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

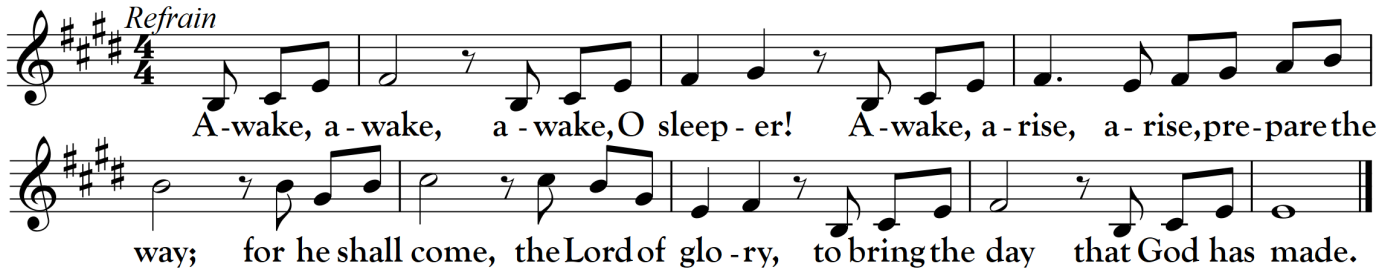
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

Call to Worship

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it;
the world, and those who live in it.
Praise the Lord.
The Lord's name be praised.
Let us worship God.

*Song

"Awake, O Sleeper" — Francis Patrick O'Brien



Rise from the darkness; wake from the night. Welcome the splendor of day.
Live as God's children; live in the light. God, prepare God's way. **Refrain**

Come let us go to the house of the Lord; all people together give praise.
Learn from the one who is justice and truth; follow in God's way. **Refrain**

Who can fortell the return of the Lord? Who knows the day or the hour?
Ready your hearts for the One who is love, coming in his power. **Refrain**

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*Gathering Prayer

...and with you we can do all things. **Amen.**

***Confession and Pardon**

Loving God, you call us to love, but our actions harm others.
Too often, we do not serve you.

Holy God, you call us to worship you,
but we are overwhelmed by other demands for our attention.
Too often, we do not serve you.

Merciful God, you call us to follow your way.
Too often, we do not choose to serve you. Forgive us.
- silence is kept -
...We are forgiven and given the opportunity to try again. **Thanks be to God.**

***Confession Response . . . no. 699** *Fill My Cup*
"Fill My Cup" Isaiah Jones, Jr.

Refrain **Fill my cup; let it overflow; fill my cup; let it overflow;**
fill my cup; let it overflow with love.

Lord, let me be your instrument, spreading sunshine in the land;
let people see your works in me; help me to live the best I can. *Refrain*

It's my desire to live for you and to always walk upright;
give me the strength to face each day; stay with me through each dark night. *Refrain*

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***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

FIRST READING — Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-20

Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her and is found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate. To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths and meets them in every thought.

The beginning of wisdom is the most sincere desire for instruction, and concern for instruction is love of her, and love of her is the keeping of her laws, and giving heed to her laws is assurance of immortality, and immortality brings one near to God, so the desire for wisdom leads to a kingdom.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM — Psalm 70

Be pleased, O God, to deliver me.
O Lord, make haste to help me!
Let those be put to shame and confusion
who seek my life.
Let those be turned back and brought to dishonor
who desire to hurt me.
Let those who say, "Aha, Aha!"
turn back because of their shame.
Let all who seek you
rejoice and be glad in you.
Let those who love your salvation
say evermore, "God is great!"
But I am poor and needy;
hasten to me, O God!
You are my help and my deliverer;
O Lord, do not delay!

GOSPEL READING — Matthew 25:1-13

"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

This is the word of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON *Chasing Wisdom or Running from Foolishness*

- SILENCE FOR REFLECTION -

***HYMN . . . no. 350** *Keep Your Lamps*
"Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning" African American Spiritual

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning; keep your lamps trimmed and burning;
keep your lamps trimmed and burning, for the time is drawing nigh.
Sisters, don't grow weary; brothers, don't grow weary;
children, don't grow weary, for the time is drawing nigh.

It's our faith makes us happy; it's our faith makes us happy;
it's our faith makes us happy, for the time is drawing nigh.
Sisters, don't grow weary; brothers, don't grow weary;
children, don't grow weary, for the time is drawing nigh.

***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*

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the needs of the church, the whole human family,
and all the world, saying: **Hear our prayer.**
...we pray to you, O God: **Hear our prayer.**
...and in the mystery of the Holy Spirit, we pray. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

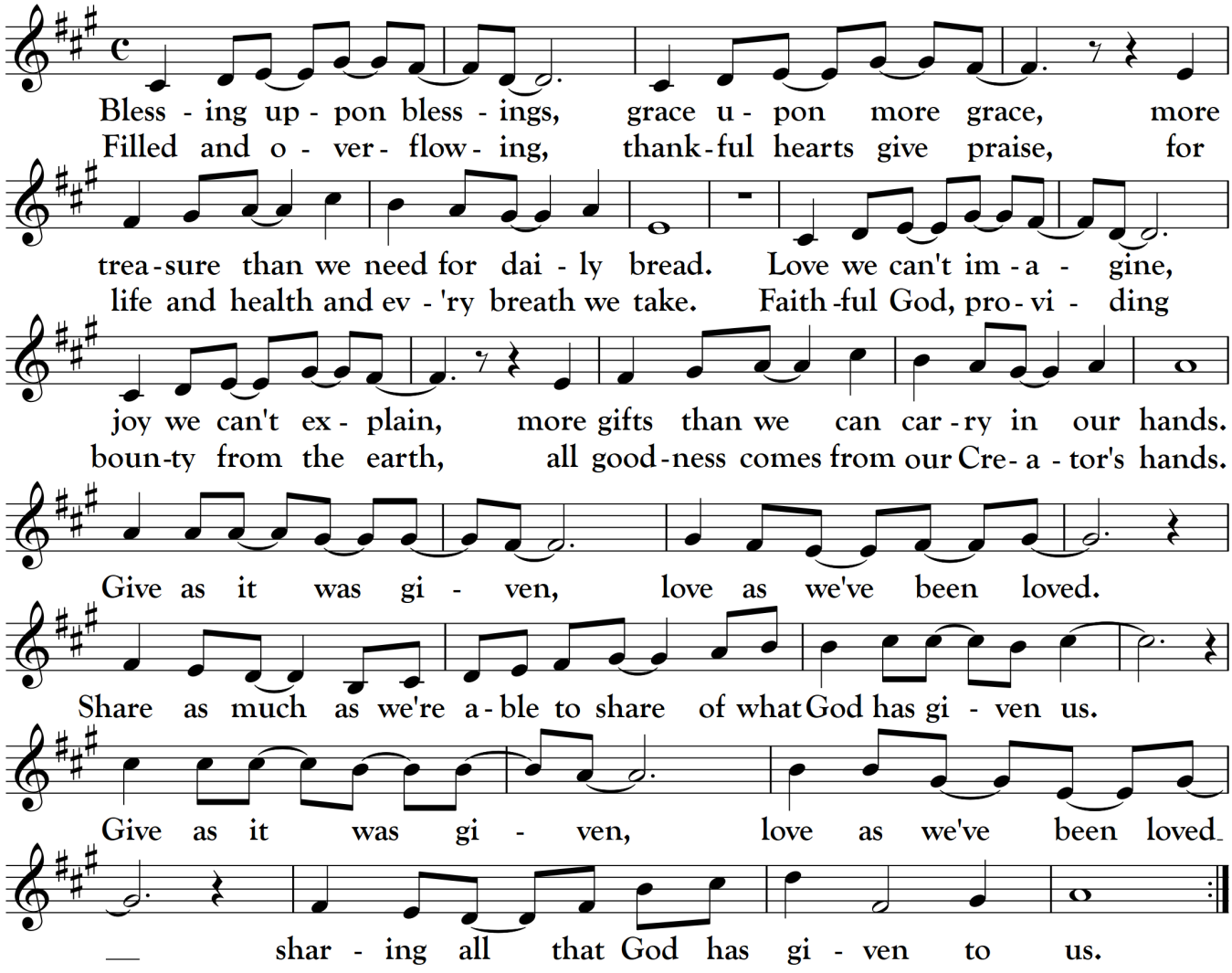
CALL TO GIVING

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

Let us offer our lives to God.

Offertory Song of Dedication

"Give As It Was Given" — Handt Hanson



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

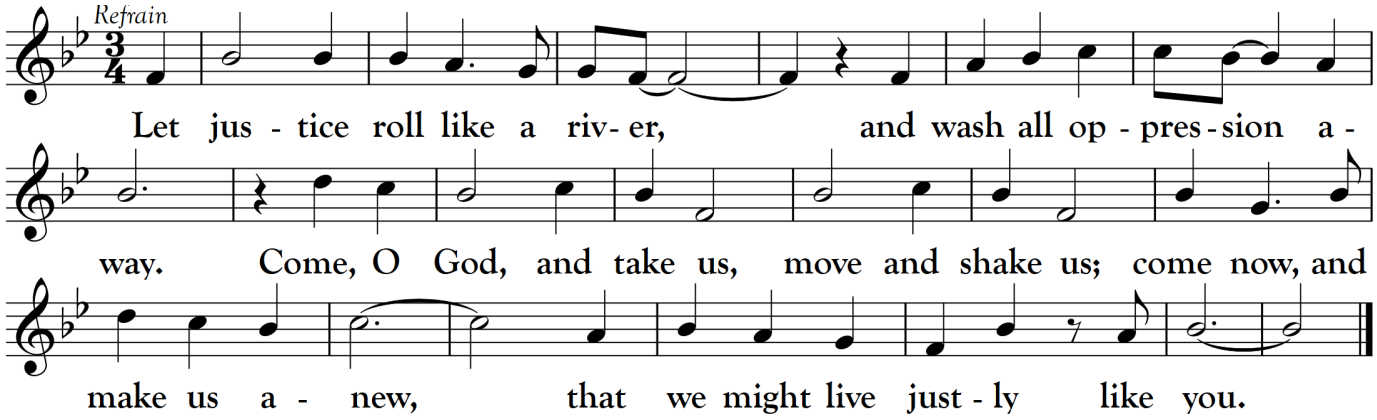
Lord's Prayer

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

*Song

"Let Justice Roll Like a River" — Marty Haugen



How long shall we wait, O God, for the day of your mercy to dawn,
the day we beat our swords into plough, when your peace reigns over the earth? **Refrain**

Hear this, all of you who use the poor in your thirst of power and riches:
the Lord will turn your laughter to tears, on the wondrous day of our God. **Refrain**

You have been told the way of life, the way of justice and peace;
to act justly, to love gently, and walk humbly with God. **Refrain**

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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. 80 — *The Trees of the Field*; Stuart Dauerman

"You Shall Go Out with Joy" — Steffi Geiser Rubin

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;
the mountains and the hills will break forth before you;
there'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field will clap, will clap their hands.
And all the trees of the field will clap their hands;
the trees of the field will clap their hands;
the trees of the field will clap their hands while you go out with joy.

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Leading worship this morning:

Pastor	Mary Beth McCandless
Liturgist	Jingle Hagey
Director of Music	Robert Nicholls
Wide Awake Band	Tony Aiken, Bri Alley, Mack Grammoré, Matt O'Neill, Don Qualls
Audio	Blake Foerster-Daniels
Visual	Finch Parker

Liturgy for worship has been adapted from the Presbyterian Association of Musicians *Child of Blessing* resource and the Presbyterian Church (USA) *Book of Common Worship*. Used with Permission.
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First Presbyterian Church
is a partner congregation with the
Covenant Network of Presbyterians
and with More Light Presbyterians.

Happening at First Presbyterian Church

The Music Department is ready to help you stock your pantry with deliciousness! The annual **Soup + Bake Sale is today after each worship service**. Frozen homemade soups, Rob's famous bread, and more will be available to fill your kitchen. All proceeds help First Pres' young musicians attend camp and special music events.

Join Pastor MB in the courtyard (weather permitting!) **tonight** for **Evening Prayer**. Fellowship and s'mores **starts at 6:15 p.m.**, followed by a brief service of evening prayer at 6:45 p.m. If you'd like to help set up, come at 6:00. Thank you!

Singing Resistance-Evansville invites all to join them in the Sanctuary **this afternoon at 4:00 p.m. for a community sing and concert**. *We the People - No Matter What!* will feature songs and readings that highlight the constitution and express the desire for this country being the best it can be. All are welcome!

November is here, and that means it's **Jiffy Mix time**! The Mission Committee invites you to bring Jiffy Cornbread with you to church for the Evansville Rescue Mission's Gobbler Gathering, where over 2,200 area households will receive 70-pound food baskets. Our goal is **500+ boxes of Jiffy Mix by next Sunday, November 16**. Not a shopper? Monetary donations to be passed along to ERM are welcome, too, via a check to the office or by clicking HERE. Thank you!

Book Group at First Pres meets next **tomorrow evening**, 6:30-8:00 p.m. in room 105. A Zoom option is available; contact Francie Hubbard (francie@myhubbards.com) to learn how to sign in. The group will discuss *Gossip Men: J. Edgar Hoover, Joe McCarthy, Roy Cohn, and the Politics of Insinuation* by Christopher M. Elias. This non-fiction book explores how three towering figures of midcentury American power solidified their power through the skillful use of deliberately misleading techniques like implication, hyperbole, and photographic manipulation.

Today is your last opportunity to bring a **reminder of our historic building** home with you! Order a Rose Window Ornament from the Presbyterian Women at the table in the lobby or click HERE. There are 3 versions, white-washed, stained, and painted, priced from $20-$25. Finished versions will be available for pickup (just in time for Christmas shipping!) starting November 15 in the lobby.

The Mayor's Interfaith Advisory Council welcomes all to an **Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service on Wednesday, November 18 at 6:30 p.m.** We are grateful to the congregation of **St. Benedict Cathedral** for hosting this year's service. The Advisory Council encourages attendees to bring a non-perishable food item with them to be donated to the Tri-State Food Bank.

The Music Department welcomes all to the annual **Breakfast with Santa on Sunday, November 21** between 8:30 and 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Tickets are $10/person and include a full breakfast of pancakes, eggs, sausage, and a visit with the Jolly 'ol Elf himself! Can't attend? Consider donating tickets so a family in need can attend. Click HERE or ask a choir member to purchase or donate. All proceeds help First Pres' young musicians attend camp and special music events.

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the **Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, November 22 at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall**. We'll have light breakfast items to enjoy, including fruit, yogurt, and pastries. Agenda items will include election of officers to begin service in January as well as approval of Pastor MB's 2027 terms of call. Both morning services will take place in the Sanctuary at their usual times of 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.

All are invited to get ready to get ready! Join your First Pres family in Fellowship Hall on **Sunday, November 22 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. for the ADVENTure Party**. We'll have games, pizza, Advent crafts (including wreaths with real candles to take home), and a brief, informal time of worship. RSVP on your yellow worship slip or click HERE so we have enough supplies and pizza for all!

Do you like to **decorate for the holidays**? Join Lisa Jones on **Sunday, November 29** as we begin to adorn our building with special reminders of the season. We'll set up and decorate trees, hang wreaths, and place other decor around the church. Please email Lisa Jones (lisabjones3@gmail.com) if you plan to help, and let her know how many folks you're bringing with you! (Although most of the work is done after the 10:30 service, there are items to be done after 8:30 worship, so don't hesitate to participate if you're an 'early service' attender!)

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, November 8
- 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
  Soup + Bake Fundraiser
  We Make the Road
- 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
- 11:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
  Soup + Bake Fundraiser
- *4:00 p.m. We the People - No Matter What!*
  Community Sing & Concert
- 6:15 p.m. S'mores and Evening Prayer

Monday, November 9
- 10:30 a.m. Feeding Mission at UCS
- *6:30 p.m. Book Group*

Tuesday, November 10
- 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, November 11
- 12:00 p.m. We Make the Road
- 5:30 p.m. Finance Committee
- 6:30 p.m. Session Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. We Make the Road

Thursday, November 12
- 4:00 p.m. Choir Beginners
- 5:00 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Friday, November 13
- *Church Office Closed*

Saturday, November 14