

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 outside the door at the front and at the rear of the room, where there is also a *PrayGround* for children and their adults. 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 101 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

INTROIT

"Morokeni"

Kwangali and Sotho; arr. Bernard Krüger

Morokeni vakwetetu!

Rona re tswa re le ko Thekong.

Dumelang, kaofela!

Hello, friend!

We are coming from Durban (Thekong).

Hello, everybody!

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GREETING AND WELCOME

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

Praise the Lord.

Sing to the Lord a new song.

Praise the Lord.

Praise with tambourines and with dance.

Praise the Lord.

Praise with full voices and open hearts.

Praise the Lord.

Let all the children of God rejoice together! Amen.

Let us worship God!

*HYMN . . . no. 663

Morning Hymn; François H. Barthélemon

"Awake, My Soul, and With the Sun"

Thomas Ken

**Awake, my soul, and with the sun your daily stage of duty run;
shake off dull sloth, and joyful rise to pay your morning sacrifice.**

**Lord, I my vows to you renew. Disperse my sins as morning dew;
guard my first springs of thought and will, and with yourself my spirit fill.**

**Direct, control, suggest, this day, all I design or do or say,
that all my powers, with all their might, in your sole glory may unite.**

DEDICATION OF MUSICIANS

To our musicians:

Have you heard God's call to sing, ring, and play in celebration of all that God has done?

We have.

Will you give yourself to the important work of preparing music for the worship of God?

We will.

Will you seek to lead God's people in giving glory and honor to God alone? **We will.**

Will you be a friend among your colleagues in music and will you take instruction and critique from your director? **We will.**

To the congregation:

Do you, the members of this congregation, accept the leadership of these musicians and will you pray for them, encourage them, and be grateful for their contributions?

We do and we will.

DEDICATION OF ACOLYTES, LITURGISTS, GREETERS, AND USHERS

To those who serve:

Have you heard God's call to light candles, greet worshippers, receive offerings, serve communion, or to read liturgy and scripture in celebration of all that God has done?

We have.

Will you give yourself to the important work of being present and prepared to serve the congregation as we gather for the worship of God? **We will.**

Through your service, will you seek to lead God's people in giving glory and honor to God alone? **We will.**

Will you be a friend among your colleagues in service and will you take guidance and direction from your leaders and ministers? **We will.**

To the congregation:

Do you, the members of this congregation, accept the leadership of these acolytes, greeters, ushers, and liturgists and will you pray for them, encourage them, and be grateful for their contributions? **We do and we will.**

DEDICATION OF EDUCATORS

To our educators:

Have you heard God's call to serve in the ministry of education and spiritual formation of this congregation? **We have.**

Will you give yourself to the important work of preparation to serve in these ministries?

We will.

Will you be a friend among your colleagues in service, collaborating with them in this work, and will you take guidance and direction from your leaders and ministers? **We will.**

To the congregation:

Do you, the members of this congregation, accept the leadership of these called to the ministry of education and spiritual formation and will you pray for them, encourage them, and be grateful for their contributions? **We do and we will.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

...that in your service they may grow in faith, hope, and love. **Amen.**

***CALL TO CONFESSION . . . no. 739, v. 1**

"O for a Closer Walk with God"

Caithness; Scottish Psalter

William Cowper

**O for a closer walk with God, a calm and heavenly frame,
a light to shine upon the road that leads me to the lamb.**

***CONFESSION AND PARDON**

**God, you are loving and just. Forgive us when we do not care for all of creation
and when we do not care for one another. Guide us when things are unfair
so we can learn what your justice means and share your love on earth.**

- silence is kept -

In the name of Jesus, Amen.

...In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

***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

...through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

PSALM

Psalm 119:33-40

Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes, and I will observe it to the end. Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart. Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it. Turn my heart to your decrees and not to selfish gain; be gracious to me according to your word. Confirm to your servant your promise, which is for those who fear you. Turn away the disgrace that I dread, for your ordinances are good. See, I have longed for your precepts; in your righteousness be gracious to me. Amen.

ANTHEM

"I Will Sing with the Spirit"

David Goodenough

*I will sing with the Spirit. I will sing with the understanding
O sing unto the Lord a new song. Sing unto the Lord all the earth.*

- RSCM Motto, Psalm 96:1

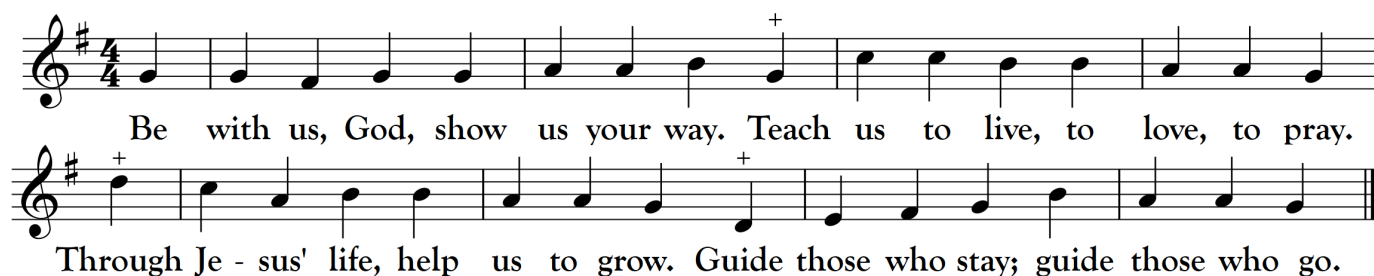
Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone; the day is near.

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

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 twice 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

Matthew 18:15-20

"If your brother and sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Wake Up and Pay Attention

- SILENCE FOR REFLECTION -

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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, *The United Church in Canada*

*HYMN . . . no. 744

"Arise, Your Light Is Come!"

Festal Song; William H. Walter
Ruth C. Duck

Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God, which shines on you today.

Arise, your light is come! Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captives' liberty, good tidings to the poor.

Arise, your light is come! All you in sorrow born,
bind up the broken-hearted ones and comfort those who mourn.

Arise, your light is come! The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

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SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

...through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

CALL TO GIVING

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

Let us offer our lives to the Lord.

OFFERTORY

"I Am the Bread of Life"

Simon Lole

*I am the bread of life, all who come to me will not hunger, and all who believe in me shall never thirst.
I have come down from heaven not to do my own will, but the will of God who sent me.*

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE . . . no. 606
"Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"

Old Hundredth; Genevan Psalter
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.**

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
- thanksgiving continues -
...we join the ancient and eternal hymn:

RESPONSE . . . no. 552

Land of Rest; American Folk

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

- thanksgiving continues -
...great is the mystery of our faith:

RESPONSE . . . no. 553

Land of Rest; American Folk

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.
Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

- thanksgiving continues -
...all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

RESPONSE . . . no. 554

Land of Rest; American Folk

Amen. Amen. 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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

...The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

The bread will be passed to you first; then the cup will be passed to you.

You may eat the bread or drink the juice from the cup as soon as you receive them.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

....of all those who are hungry. **Amen.**

SENDING

*HYMN . . . no. 719

“Come, Labor On”

Ora Labora; Thomas Tertius Noble
Jane Laurie Borthwick

Come, labor on. Who dares stand idle on the harvest plain
while all around us waves the golden grain?

And to each servant does the Master say, “Go work today.”

Come, labor on. Claim the high calling angels cannot share;
to young and old the gospel gladness bear.

Redeem the time; its hours too swiftly fly. The night draws nigh.

Come, labor on. Cast off all gloomy doubt and faithless fear!

No arm so weak but may do service here.

Though feeble agents, may we all fulfill God’s righteous will.

Come, labor on. No time for rest, till glows the western sky,
till the long shadows o’er our pathway lie,

and a glad sound comes with the setting sun, “Well done, well done!”

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

“A Gaelic Blessing”

John Rutter

*Deep peace of the running wave to you, deep peace of the flowing air to you,
deep peace of the quiet earth to you, deep peace of the shining stars to you,
deep peace of the gentle night to you, moon and stars pour their healing light on you,
deep peace of Christ, the light of the world to you.*

POSTLUDE

“Toccata”

Theodore Dubois

Leading worship this morning:

Pastor	Mary Beth McCandless
Liturgist	Sue Schriber
Director of Music	Robert Nicholls
The Choir of First	Presbyterian Church
Audio	Blake Foerster-Daniels
Visual	Finch Parker

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Happening at First Presbyterian Church

Join Gail Riecken and the crew in providing **lunch** for our neighbors at **United Caring Services** on the second Monday of the month. The UCS kitchen is quite small, so for September, we will prepare casseroles ahead of time at First Pres. If you need more information, or would like to **help next Saturday, September 12 or Sunday, September 13**, please be in touch with Gail by making a note on your yellow worship form, or contacting Gail at 812-550-2328. Thank you!

Evening Prayer returns next **Sunday, September 13**. Join Rev. Jerusha in the courtyard (*weather permitting!*) for a time of fellowship and s'mores starting at 6:15 p.m., followed by a brief service of evening prayer at 6:45 p.m.

Book Group at First Pres meets next on **Monday, September 14, 6:30-8:00 p.m.** in Room 105. A Zoom option is available; contact [Francie Hubbard](#) to learn how to sign in. The group will discuss *The Backyard Bird Chronicles* written and illustrated by Amy Tan. Begun in earnest in 2016, Tan's scrutiny, speculation, and delight in the birds visiting her feeders and water bowls are recorded in this witty and stunningly illustrated journal.

Presbyterian Women welcome all to join them in **monthly Bible Study!** Meeting on the **third Wednesday** of the month, participants are invited to bring their lunch to **room 105 in the education wing at 11:30 a.m.** for food and fellowship, with Bible study beginning at Noon. *United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other*, studying 1st Corinthians, will run monthly through the school year. Come as often as you are able starting on September 16!

The Mission Committee invites you to lunch with them! Bring your lunch (*beverages provided*) on **Monday, September 21 at 11:30 a.m.** for an informative presentation by Elizabeth Arnold, Director of Outpatient Services at Southwestern Behavioral Healthcare, as she shares how Southwestern is making a difference in the lives of individuals and families throughout our community. Learn about the mental health services that Southwestern provides, the impact of the Friends of Mental Health program in supporting quality care, and what it means to have a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) in the area. This is a wonderful opportunity to gain insight into available resources and reduce stigma surrounding mental health.

The League of Women Voters of Southwestern Indiana is holding A Get Out The Vote (GOTV) **postcard writing party on Saturday, September 19** in First Presbyterian's Fellowship Hall from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Come and write a postcard inviting others to vote in this election. This is a non-partisan event and is intended to reach those who have historically not cast a ballot. Postcards, pens, and postage will be provided. There will be suggested scripts to write, or you can use your own message. Come for the entire time or just drop in for the amount of time that works for you.

We will celebrate the annual **Blessing of the Animals** service on **Sunday, September 27** at both morning services! This year, we are also offering an opportunity to have your animal companion photographed with Santa! Those wishing a photo are asked to bring a pet food item to be donated to the food pantry at Patchwork Central.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, September 6

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
Choir Rehearsal
10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
11:30 a.m. Fellowship Time

Monday, September 7 *Labor Day*
Church Office Closed

Tuesday, September 8

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, September 9

3:15 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal
5:30 p.m. Finance Committee

Thursday, September 10

4:00 p.m. Choir Beginners
5:00 pm. Chorister Rehearsal
6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Friday, September 11
Church Office Closed

Saturday, September 12