

September 8, 2024

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

"Siyahamba"

Zulu Chorus

Siyahamb' ekukhanyeni kwenkos.

We are marching in the light of God.

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

One We do not live by bread alone,
All **but by the Word who became flesh and dwells among us.**
One Christ is the true bread of heaven, the manna of freedom.
All **Come, let us worship and give thanks.**

***THE OPENING HYMN . . . no. 611**

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Hymn to Joy; Ludwig van Beethoven

Henry van Dyke

**Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.**

**All thy works with joy surround thee; earth and heaven reflect thy rays;
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.**

**Mortals, join the happy chorus which the morning stars began.
Love divine is reigning o'er us, joining all in heaven's plan.
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife.
Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.**

***THE CALL TO CONFESSION**

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

God, you have called us to live with humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another in love. But we confess to you and each other that we have not always spoken the truth in love; we have not always made every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Forgive us and, by your grace, help us to grow in every way into him who is our head, Jesus Christ. Amen.

***THE SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

***THE DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

***THE RESPONSE . . . no. 441**

"Hear the Good News of Salvation"

Nettleton; Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music

Dakota

**Hear the good news of salvation: Jesus died to show God's love.
Such great kindness! Such great mercy! Come to us from heaven above.
Jesus Christ, how much I love you! Jesus Christ, you save from sin!
How I love you! Look upon me. Love me still and Cleanse within.**

**All the sins I have committed, to my Savior now I bring.
I bow down with tears of anguish; Christ forgives and so I sing:
Jesus Christ, how much I love you! Jesus Christ, you save from sin!
How I love you! Look upon me. Love me still and Cleanse within.**

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THE WORDS OF WELCOME

The Greetings Among the People of God
The Announcements
The Dedication of Musicians and Educators

WE HEAR THE WORD OF LIFE

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE RESPONSIVE READING

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

One There is a time for everything,
and a season for every activity under the heavens:
All **a time to be born and a time to die,**
a time to plant and a time to uproot,
One a time to kill and a time to heal,
a time to tear down and a time to build,
All **a time to weep and a time to laugh,**
a time to mourn and a time to dance,
One a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
All **a time to search and a time to give up,**
a time to keep and a time to throw away,
One a time to tear and a time to mend,
a time to be silent and a time to speak,
All **a time to love and a time to hate,**
a time for war and a time for peace.

THE ANTHEM

"Lead Me, Lord" from *Praise the Lord, O My Soul* Samuel Sebastian Wesley

*Lead me, Lord, in thy righteousness; make thy way plain before my face.
For it is thou, Lord, only, that makest me dwell in safety.*

- Psalm 4:9, 5:8

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Romans 5:1-5

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And

hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

One The Word of the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Following the Children's Moment, those in PreK through 5th grades may return to their seats. Childcare is available for infants and children up to age 4 in room 109 of the education wing.

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ephesians 4:11-16

So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

One The Word of the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**

THE SERMON

Anna von Winckler

"Endings and Beginnings: Life in Transition"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

A TIME OF INTENTIONAL SILENCE

***THE HYMN . . . no. 343**

Germany; Sacred Melodies
Frank Mason North

"Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life"

**Where cross the crowded ways of life, where sound the cries of race and clan,
above the noise of selfish strife, we hear your voice, O Son of Man.**

**In haunts of wretchedness and need, on shadowed thresholds fraught with fears,
from paths where hide the lures of greed, we catch the vision of your tears.**

From tender childhood's helplessness, from human grief and burdened toil,
from famished souls, from sorrow's stress, your heart has never known recoil.

The cup of water given for you still holds the freshness of your grace;
yet long these multitudes to view the sweet compassion of your face.

O Master, from the mountainside, make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
among these restless throngs abide; O tread the city's streets again;

Till all the world shall learn your love, and follow where your feet have trod;
till glorious from your heaven above shall come the city of our God.

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

We are not alone,
we live in God's world.

We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

- A New Creed from the United Church in Canada

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

"Give Alms of Thy Goods"

Christopher Tye

*Give alms of thy goods, and turn never thy face from any poor one,
and then the face of the Lord shall not be turned away from thee.*

- Tobit 4

*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 Choral Response

“We Give Thee But Thine Own”

Schumann; Cantica Laudis

*We give thee but thine own, what e'er 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 The Lord is with us always.

How do we approach God carrying grief?

All We lift up our broken hearts.

We lift them up in thankfulness for what has been.

One But what has been is not what shall be.

We must look to the Kingdom that will be.

All In the midst of our mourning of endings,

We will also celebrate new beginnings.

God will turn our mourning into dancing!

One And so we are thankful this morning, Creator God.

You continue to renew us day after day by your love.

When one chapter of your people's story ends,

All You are always here:

Speaking a new creation into being,

Calling a new prophet into preaching,

Bringing a new vibrance and continuation to the journey begun.

the invitation continues...

One ...and the voices of today and tomorrow that rise:

All Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of Power and Might

Heaven and Earth are full of your Glory!

Hosanna in the Highest!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the Highest!

the invitation continues...

One ... Each time we think that life has perished,

All He is always here:

Offering living water of hope to those with tears,

Giving forgiveness to those burdened by mistakes,

And loving the lost onto a faith path of purpose.

The Words of Institution and Prayer of Thanksgiving

- One ... Christ is with us in life, in death, and in life after death.
This is the great mystery:
- All Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**
- One Pour out your Guiding Spirit as we face times of transition
and help us see them as the sunrise of day.
- All Be here we pray! Renew us in the midst of change!**
- One Pour out your gifts on the Body of Christ.
- All Pour out on us!**
- One Pour out on the Peters and Pauls of our day.
- All Pour out on us!**
- One Pour out on the Marys and Marthas.
- All Pour out on us!**
- One Pour out on the sons and daughters
who you are calling and sending this day!
- All Pour out on us!**
- One Pour out on these gifts of bread and wine,
that we may know your body and blood are always here:
refreshing, renewing, reviving our hearts and minds and bodies!
This we ask in the name of the Relational God,
Three-in-One and One-in-Three, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.
- All Amen.**

WE DISPERSE TO SERVE GOD AND NEIGHBOR

*THE CLOSING HYMN . . . no. 772
"Live into Hope"

Truro; Musica Sacra
Jane Parker Huber

**Live into hope of captives freed, of sight regained, the end of greed.
Th'oppressed shall be the first to see the year of God's own jubilee!**

**Live into hope! The blind shall see with insight and with clarity,
removing shades of pride and fear, a vision of our God brought near.**

**Live into hope of liberty, the right to speak, the right to be,
the right to have one's daily bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.**

**Live into hope of captives freed from chains of fear or want or greed.
God now proclaims one full release to faith and hope and joy and peace.**

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*THE SENDING AND BENEDICTION

THE CHORAL RESPONSE

“The Lord Bless You and Keep You”

John Rutter

The Lord bless you and keep you:

the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

the Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you, and give you peace. Amen.

- Numbers 6:24

THE POSTLUDE

“Little Fugue in G minor” (BWV 578)

Johann Sebastian Bach

Leading worship this morning:

Pastor	Anna von Winckler
Liturgist	Jean Beckman
Director of Music	Robert Nicholls
The Choir of First Presbyterian Church	

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Happening at First Presbyterian Church

Today, we dedicate our educators and musicians to their next year of service, and **Sunday School for children resumes**. A meet-and-greet for Sunday School aged families will take place in Fellowship Hall following 10:30 worship today. It’s going to be a great fall, so join in!

First Pres is pleased to host the ordination service of our own **Jerusha Van Camp**. She has received her Masters of Divinity, been examined, recommended for Ordination, and called to a ministry of Spiritual Leadership and Governmental Support by the Presbytery of the Ohio Valley. All are welcome to attend her **Service of Ordination this Saturday, September 14 at 11:00 a.m.** in the historic First Pres Sanctuary.

As Pastor Anna leads us in her final worship service here, we also begin to prepare for the arrival of Pastor Mary Beth McCandless in October. **Activity stations** have been set up at the end of the Education Wing **in Kerr Chapel** that are designed to allow a time of reflection, prayer, contemplation, and creativity, and our participation will help us share our dreams and expectations for the future, and help Pastor Mary Beth serve First Pres more faithfully. Plan to spend some time in the chapel before the end the month.

Presbyterian Women will meet on **Wednesday, September 25 at 6:00 p.m.** in Fellowship Hall. All women and girls of the congregation are invited to come together in a relaxed atmosphere for food, fellowship, and a project assembling feminine hygiene packs to be donated to area middle schools and Ivy Tech.

In preparation for the PW activity, all congregation members are invited to **contribute items for feminine hygiene packs**. Appropriate items are full-sized shampoo, bars of soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste, small tampons and regular or light-day menstrual pads. They can be placed in the container in the Courtyard Entrance this and next Sunday, September 15. Then Presbyterian Women will shop for remaining needed items. Checks (made to First Pres; memo: Period) will be happily accepted. Questions? Contact Jean Beckman: jb37@evansville.edu.

A favorite morning - the annual **"Blessing of the Animals"** service - returns on **Sunday, September 29** at both morning services. For more than twenty-five years we have welcomed our animal friends into the building for this special service. Just a reminder: pets need to be on leashes, in cages, in carriers, or in aquariums/terrariums, and remembrances of former animal companions are welcome, too!

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, September 8

7:30 a.m. Band Rehearsal
8:30 a.m. Wide Awake Worship
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
11:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
Sunday School
Meet & Greet
Music Support Committee
5:30 p.m. First Light

Monday, September 9

10:00 a.m. FPC serves at UCS
6:30 p.m. Personnel Committee

Tuesday, September 10

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

4:45 p.m. Handbells/Chimes

5:45 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal

6:00 p.m. Finance Committee

Wednesday, September 11

6:00 p.m. Session Meeting

Thursday, September 12

4:00 p.m. Choir Beginners

4:45 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal

6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Friday, September 13

Saturday, September 14

10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

11:00 a.m. Van Camp Ordination