

May 5, 2024

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

10:30 a.m.



First Presbyterian Church

609 South East Second Street

Evansville, Indiana 47713

(812)423-6297

www.fpcevv.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.fpcevv.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.

We will share Holy Communion this morning. The table is open to all who claim Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior and to all who are seeking a closer relationship with God. You are invited to have a bit of juice and bread on hand to partake during worship.

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

**You may rise in Body or Spirit.*

THE PRELUDE

THE INTROIT

"Jesus Christus" from Christ lag in Todesbanden

Johann Sebastian Bach

*Jesus Christus, Gottes Sohn,
An unser Statt ist kommen
Und hat die Sünde weggetan,
Damit dem Tod genommen
All sein Recht und sein Gewalt,
Da bleibet nichts denn Tods Gestalt,
Den Stach'l hat er verloren. Halleluja!*

Jesus Christ, God's son,
has come to our place
and has put aside our sins,
and in this way from death has taken
all his rights and his power,
here remains nothing but death's outward form,
it has lost its sting. Alleluia!

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

One Sing to our God a new song.
All **God has done marvelous things!**
One Make a joyful noise to the Lord!
All **Break forth into joyous song and sing praises.**
One Let the sea roar and all that fills it.
All **Let the world and its people sing together for joy!**

*THE OPENING HYMN . . . no. 263

Coronation; Oliver Holden

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name!”

Edward Perronet, John Rippon

**All hail the power of Jesus’ name! Let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!**

**Ye chosen seed of Israel’s race, ye ransomed from the fall,
hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!**

**Let every kindred, every tribe on this terrestrial ball
to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!
To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!**

**O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!
We’ll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!
We’ll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!**

*THE CALL TO CONFESSION

*THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One You have gifted us with diversity, yet we have rejected Your gift. We have whitewashed Your creativity and toned down the sparkle of Your joy.
All **To show our repentance we will deepen our appreciation of all the wondrous diversity in this world.**
One We have rejected Your generous expression of equity, as You invite all to live as joint heirs with Jesus. We have built walls to exclude others. We have born false witness against Your generous invitation to all.
All **To show our repentance we will seek to embrace all people as Your beloved family.**
One You choose to include everyone, to open wide the gates of Your kingdom, while we have worked against You. We have turned Your beloved children away, viewing them as unworthy to be with us in Your presence.
All **To show our repentance we will welcome everyone in Your name with joy and celebration.**

*THE SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

*THE DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

One You are created in the diverse, equitable, inclusive image of God. Continue being perfected in love, for in the name of the Holy Trinity you are forgiven.

All **You are created in the diverse, equitable, inclusive image of God. Continue being perfected in love, for in the name of the Holy Trinity you are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

*THE RESPONSE . . . no. 363, verse 1

“Rejoice, the Lord is King!”

Darwall's 148th; John Darwall
Charles Wesley

**Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore.
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**

THE WORDS OF WELCOME

The Greetings Among the People of God
The Announcements

WE HEAR THE WORD OF LIFE

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 John 5:1-6

One Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well.

All **This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands.**

One And his commands are not burdensome, for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith.

All **Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.**

One This is the one who came by water and blood - Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood.

All **And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.**

THE ANTHEM

“I give you a New Commandment”

Peter Aston

I give you a new commandment:

love one another as I have loved you, so you are to love one another.

If there is this love among you, then all will know that you are my disciples. - John 13:34-35

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 15:9-17

“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit - fruit that will last - and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. This is my command: Love each other.

One The Gospel of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

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

Acts 10:44-48

While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles. For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God. Then Peter said, “Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have.” So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.

One The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

THE SERMON

Anna von Winckler

“Inclusive?”

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

A TIME OF INTENTIONAL SILENCE

*THE HYMN . . . no. 250

"In the Bulb There Is a Flower"

Promise
Natalie Sleeth

**In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.**

**There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.**

**In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.**

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*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*, PCUSA

THE MORNING OFFERING

The Invitation to the Offering

The Offertory

You may send a check to the church office, or give online at fpcevo.com/giving

“So feiern wir” from *Christ lag in Todesbanden*

Johann Sebastian Bach

*So feiern wir das hohe Fest
Mit Herzensfreud und Wonne,
Das uns der Herre scheinen läßt,
Er ist selber die Sonne,
Der durch seiner Gnade Glanz
Erleuchtet unsre Herzen ganz,
Der Sünden Nacht ist verschwunden. Halleluja!*

Thus we celebrate the high feast
with joy in our hearts and delight
that the Lord lets shine for us,
He is himself the sun
who through the brilliance of his grace
enlightens our hearts completely,
the night of sin has disappeared. Alleluia!

*The Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings . . . no. 606
“Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow”

Old Hundredth
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 Choral Response

“We Give Thee But Thine Own”

Schumann

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

- *William Walsham How*

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Sharing of Joys and Concerns
The Invitation to the Table

One God is with everyone.

All We are included.

One God delights in who we are.

All We are wonderfully and awesomely made.

One Our full acceptance feels glorious,

All Filling our hearts with peace and gratitude.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Words of Institution

One ...become quiet and listen as heaven and earth proclaim:

**All Praise the Creator of all diversity. Praise the Savior of all with equity.
Praise the Spirit with the inclusion of all.**

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
the prayer continues...

One ...embracing this sacred mystery of our faith, we now proclaim:

**All Christ has died, a sacrifice for all. Christ has risen, so that all can rise.
Christ will come again, leaving no one behind.**
the prayer continues...

One ...Now let us pray after the example given by Jesus Christ:
 All **Imago Dei, diversity, equity, inclusion, holy are all Your ways.**
May we reflect Your glory in the living of our days.
Provide for us as You meet the needs of all.
Forgive the multitude of sins we have committed against others,
as we forgive the few sins that others have committed against us.
Keep us open, questioning, and humble,
leading us away from close-minded pride and arrogance.
For You invite us to become one with You, one with all others,
and one with the whole of creation. Amen.

The Partaking of the Elements

“Den Tod niemand” from *Christ lag in Todesbanden*

Johann Sebastian Bach

*Den Tod niemand zwingen kunnt
 Bei allen Menschenkindern.
 Das macht' alles unsre Sünd,
 Kein Unschuld war zu finden.
 Davon kam der Tod so bald
 Und nahm über uns Gewalt,
 Hielt uns in seinem Reich gefangen. Halleluja!*

Nobody could overcome death
 among all the children of mankind.
 Our sin was the cause of all this,
 no innocence was to be found.
 Therefore death came so quickly
 and seized power over us,
 held us captive in his kingdom. Alleluia!

The Prayer After Communion

WE DISPERSE TO SERVE GOD AND NEIGHBOR

*THE CLOSING HYMN . . . no. 258

Deo Gracias; The Agincourt Song

“A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!”

The Venerable Bede

**A hymn of glory let us sing! New songs throughout the world shall ring:
 Christ, by a road before untrod, ascends unto the throne of God.**

**The holy apostolic band upon the Mount of Olives stand,
 and with his followers they see their Lord ascend in majesty.**

**To all, the shining angels cry, “Why stand and gaze upon the sky?
 This is the Savior!” thus they say: “This is his glorious triumph day.”**

**“You see him now, ascending high up to the portals of the sky.
 Hereafter you shall Jesus see returning in great majesty.”**

**O risen Christ, ascended Lord, all praise to you let earth accord.
 You are, while endless ages run, with Father and with Spirit one.**

*THE SENDING AND BENEDICTION

THE CHORAL RESPONSE

“Chorale” from *Christ lag in Todesbanden*

Johann Sebastian Bach

*Wir essen und leben wohl
In rechten Osterfladen,
Der alte Sauerteig nicht soll
Sein bei dem Wort Gnaden,
Christus will die Koste sein
Und speisen die Seel allein,
Der Glaub will keins andern leben. Halleluja!*

We eat and live well
on the right Easter cakes,
the old sour-dough should not
be with the word grace,
Christ will be our food
and alone feed the soul,
faith will live in no other way. Alleluia!

THE POSTLUDE

Leading worship this morning:

Pastor Anna von Winckler
Liturgist Sue Schriber
Director of Music Robert Nicholls
The Choir of First Presbyterian Church

The flowers today are given by Jean Beckman to the glory of God and in memory of Helen Templeton.

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



Happening at First Presbyterian Church

The Choir of First Presbyterian Church will present a **spring concert this afternoon at 4:00 p.m.** in the Sanctuary, featuring JS Bach's cantata, *Christ Lag in Todesbanden*. This event is a feast not only for the ears, but also for the body: the Music Support Committee welcomes all to a Taco Bar following the concert. Tickets for the Taco Bar are \$15, payable at the door. All proceeds from the meal help send First Pres musicians to summer camp experiences.

The congregation is invited to the **wedding** ceremony of Scott Wylie and Larry Schwartz on **Saturday, May 18, at 4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.**

The Justice and Peacemaking team invites you the **CAJE Nehemiah Action on May 6 at St. Benedict Cathedral** in the auditorium. This powerful community event is where executive and legislative leaders in our city and county are asked to stand up for the issues CAJE congregations advocate for. This year, the projects seeking support are continued funds for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, restoration of funding for Aurora's second case worker (it was cut for the next budget year), and for school leaders to allow community members to support teachers and students to improve literacy. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and the program kicks off at 6:30 p.m. Your presence will make a difference. Talk to Gina Robinson Ungar or Jake Kohlmeyer if you have any questions. Learn more here: <https://www.greaterevansvillecaje.org/our-process>.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, May 5

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
11:30 a.m. Justice/Peacemaking Group
4:00 p.m. Spring Concert
5:15 p.m. Taco Bar

4:45 p.m. Handbell/Chime Rehearsal
5:45 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal

Wednesday, May 8

Thursday, May 9

4:00 p.m. Choir Beginner Rehearsal
4:45 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal
4:45 p.m. Iona Group
5:00 p.m. PNC
6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Monday, May 6

Friday, May 10

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, May 7

11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
3:45 p.m. Choir Teen Rehearsal

Saturday, May 11

12:00 p.m. Music Recognition BBQ