

May 19, 2024

Pentecost Sunday

10:30 a.m.



## First Presbyterian Church

609 South East Second Street

Evansville, Indiana 47713

(812)423-6297

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

"Canticle to the Holy Spirit"

Eleanor Daley

*Holy Spirit, giving life to all life, root of all things,  
Washing them clean, wiping out their mistakes, healing all wounds,  
You are our true life, luminous, wonderful, awakening the heart from its ancient sleep.*

#### \*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. 289**

*"On Pentecost They Gathered"*

*Munich; adpt. Felix Mendelssohn*

*Jane Parker Huber*

**On Pentecost they gathered quite early in the day,  
a band of Christ's disciples, to worship, sing, and pray.  
A mighty wind came blowing, filled all the swirling air,  
and tongues of fire a-glowing inspired each person there.**

**The people all around them were startled and amazed  
to understand their language, as Christ the Lord they praised.  
What universal message, what great good news was here?  
That Christ, once dead, is risen to vanquish all our fear.**

**God pours the Holy Spirit on all who would believe,  
on women, men, and children who would God's grace receive.  
That Spirit knows no limit, bestowing life and power.  
The church, formed and reforming, responds in every hour.**

**O Spirit, sent from heaven on that day long ago,  
rekindle faith among us in all life's ebb and flow.  
O give us ears to listen and tongues aflame with praise,  
so folk of every nation glad songs of joy shall raise.**

*© 1981 Jane Parker Huber, admin. Westminster John Knox*

**\*THE CALL TO CONFESSION**

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

**Holy and Merciful God, we do not know how to pray as we ought, and we know too well our constant failures to do as you have commanded and to hold fast to your word. Forgive us for the divisions we nurture, guide us to your way, keep us in your care, and lead us into faith. We trust your word that the Spirit of truth will show us all things and grant us courage and peace. Amen.**

**\*THE SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

**\*THE DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

**\*THE RESPONSE . . . no. 285, verse 1**

*"Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song"*

*Bridegroom; Peter Cutts*

*Carl P. Daw, Jr.*

**Like the murmur of the dove's song, like the challenge of her flight,  
Like the vigor of the wind's rush, like the new flames eager might:  
Come, Holy Spirit, come.**

## THE WORDS OF WELCOME

The Greetings Among the People of God  
The Announcements  
The Recognition of Graduates

## WE HEAR THE WORD OF LIFE

### THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Romans 8:22-27

- One We know that the whole creation has been groaning  
as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.
- All **Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit,  
groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption,  
the redemption of our bodies.**
- One For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all.  
Who hopes for what they already have?
- All **But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.**
- One In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness.  
We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit  
intercedes for us through wordless groans.
- All **And the One who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit,  
because the Spirit intercedes for God's people  
in accordance with the will of God.**

### THE ANTHEM

"Blow Into Our World, O Wind of God"

Robert Nicholls

**The congregation is invited to join the choir saying the words in bold starting softly  
at random times, gradually getting louder and faster until the organ comes in.**

*Blow into our world, O Wind of God, drive away all that is dry and lifeless,  
with tornadic power, blast into our midst and fill our lungs and lives with new life.  
Fall, O Fire of God, upon your cowering followers,  
huddled behind closed doors, hiding from their calling.  
Touch each hunched head and leave your mark, ignite our faith and inflame our words.  
**Holy Spirit, Power of God, as in days of old you came.**  
Come now, with blowing wind and burning flame, to kindle your Church's mission,  
lifting high the name.*

-Kevin Scott Fleming

## THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the Lord was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" I said, "Sovereign Lord, you alone know."

Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! This is what the Sovereign Lord says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the Lord.'"

So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.

Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live.'" So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet - a vast army.

Then he said to me: "Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.' Therefore prophesy and say to them: 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: My people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. Then you, my people, will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the Lord have spoken, and I have done it, declares the Lord.'"

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

Acts 2:1-21

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs - we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?" Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine."

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

"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**

*"Spirit of Wind and Fire"*

Anna von Winckler

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**A TIME OF INTENTIONAL SILENCE**

**\*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](http://fpcevo.com/giving)*

“Christ The Lord Is Risen Today”

*Easter Hymn; arr. Bill Holcombe*

\*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 SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER**

The Call to Communion

“Taste and See”

Robert Nicholls

*Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*

The Sharing of Joys and Concerns

The Invitation to the Table

One Let us invite the Spirit of God to blow through our lives and our world, as  
we lift our needs to God in prayer. We pray, O God, for all who have lost  
faith in themselves, in others, and especially in you.

**All May Your Spirit renew and inspire them again.**

One We pray, O God, for all who have lost their hope in what life can become for themselves and for all people.

**All May Your Spirit encourage and challenge them again.**

One We pray, O God, for all who have lost their ability to love freely and recklessly.

**All May Your Spirit comfort and soften them again.**

*Silent prayers are offered.*

**Holy Spirit of God, fill the world with your peace, fill the Church with your purpose, and fill us with your power, for the sake of your Reign. Amen.**

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.**

The Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Words of Institution

One We celebrate the Spirit of God, who hovered over creation and brought order out of formlessness.

**All We praise you, Spirit of God.**

One We celebrate the Spirit of God, who filled Jesus with power and wisdom and, through Him, made the life of God available to all.

**All We praise you, Spirit of God.**

One We celebrate the Spirit of God, who has been poured out on all people, and leads us into the Reign of God.

**All We praise you, Spirit of God.**

One And so, as we gather at the Lord's table, we recognize the Spirit's Presence among us, and we open our hearts to the Spirit's influence.

Lord, we come knowing that we depend on you for life and truth and love.

We come knowing that you welcome us with open and accepting arms.

**All We come ready to meet with you, and be changed by the encounter. Amen.**

One The Lord Jesus, on the eve of His crucifixion, gathered his friends for a meal. During supper, he took a loaf of bread, and gave thanks for it. Then he broke it and passed it among them with these words:

**All This is my body which is broken for you. Take, eat, and remember me.**

One After the meal, Jesus took a cup of wine and gave thanks for it. Then he passed it among them with these words:

**All This is my blood which is shed for you. Take, drink, and remember me.**

One So now, we eat and we drink and we remember Jesus and his great love for us. And we will continue to do this until he returns. Amen.



The Partaking of the Elements  
The Prayer After Communion

One Thank You, Lord Jesus, for this meal of remembrance;  
And for coming to us, in the Spirit's power, as we have shared it.  
All **May the love we find at this table be reflected in our lives;  
May the power we receive at this table make us peacemakers and healers;  
And may the Spirit who fills us again at this table  
lead us to be those who proclaim God's Reign  
in every word we speak and in everything we do. For Jesus' sake. Amen.**

## WE DISPERSE TO SERVE GOD AND NEIGHBOR

**\*THE CLOSING 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 SENDING AND BENEDICTION**

**THE CHORAL RESPONSE**

"Gloria" 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.

**THE POSTLUDE**

"Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1"

Edward Elgar; arr. Edwin H. Lemare

## Happening at First Presbyterian Church

**PNC Update:** We are in the process of scheduling interviews for some of the candidates who have formally applied to be our next Solo Pastor. We have watched their sermons online and reviewed their profiles, so we hope to interview the candidates over the next few weeks. There are many steps to the process after the interviews, but we are excited to begin this phase! We appreciate your continued prayers and support, and I am always happy to answer specific questions you might have (within our confidentiality guidelines, of course). *- Yours in Christ, Steve Wylie, PNC Chair*

First Pres will help **feed our neighbors** at United Caring Services this Summer! On the second **Monday of the month**, volunteers are welcome to join Gail Riecken in preparing and serving lunch at UCS. If you're interested in joining Gail sometime this summer in this simple but important offering of time, text her at 812-550-2328.

A service of Witness to the Resurrection **celebrating the life of Kate Simpson** will be held on **Saturday, May 25 at 11:00 a.m.** in the Sanctuary. The congregation is invited to attend as we remember this First Pres member and Deacon.

### Weekly Calendar

#### **Sunday, May 19**

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  
4:30 p.m. Iona Group  
5:30 p.m. First Light

#### **Monday, May 20**

10:00 a.m. Mission Committee

#### **Tuesday, May 21**

11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting  
5:30 p.m. RSCMMw Rehearsal

#### **Wednesday, May 22**

6:00 p.m. RSCMMw Rehearsal

#### **Thursday, May 23**

5:00 p.m. PNC

#### **Friday, May 24**

*Church Office Closed*

#### **Saturday, May 25**

11:00 a.m. Kate Simpson  
Memorial Service

## Graduation 2024

The congregation of First Presbyterian celebrates and congratulates the class of 2024:

### **Austin Boyle**

Austin graduates from Evansville Day School this month and will attend Indiana University in the fall. He is planning to major in Psychology.



### **Elliot Jones Boyle**

Elliot graduated in December 2023 with dual Masters degrees in Architecture and Urban Design from Washington University in St. Louis, MO, and is now employed at HKW Architects working towards their architectural license.

### **Jonathan Rempuia Hruaia**

Jonathan will graduate this month from Signature School. Jonathan plans to attend Purdue University's College of Science and John Martinson Honors College to study Biology and Studio Arts.



### **Lynne Thissen**

Lynne is graduating from Signature School this week and will attend Valparaiso University with a major in Meteorology and a minor in Humanities starting this fall.

### **Jerusha Van Camp**

Jerusha graduated in April 2024 from University of Dubuque Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity.



### **Jonah Ming-guang Wu**

Jonah will graduate from Signature School this month and plans to attend Purdue University with a major in Computer Science this fall.

## Leading worship this morning:

Pastor Anna von Winckler  
Liturgist Sarah Cross  
Director of Music Robert Nicholls  
The Choir of First Presbyterian Church  
The Flute Choir of First Presbyterian Church, Dick Bernhardt, director

The flowers today are given by Gerald and Susie Summers to the glory of God and in celebration of their thirtieth wedding anniversary!

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## First Presbyterian Church Staff:

Pastor  
Director of Music  
Children and Youth Ministry Coordinator  
Office Administrator

Anna von Winckler  
Robert Nicholls  
Carrie Aiken  
Lora Blaylock



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