gladsome Mind"

Alan Ridout

*Let us with a gladsome mind, praise the Lord for he is kind:  
for his mercies shall endure, ever faithful, ever sure.*

*Let us blaze his name abroad, for of gods he is the God:*

*He, with all-commanding might, filled the new made world with light:*

*He, the golden-tressed sun, called all day his course to run:*

*The horned moon to shine by night, 'mid her spangled sisters bright:*

*All things living he doth feed: His full hand supplies their need:*

*for his mercies shall endure, ever faithful, ever sure.*

- Psalm 136; arr. John Milton

#### \*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

One God has gathered us to this place,

All **where we hear those stories**

**which show us what the kingdom of God is like.**

One God summons us to this place,

All **where we can learn how to serve our God**

**without reservation, or hesitation.**

One God will send us from this place,  
All to tell others of God's hopes and dreams,  
so they, too, can choose to follow God.

**\*THE OPENING HYMN . . . no. 386**  
"Come, Worship God"

*O Quanta Qualia; Antiphoner*  
Michael Perry

Come, worship God, who is worthy of honor;  
enter God's presence with thanks and a song!  
You are the rock of your people's salvation  
to whom our jubilant praises belong.

Ruled by your might are the heights of the mountains;  
held in your hands are the depths of the earth.  
Yours is the sea, yours the land, for you made them,  
God above all gods, who gave us our birth.

We are your people, the sheep of your pasture;  
you are our Maker, and to you we pray.  
Gladly we kneel in obedience before you;  
great is the one whom we worship this day!

Now let us listen, for you speak among us;  
open our hearts to receive what you say.  
Peace be to all who remember your goodness,  
trust in your word, and rejoice in your way!

*Text © 1980 Jubilate Hymns Ltd., admin. Hope Publishing Co.*

**\*THE CALL TO CONFESSION**

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

Holy and gracious God, you are all light and wonder and glory. You are our strength and our delight; you give us all we need to live. Yet we are distracted by all that glitters, continually grasping for more. Rather than trust in your provision, we chase after our own happiness.

Forgive us, Lord, and turn us back to you. Overwhelm us with your goodness and cover us with grace, for we know that you are the source of life, the fount of all that is good. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

**\*THE SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

**\*THE DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

**\*THE RESPONSE . . . no. 659**

“Know that God Is Good”

*Mungu ni mwema*  
Democratic Republic of Congo

**Know that God is good.** (*sing 3 times*)

**God is good.** (*sing twice*)

**THE WORDS OF WELCOME**

The Greetings Among the People of God

The Announcements

**WE HEAR THE WORD OF LIFE**

**THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**THE PSALM**

Psalm 78:1-7

One Hear my teaching, O my people;  
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

**All I will open my mouth in a parable;**  
**I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.**

One That which we have heard and known,  
and what our ancestors have told us, we will not hide from their children.

**All We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds**  
**and the power of the Lord, who has done wonderful works.**

One The Lord gave a decree to Jacob and established a law for Israel,  
commanding them to teach their children;

**All that the generations to come might know, and the children yet unborn;**  
**that they in their turn might tell it to their children;**

One so that they might put their trust in God,

**All and not forget those mighty deeds, but keep the commandments.**

**THE ANTHEM**

“Be Thou My Vision”

Bob Chilcott

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart, be all else but naught to me, save that thou art;  
Be thou my best thought in the day and the night, both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.  
Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word, be thou ever with me and I with thee, Lord;  
Be thou my great Father, and I thy true son; be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.  
Be thou and thou only the first in my heart; O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art;  
Great heart of my own heart whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.*

- from The Poem Book of the Gael

## THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Amos 5:18-24

Woe to you who long for the day of the Lord!

Why do you long for the day of the Lord?

That day will be darkness, not light.

It will be as though a man fled from a lion only to meet a bear,  
as though he entered his house and rested his hand on the wall  
only to have a snake bite him.

Will not the day of the Lord be darkness, not light -  
pitch-dark, without a ray of brightness?

“I hate, I despise your religious festivals; your assemblies are a stench to me.

Even though you bring me burnt offerings and grain offerings,

I will not accept them.

Though you bring choice fellowship offerings, I will have no regard for them.

Away with the noise of your songs! I will not listen to the music of your harps.

But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!”

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

Matthew 25:1-13

The kingdom of heaven is like what happened one night when ten young women took their oil lamps and went to a wedding to meet the groom. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones took their lamps, but no extra oil. The ones who were wise took along extra oil for their lamps. The groom was late arriving, and the young women became drowsy and fell asleep. Then in the middle of the night someone shouted, “Here’s the groom! Come to meet him!” When the women got up and started getting their lamps ready, the foolish ones said to the others, “Let us have some of your oil! Our lamps are going out.” Those who were wise answered, “There’s not enough oil for all of us! Go and buy some for yourselves.” While the foolish ones were on their way to get some oil, the groom arrived. The five who were ready went into the wedding, and the doors were closed. Later the others returned and shouted, “Sir, sir! Open the door for us!” But the groom replied, “I don’t even know you!”

So, my disciples, always be ready! You don’t know the day or the time when all this will happen.

One The Gospel of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

## WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

### A TIME OF INTENTIONAL SILENCE

**\*THE HYMN . . . no. 708**

*Schumann; Cantica Laudis*  
William Walsham How

“We Give Thee but Thine Own”

**We give thee but thine own, whate’er the gift may be;  
all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.**

**May we thy bounties thus as stewards true receive,  
and gladly, as thou blessest us, to thee our firstfruits give.**

**The captive to release, to God the lost to bring,  
to teach the way of life and peace: it is a Christ-like thing.**

**And we believe thy word, though dim our faith may be;  
whate’er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it unto thee.**

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

**In life and in death we belong to God.**

**Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit,  
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,  
whom alone we worship and serve.**

**In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive  
to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives,  
even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying,**

**“Come, Lord Jesus!”**

*- 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.*

**\*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  
"We Give Thee But Thine Own"

*Schumann; Cantica Laudis*

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

*- William Walsham How*

## THE PRAYERS

The Sharing of Joys and Concerns  
The Prayers of the People

One O God, make speed to save us.  
All O Lord, make haste to help us.

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. 687  
"Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"

*St. Anne; attr. William Croft  
Isaac Watts*

**Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,  
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:  
Beneath the shadow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt secure;  
sufficient is thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.  
Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame,  
from everlasting thou art God, to endless years the same.  
A thousand ages in thy sight are like an evening gone,  
short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.  
Time, like an ever rolling stream, bears all our years away;  
they fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.  
Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,  
be thou our guard while life shall last, and our eternal home.**

## \*THE SENDING AND BENEDICTION

### THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE

“The Lord Bless You and Keep You”

Peter Lutkin

*The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord lift His countenance upon you; and give you peace.  
The Lord make His face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you. Amen.*

### THE POSTLUDE

### Leading worship this morning:

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

The flowers today are given by Ron and Beverly Attinger to the glory of God and in celebration of their birthdays.

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First Presbyterian Church  
is a partner congregation with  
the Covenant Network  
of Presbyterians.





## About Today's Choral Music

### **Let Us with a Gladsome Mind**

Alan Ridout (1934-1996) knew from early childhood that all he wanted to do was write music. By the age of twelve he had written over one hundred works. By the end of his life a complete list of his works would run to nearly a hundred pages. He was a genius at nurturing talent among young musicians and held numerous teaching positions including at elementary, secondary, and university settings. *Let Us with a Gladsome Mind* displays Ridout's effervescent and spontaneous humor in a creative arrangement of what is hymn 31 in *Glory to God*. It is to be sung very fast, with highly contrasting settings of each verse containing vivid word painting. The music ends with what can only be described as a cheeky Amen!

### **Be Thou My Vision**

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. *Be Thou My Vision* is typical of Chilcott's output with a catchy melody accompanied by easy-listening harmonies. To create a structure whereby the melody is introduced by a solo soprano, the text is then repeated with the same melody sung and harmonized by the full choir. The interior verse gives a contrasting melody to the tenors and basses before handing it to the sopranos and altos half-way through the verse. The final verse returns to the opening texture with a solo soprano before it becomes a soaring descant over the full choir.

### **The Lord Bless You and Keep You**

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You* by Peter Lutkin (1858-1931) is a well-known and much-loved chestnut. Lutkin was a strong supporter of unaccompanied singing and helped found the American Guild of Organists. Choirs at St. Olaf and Westminster Choir College were based on the A Capella Choir Lutkin founded at Northwestern University in 1906. Generations of singers have been introduced to Lutkin's choral music through *The Lord bless you and keep you*, with its famous concluding sevenfold amen.

## Happening at First Presbyterian Church

Today is the day to stock up on your favorite savory soups and more at the Music Department's **Soup and Bake Sale** after both worship services. Proceeds help First Pres musicians experience special worship and music events. Thank you!

It's **Jiffy Mix time** at First Pres! The Mission Committee thanks you for bringing boxes of Jiffy Cornbread Mix to the church for the Evansville Rescue Mission's annual Gobbler Gathering. If you haven't brought your share of our pledged **500 boxes** yet, monetary donations are welcome in today's offering - just mark your check or envelope "Jiffy Mix". Thank you for helping feed our neighbors!

The next step in the annual **Congregations Acting for Justice and Empowerment** starts this week. Plan to attend the **Community Problems Assembly** on **tomorrow evening, November 13** at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church. The object of the **6:30 p.m.** meeting is to vote on the group's area of focus for 2024 from Affordable Housing, Mental Health and Addictions, and Education Services.

### Weekly Calendar

*Elder of the Week: Ronda Hurt*

#### **Sunday, November 12**

- 7:30 a.m. Band Rehearsal
- 8:30 a.m. Wide Awake Worship
- 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School
- Choir Rehearsal
- 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
- Children's Sunday School
- 11:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
- 5:00 p.m. First Light

#### **Monday, November 13**

- 6:00 p.m. CAJE Assembly  
at Holy Redeemer

#### **Tuesday, November 14**

- 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 3:45 p.m. Choir Teens
- 4:45 p.m. Handbell/Chime Rehearsal
- 5:45 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal

#### **Wednesday, November 15**

- 4:00 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal
- 5:30 p.m. Worship Committee

#### **Thursday, November 16**

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

#### **Friday, November 17**

- Church Office Closed*
- 3:30 p.m. First Light leaves for Retreat  
at Camp Pyoca

#### **Saturday, November 18**