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. We'd love to call you by name - nametag supplies are in the hallway across from the Sanctuary door. When you make a nametag with your first and last name (pronouns are welcome!) and put it in the box by the door when you leave the building, a printed nametag will await your next visit.

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

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.
Serve the LORD with gladness; come into his presence with singing.
Know that the LORD is God.
It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise.
Give thanks to him; bless his name.
For the LORD is good;
his steadfast love endures forever and his faithfulness to all generations.
Let us worship God.

***HYMN . . . no. 336** *Kresmer*; *Neder-landtsch Gedenk-Clank*
"We Gather Together" attr. Adrianus Valerius

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
he chastens and hastens his will to make known;
the wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.

Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine;
so from the beginning the fight we were winning;
thou, Lord, wast at our side; all glory be thine!

We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant,
and pray that thou still our defender wilt be.
Let thy congregation escape tribulation;
thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

*OPENING PRAYER

...one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

***Confession and Pardon**

Loving God, we confess our struggle to be your faithful disciples.
We hoard your good gifts.
You invite us to be generous, but we are afraid of not having enough.
Forgive us for not trusting the love that surrounds us.
Help us to share and to serve.
Through Christ we pray.
- silence is kept -
...In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **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 Savior. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

EPISTLE READING — Ephesians 1:15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

GOSPEL READING — Matthew 25:31-46

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left.

Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'

Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.'

Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.'

Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life."
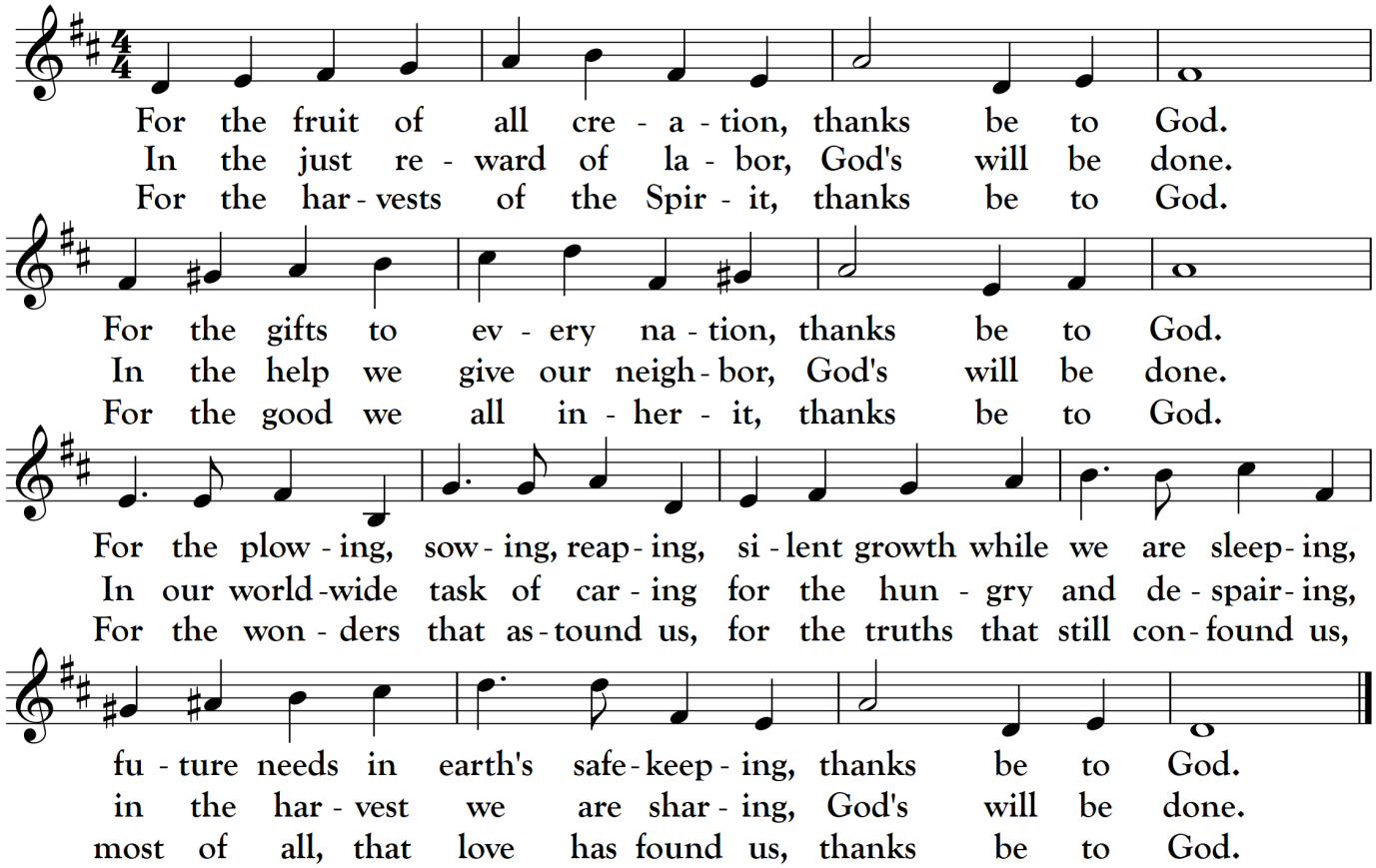
This is the word of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON — *It's a Good thing We Are People!*

- SILENCE FOR REFLECTION -

*HYMN — *East Acklam*; Welsh melody

"For the Fruit of All Creation" — Fred Pratt Green



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*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

...we pray to you, O God: **Hear our prayer.**
...and in the mystery of the Holy Spirit, we pray. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING
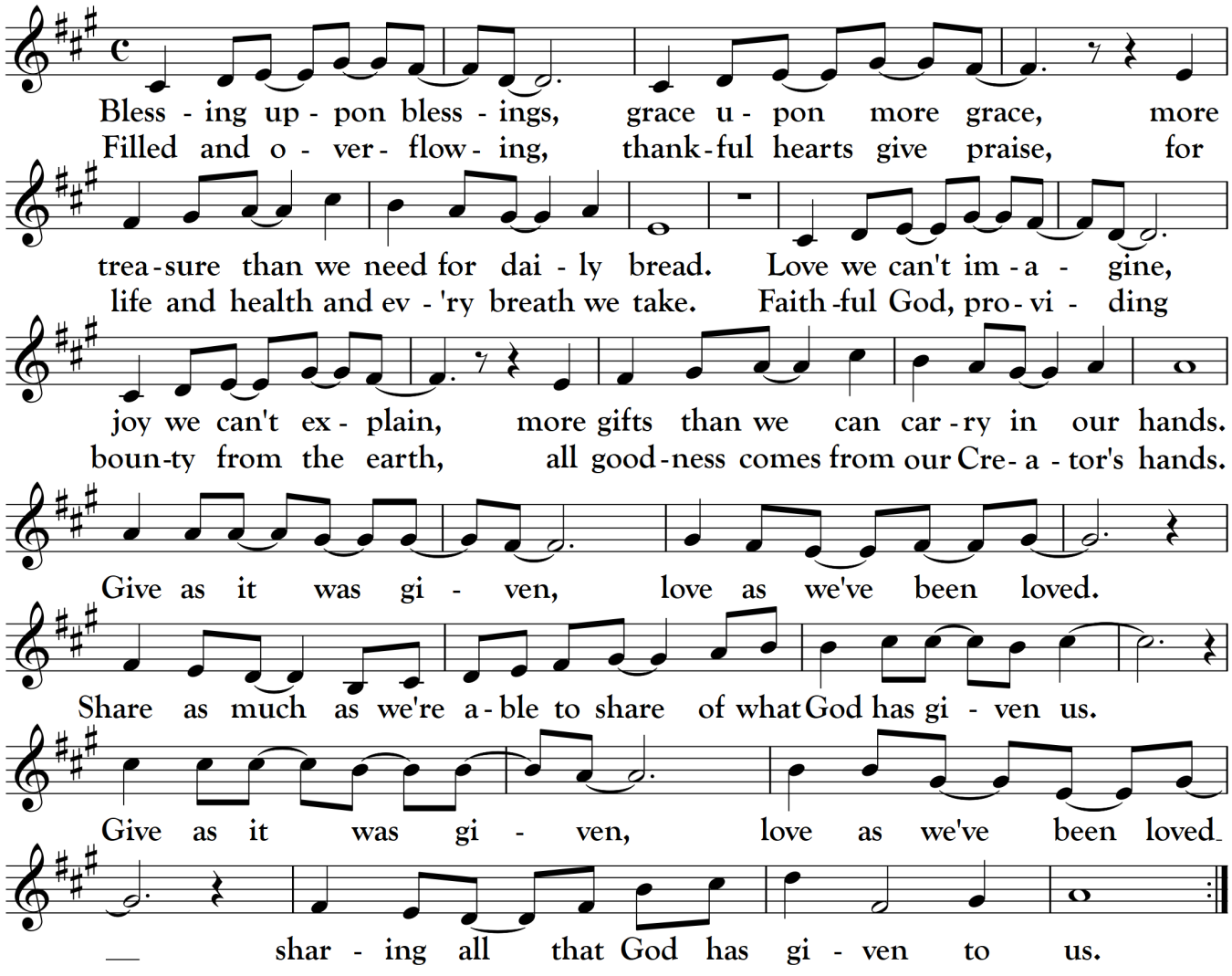
CALL TO GIVING

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

***Hymn . . . no. 643** *Nun danket alle Gott*; Johann Crüger
"Now Thank We All Our God" Martin Rinkart

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in God's grace, and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,
to Father and to Son and Spirit now be given:
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,
the God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.

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
Wide Awake Band	Tony Aiken, Bri Alley, Mack Grammoré, Matt O'Neill, Don Qualls
Audio	Blake Foerster-Daniels
Visual	Finch Parker

The flowers today are given by Brook Campbell and Casey Schraeder to the glory of God and in celebration of Brook and Casey's 10 incredible years of marriage and so many more years to come! Love is love.

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. Some materials in this service bulletin are reprinted with permission under *OneLicense.net #A-702939*; others are under *CCLI Licenses #1419649 and #20550012*. All rights reserved.

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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

All are invited to get ready to get ready! Join your First Pres family in Fellowship Hall **this afternoon, 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. Don't worry if you didn't RSVP - just come and ADVENTure with us!

Do you like to **decorate for the holidays**? Join Lisa Jones **next 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!)

All First Pres **LGBTQ** members and friends are invited to gather for a **potluck on Friday, December 4** from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in Room 105 of the Education Wing. A potluck sign up sheet is available in the lobby at First Pres. Please RSVP to Jerusha (jerusha@fpcevv.com or 812-774-7402) with what you are bringing or use the sign up sheet in the lobby at First Pres.

Mark your calendars and invite folks to attend 10:30 worship with you on **Sunday, December 6** as we celebrate the annual **Lessons and Carols Service**. The choir has been hard at work preparing selections from Handel's *Messiah* for this year's service.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, November 22
- 7:30 a.m. Band Rehearsal
- 8:30 a.m. Wide Awake Worship
- 9:15 a.m. Fellowship Time
- 9:30 a.m. Annual Congregational Meeting
- 10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship
- 11:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
- *4:00 p.m. Evansville Clarinet Choir*
- 4:30 pm. ADVENTure Party

Monday, November 23

Tuesday, November 24
- 11:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 3:45 p.m. Teen Rehearsal
- 4:45 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, November 25
- 12:00 p.m. We Make the Road
- 7:00 p.m. We Make the Road

Thursday, November 26 **Thanksgiving**
- *Church Office Closed*

Friday, November 27
- *Church Office Closed*

Saturday, November 28

Christmas Poinsettias

Poinsettias will decorate our building for Christmas. These beautiful Christmas flowers may be donated in memory or honor of loved ones. Each potted plant is $15.00.

Please complete the form below and return it to the church office with your payment, contact the church office (423-6297; firstpres@fpcevv.com), or click HERE to order and pay online.

The poinsettia order deadline is Sunday, December 13.

Please place my order for a Christmas poinsettia.
(Circle your choice of "in memory of" or "in honor of" and whether or not you will take your plant(s).)

in memory of
in honor of _____
name

in memory of
in honor of _____
name

Yes, I will take my plant(s) following Christmas Eve Worship.

No, let it/them decorate the building.



from _____
your name

_____
phone/e-mail

Please enclose $15.00 for each poinsettia ordered.
Make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church
and mark "poinsettias" on the memo line.