

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 here in Fellowship Hall, you'll see orange and yellow papers near you on the table. 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 the yellow slips in the offering plate when it is passed later in the service.

Children are always welcome in worship with their people! Just outside the door, there is a cart with books, activities etc. for children - feel free to pick up anything that looks interesting - then return the books and crayons to the cart after worship.

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.

GATHERING MUSIC

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

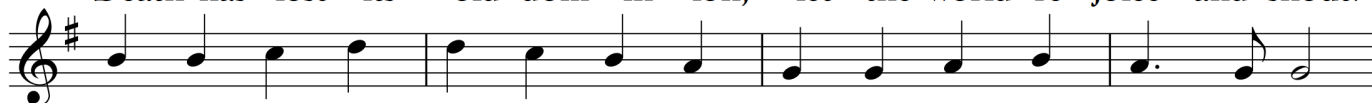
Hymn to Joy; arr. Bill Carter

"Christ is Risen! Christ is Living"

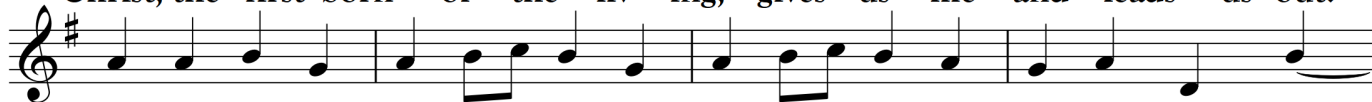
Nicholas Martinez



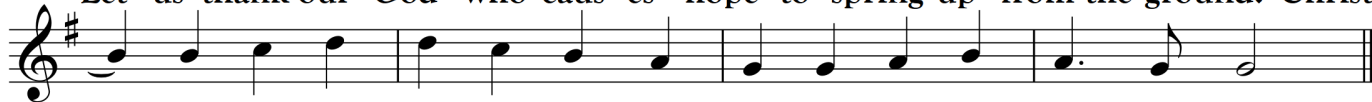
Christ is ris - en, Christ is liv - ing, dry your tears, be un - a - fraid!
If the Lord had nev - er ris - en, we'd have noth - ing to be - lieve.
Death has lost its old dom - in - ion, let the world re - joice and shout!



Death and dark - ness could not hold Him, nor the tomb where He was laid.
But His prom - ise can be trust - ed: "You will live, be - cause I live."
Christ, the first - born of the liv - ing, gives us life and leads us out.



Do not look a - mong the dead for one who lives for - ev - er - more. Tell
As we share the death of Ad - am, so in Christ we live a - gain. Death
Let us thank our God who caus - es hope to spring up from the ground. Christ



— the world that Christ is ris - en, make it known He goes be - fore.
— has lost its sting and ter - ror. Christ the Lord has come to reign.
— is ris - en, Christ is giv - ing life e - ter - nal, life pro - found.

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*OPENING PRAYER

...one God, now and forever. **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. 585, v. 1

Machu-pichu; Peruvian melody

"Glory to God"

Anonymous

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest! *(sing twice)*

To God be glory forever! To God be glory forever!

Alleluia, Amen! *(sing six times)*

*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.**

*SONG
"Shepherd Me, O God"

Marty Haugen
Psalm 23

Refrain

Shep - herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -
yond my fears, from death in - to life.

God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want. I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love,
I walk by the quiet waters of peace. **Refrain**

Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul, you lead me in pathways of righteousness and truth,
my spirit shall sing the music of your name. **Refrain**

Though I should wander the valley of death, I fear no evil for you are at my side,
your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope. **Refrain**

You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred,
crowning me with love beyond my power to hold. **Refrain**

Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life;
I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore. **Refrain**

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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.**

- 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 fpcev.com/giving, or text "GIVE" to 833-921-6520.

Let us offer our lives to the Lord.

OFFERTORY SONG OF DEDICATION

“We Are An Offering”

Dwight Liles

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of seven staves of music. The lyrics are: "We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you. We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering, we are an offering." The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and rests, with some triplets indicated by a '3' above the notes.

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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.

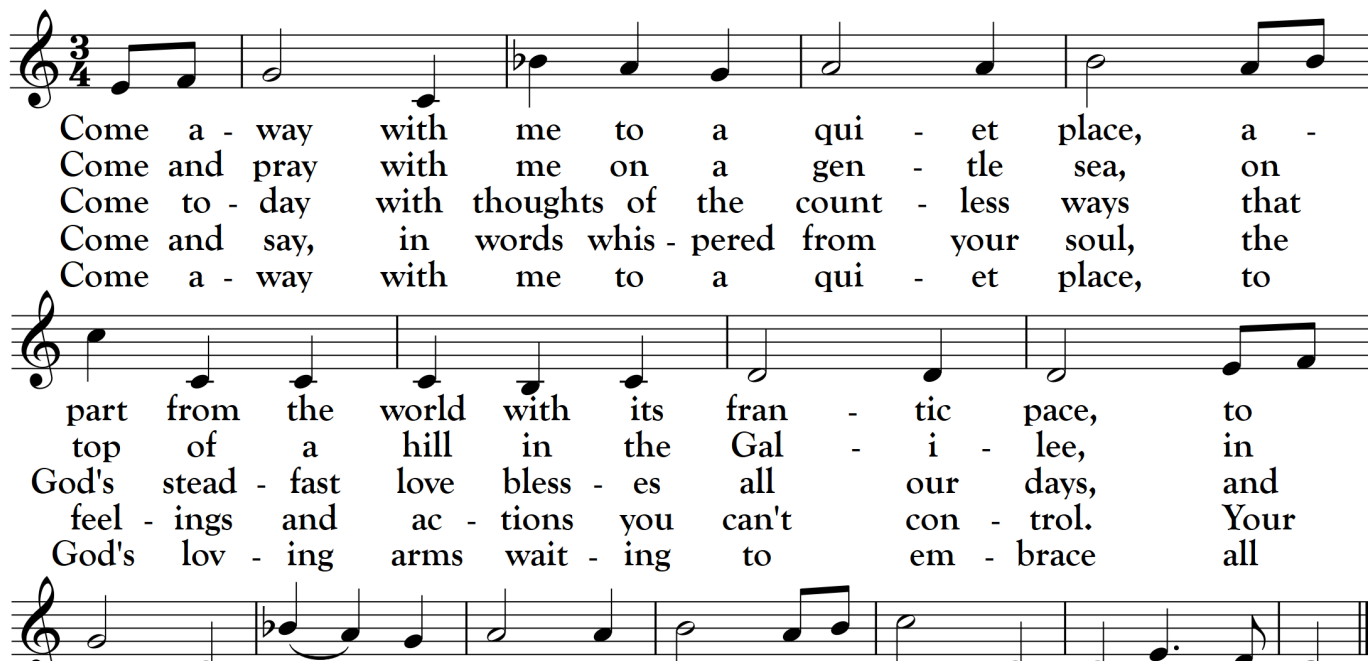
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SENDING

*HYMN

“Come Away with Me”

Mary Nelson Keithahn



Come a - way with me to a qui - et place, a -
Come and pray with me on a gen - tle sea, on
Come to - day with thoughts of the count - less ways that
Come and say, in words whis - pered from your soul, the
Come a - way with me to a qui - et place, to
part from the world with its fran - tic pace, to
top of a hill in the Gal - i - lee, in
God's stead - fast love bless - es all our days, and
feel - ings and ac - tions you can't con - trol. Your
God's lov - ing arms wait - ing to em - brace all
pray, re - flect, and seek God's grace.
gar - dens like Geth - se - ma - ne.
join with me in si - lent praise. Come a - way with me. Come a - way.
spir - it needs to be made whole.
those who come in hope of grace.

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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!**

*SENDING SONG . . . no. 539, vs 1

“We Will Go Out with Joy”

We will go out with joy

Andrew Donaldson and Hilary Seraph Donaldson

We will go out with joy in the Spirit; we will go out with God. (*sing twice*)

Alleluia! We will go out with joy. Alleluia! Alleluia!

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Leading worship this morning:

Pastor	Mary Beth McCandless
Liturgist	Bob Jacobs
Wide Awake Band	Tony Aiken, Bri Alley, Mack Gramooré, Matt Kincaid, Don Qualls, Sue Schriber
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 Sue Schriber for joining the band 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