First Presbyterian Church in Evansville, Indiana, is called
to embody God's love, made known in Jesus Christ, in life-giving ways,
and to engage with God in transforming lives, communities, and institutions
to reflect God's goodness.

As a community of open-hearted disciples, we covenant to support and
encourage one another as we explore God's grace on our journey of faith.

Convinced of God's Grace and Love,
we affirm that there can be no exclusiveness in the worship of Christ.

We welcome all regardless of race, ethnic heritage, national origin, age,
gender, marital status, sexual orientation, ability, or socio-economic standing.
We encourage the full participation of all in the life of our congregation.

Welcome to Worship

We are grateful for your presence and welcome you to participate in all First Pres has to offer!

New here? If you are seated in the sanctuary, you'll see orange and yellow papers nearby. If you have joys or prayer concerns to share with the congregation during today's service, please fill out an orange prayer card. Ushers collect the orange cards when we share the Peace of Christ. The yellow slips of paper are to let us know you are here. We hope everyone will fill out their name(s) and any information you'd like us to have. Please place these in the offering plate when it is passed later in the service.

Children are always welcome in worship with their people! Childcare for pre-kindergarten and younger is available in room 109 in the education wing. Carts with books and activities for all ages are available in the rear of the room and outside the door at the front. After the *Call to Live, Love, Pray, Grow*, children from kindergarten through fifth grade may go to *Follow Me Time* with the leaders to room 107 in the education wing.

Please note: our worship services are live streamed and available on Facebook and YouTube. For more information please visit fpcevv.com.

Following worship, you are invited to stay for refreshments and conversation in the parlor.

The Service for the Lord's Day

Gathering

**You may rise in Body or Spirit.*
Congregational responses are printed in **bold.**

Prelude

"Réctis (Duet) for Crumhorn and Cornet" — Louis Nicolas Clérambault

Introit

"Psalm 23" — C. Hylton Stewart

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.
He makes me to lie down in green pastures; and leads me beside still waters.
He revives my soul; and guides me along right pathways for his name's sake.
Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me, your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Greeting and Welcome

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

Call to Worship

God takes care of us.
We have everything we need.
God leads us beside still waters.
We have everything we need.
God sets a table for us.
We have everything we need.
We will live with God forever.
We have everything we need.

Let us worship God.

*Hymn . . . no. 239

Gelobt sei Gott; Melchior Vulpius
"Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!" — Cyril A. Alington

Good Christians all, rejoice and sing! Now is the triumph of our King!
To all the world glad news we bring: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Lord of life is risen today! Death's mighty stone is rolled away.
Let all the earth rejoice and say: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise we in songs of victory that love, that life which cannot die,
and sing with hearts uplifted high: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Your name we bless, O risen Lord, and sing today with one accord
the life laid down, the life restored: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Opening Prayer

...always be with us on our journey. **Amen.**

Confession and Pardon

...knowing that our shepherd restores us with forgiveness.
Loving God,
Sometimes we run from you like foolish sheep.
Bring us back to you when we wander from your ways.
Teach us that you are the one who takes good care of us.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.
- confession continues -
...In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

*Response to Forgiveness . . . no. 238, v. 1 *Judas Maccabeus*; George Frederick Handel
"Thine is the Glory" Edmond Louis Budry

Thine is the glory, risen conqu'ring Son; endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded graveclothes where thy body lay.
Thine is the glory, risen conqu'ring Son; endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**
Let us share the Peace of Christ!

There are many ways to share signs of peace with one another. You may cross your hands across your chest or hold your hands together in front of you if you'd rather not shake hands or hug. Please ask *before assuming that the person you are greeting wants a hug or handshake. Smiles are always appropriate as we share signs of peace.*

- Ushers will collect the orange prayer cards during the Sharing of the Peace of Christ. -

Word

Prayer for Illumination

Risen Christ, break open our silence, speak peace to our fear,
and help us trust your good news. **Amen.**

Scripture

First Reading — Acts 2:42-47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

This is the Word of new life. **Thanks be to God.**

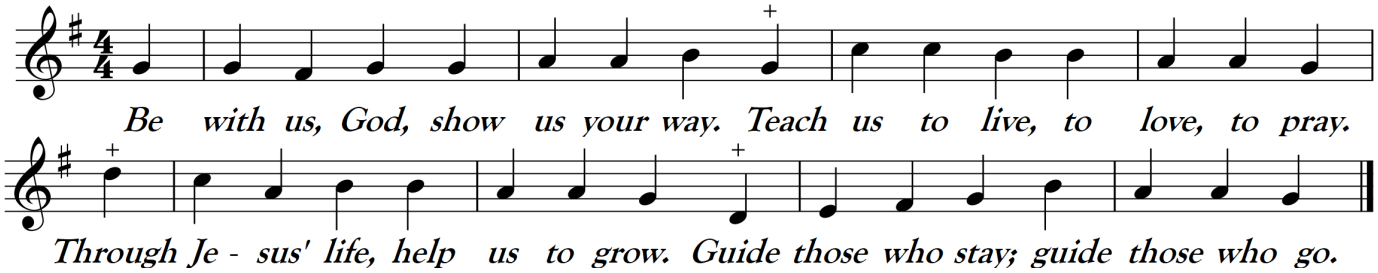
Anthem

"Loving Shepherd of Thy Sheep" — John Rutter

Loving Shepherd of thy sheep keep thy lamb, in safety keep;
Nothing can thy power withstand; none can pluck me from thy hand.
I would bless thee every day, gladly all thy will obey
Like thy blessed ones above; happy in thy perfect love.
Loving Shepherd, ever near, teach thy lamb thy voice to hear;
Suffer not my steps to stray from the straight and narrow way.
Where thou leadest I would go walking in thy steps below
'till before my Father's throne I shall know as I am known. — *- Jane Leeson*

Call to Live, Love, Pray, Grow — *Tallis' Cannon*

All will sing one time through together - children grades 5 and younger are invited to come forward as we sing (bringing the blue information card from the pew rack with them). After the first time through, we'll sing in canon once each: lectern side, middle, pulpit side, choir loft. After the song, those 5th grade and younger may choose to go to Follow Me Time *with their leaders, and those who wish to remain in the Sanctuary may return to their people.*



Gospel Reading — *[John 9:35-41]* John 10:1-10

Jesus heard that [the leaders of the synagogue] had driven [the man who had been born blind] out, and when [Jesus] found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

"Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

This is the Word of new life. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *Whose Voice Do You Hear?*

- SILENCE FOR REFLECTION -

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil,
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long. *- Psalm 23*

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

...Living God, **hear our prayer.**
- prayer continues -
...through Jesus Christ, our living Lord. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

CALL TO GIVING

You may send a check to the church office, or give online at fpcevw.com/giving, or text "GIVE" to 833-921-6520.

Let us offer our lives to the Lord.

OFFERTORY

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE . . . no. 609 — *Lasst uns erfreuen*; *Geistliche Kirchengesäng*

"Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow" — Brian Wren

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with You.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
- prayer continues -
...our God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

SENDING

***HYMN . . . no. 802** — *St. Columba*; Irish Melody

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is" — Psalm 23; arr. Henry Williams Baker

The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow my ransomed soul he leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still, thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight; thy unction grace bestoweth;
and O what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

Invitation to Ministry and Mission

Blessing and Charge

...and the song of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **Alleluia!**
...rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Benediction Response

"The Lord Bless You and Keep You" Peter C. Lutkin

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.

Postlude

"Piece Terminale (Postlude)" Charles Tournemire

Leading worship this morning:

Pastor	Mary Beth McCandless
Liturgist	Elesha Downs
Guest Organist	Neal Biggers
Guest Director	George Evans
The Choir of First Presbyterian Church	
Audio	Blake Foerster-Daniels
Visual	Finch Parker

The flowers today are given by Jake and Suzanne Kohlmeyer to the glory of God and in honor of Jake Kohlmeyer's 37th birthday.

Thank you to Neal Biggers and George Evans for leading our music today while Director of Music Rober Nicholls is away, attending the wedding of former head chorister Elliot Jones Boyle.

Liturgy for worship has been adapted from the Presbyterian Association of Musicians *Child of Blessing, Thom Schuman's* Lectionary Liturgies, and the Presbyterian Church (USA) *Book of Common Worship*. Used with Permission.
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Happening at First Presbyterian Church

Join your First Pres friends this evening for **4th Sundays at 1st Pres**. It's a relaxed time for all ages to get together, work on a service project, learn, eat, and worship between **5:30 and 7:00 p.m. Tonight, April 26**, the meal will be Tacos! See you in Fellowship Hall as we focus on joy!

Singing Resistance Evansville gatherings happen in the First Pres sanctuary on **Sunday evenings at 7:00 p.m**. The nonpartisan gatherings are open to all to join in the singing or just listening! Questions? contact Pastor MB.

If you enjoyed **Morning Prayer** with Pastor MB during Lent, or maybe you wanted to, but your Lenten calendar was too full, you're in luck! Pastor MB is hosting another morning prayer series on **Wednesdays through May 27 at 7:00 a.m.** Join Pastor MB on Zoom (link available in *Connect* and on the Church Calendar).

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, April 26
- 7:30 a.m. Band Rehearsal
- 8:30 a.m. Wide Awake Worship
- 9:15 a.m. Fellowship Time
- 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School
  We Make the Road
- 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
- 11:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
- 5:30 p.m. 4th Sundays at 1st Pres
- 7:00 p.m. Singing Resistance Evansville

Monday, April 27

Tuesday, April 28
- 11:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 3:45 p.m. Teen Rehearsal
- 4:45 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal
- 5:45 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal

Wednesday, April 29
- 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
- 12:00 p.m. We Make the Road
- 4:30 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. Session Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. We Make the Road

Thursday, April 30
- 4:00 p.m. Choir Beginners
- 5:00 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Friday, May 1
Church Office Closed

Saturday, May 2
12:00 p.m. Music Recognition BBQ

First Presbyterian Church

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www.fpcevv.com

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