



Wide Awake Worship

September 8, 2024

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:30 a.m.

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH! We are glad to have you with us as we join in the worship of our God. Please make yourself at home!

We invite you to visit the church website: www.fpcevv.com and our [Facebook](#) page First Presbyterian Church - Evansville, Indiana (We hope you'll "like" us!) to stay up-to-date on our ministry and service opportunities.

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 bread and juice on hand to partake during the service.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

**You may rise in Body or Spirit.*

The Music for Gathering

*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 Confession

*The Declaration of Forgiveness

*The Response . . . no. 441

Nettleton; Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music

"Hear the Good News of Salvation"

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 Teachers

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 Scripture Lessons

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.

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

The Moment of Intentional Silence

*The Song

"God's Love Made Visible"

Dave Brubeck

Iola Brubeck

God's love made vis - i - ble! In - com - pre - hen - si - ble! He is in - vin - ci - ble!
God gave his Son to us to dwell as one of us, His bless - ing un - to us!

His love shall reign! From love so boun - ti - ful, bless - ings un - count - a - ble,
His love shall reign! To Him all hon - or bring, heav - en and earth will sing,

make death sur - mount - a - ble! His love shall reign! Joy - ful - ly pray for
prais - ing our Lord and King! His love shall reign! O - pen all doors this

peace and good will. All of our yearn - ing he will ful - fill.
day of his birth, all of good will in - her - it the earth.

Live in a lov - ing way. Praise him for ev - 'ry day.
His star will al - ways be guid - ing hu - man - i - ty

O - pen your hearts and pray. His love shall reign!
through - out e - ter - ni - ty! His love shall reign!

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*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

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

The Offertory Response . . . no. 452

Open the Eyes

"Open the Eyes of My Heart"

Paul Baloché

**Open the eyes of my heart, Lord. Open the eyes of my heart;
I want to see you; I want to see you; (*sing twice*)**

To see you high and lifted up, shining in the light of your glory.

Pour out your power and love as we sing "Holy, holy, holy."

Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy, I want to see you.

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The Prayer of Dedication

The Prayers

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 LEAVE TO SERVE GOD AND NEIGHBOR

*The Hymn . . . no. 543

“God Be the Love to Search and Keep Me”

Green Tyler

Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

**God, be the love to search and keep me;
God, be the prayer to move my voice;
God, be the strength to now uphold me:
O Christ surround me; O Christ surround me.**

**Bind to myself the Name of Holy,
great cloud of witnesses enfold;
prophets, apostles, angels witness:
O Christ surround me; O Christ surround me.**

**Brightness of sun and glow of moonlight,
flashing of lightening, strength of wind,
depth of the sea to soil of planet:
O Christ surround me; O Christ surround me.**

**Walking behind to hem my journey,
going ahead to light my way,
and from beneath, above and all ways:
O Christ surround me; O Christ surround me.**

**Christ in the eyes of all who see me,
Christ in the ears that hear my voice,
Christ in the hearts of all who know me:
O Christ surround me; O Christ surround me.**

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*The Sending and Benediction

*The Response
"Go, Make Disciples"

Handt Hanson

Go, make dis - ci - ples, bap - tiz - ing them, teach - ing them.
Go, make dis - ci - ples, for I am with you 'til the end of time.
Go, be the salt of the earth. Go, be the light for the world.
Go, be a cit - y on a hill so all can see that you're
serv - ing me. Go, make dis - ci - ples.

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



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