

Prayer of Dedication & Thanksgiving

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer (pg. 35; in the language and wording most familiar to you.)

We Go Out In God’s Name

*Having gathered together in God’s name and been fed by God’s Holy Word,
we go out in God’s name bearing the peace of Christ to the world.*

Connecting with our Community

✚Hymn for Commitment #306 *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

✚Charge and Benediction

✚Congregational Sung Benediction #549 *May the Love of the Lord*

✚Postlude *Crown Him With Many Crowns*

✚Please stand as you are able in body or spirit.

Service Materials: Written by Joan Stott, and posted on *The Timeless Psalms*. Written by Bruce Prewer 2002 Nathan Nettleton <http://www.laughingbird.net/>

- We are glad you’re here!** Questions about First Pres, see **either pastor** after the service or contact the church office (info@firstpres.church).
- Please wear your **nametag** to help our **staff** get acquainted.
- Large print bulletins** available for use on Sunday mornings. Ask an usher if you cannot find one.
- With our return to the sanctuary, we have access to our hearing assistant loop. This technology allows people with hearing aids equipped with **T-Coil technology** to hear the service through their hearing aids. If you know you have T-coil technology, plan to turn on the T-coil via your phone each Sunday morning.
- Miriam Chenault** is our liturgist this morning. If you would like to serve as liturgist, contact **Carol Miles**.
- Anyone interested in **donating flowers for use on Sunday mornings during worship**, please contact **Nancy Dankle @ 217-778-4088 or nkdankle@icloud.com**.

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**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH** OF CHAMPAIGN

October 19, 2025 19th Sunday after Pentecost



Welcome to First Presbyterian Church
Bienvenue à La Première Eglise Presbytérienne de Champaign
Bienvenidos a La Primera Iglesia Presbiteriana
삼페인 제일 장로교회에 오신것을 환영합니다.
Si vous souhaitez que le service soit traduit en français,
procurez-vous un récepteur et des écouteurs à l’arrière du sanctuaire.

Welcome to worship!

When you enter the worship space, please be mindful of the silent prayers of those around you.

We invite you to share your contact info in the Friendship Pad when passed,
then to stay after the service for coffee and fellowship.

Mingle with other friends and guests and learn more about this congregation's ministry. **Welcome home!**

We Gather Together In God's Holy Name

God calls us together as "children." How wonderful it is to be so loved! Our natural response is worship.

Prelude *Spirit of the Living God*

Chiming of the Hour on Tower Bell

Greetings & Welcome / Act of Friendship & Prayer Concerns

Please pass the Friendship Pad, noting with whom you are sitting, and list prayer concerns on the prayer request cards in the pads.

✠ **Call to Worship** (✠ Please stand as you are able in body or spirit.)

God of salvation's joy, we gather to celebrate and revere you.

We come, realizing that we are broken. Forgive and re-create us.

God of unfailing love, we gather to worship and honor you.

We come, and because of your compassion, forgive and renew us.

God of new beginnings, we gather to praise and thank you.

**We come, and through your grace and mercy, forgive and restore us,
so that with clean hearts we may truly worship you. Amen.**

✠ **Opening Prayer**

✠ **Hymn of Praise #263** *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!*

Call to Confession *(Congregation may be seated.)*

Prayer of Confession

We have sinned against you, and done what is wrong in your eyes. We are well aware of the wrong we do: the words we speak which wound, the unloving thoughts and actions which hurt others and ourselves. We know that these things distance us from you, and keep us from recognizing your life in us. Forgive us. O God, look no longer on our past mistakes, but on the aspirations and longing of our hearts. *Silence is kept.*

Confession Response #555 *O Lamb of God*

Assurance of Pardon

Passing of the Peace

We Gather Around God's Holy Word

At the center of Christian life and worship is God's Word incarnate in Christ and God's Word as recorded in scripture. We hear the story of God's love in scripture and sacrament and we say, "Thanks be to God!"

Word with Children

Prayer for Illumination #709 *God, We Honor You*

Scripture in French *Psalm 51:10-14*

Ceci est la Parole du Seigneur. / **Gloire à Dieu** (pronounced "glow-ah ah dew")

Anthem *Sicut Cervus, Palestrina*

Quartet

Scripture in English *1 Samuel 16:1-13*

This is the Word of the Lord. / **Thanks be to God!**

Message *Following the Lord's Own Heart*

Rev. Beth Wagner

✠ **Hymn for Reflection #423** *Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God*

We Respond to God's Word

As God invites us to be disciples of his Son, we prayerfully respond to God with affirmations of faith and acts of self-giving, commitment, and thanksgiving.

✠ **An Affirmation of Faith**

I believe in an innovative God, who does not wait for us to find ourselves but comes seeking the lost and calling us into a new way.

I believe in Jesus of Nazareth as God's crucial initiative, that when he calls us to follow, Christ also gives us the power to become, both in creed and deed, the children of the living God.

I believe in the Spirit by whom Jesus still comes to us, calling us to follow him into an obedience which is true liberty and to a humble service which is the fruit of holy friendship.

I believe in the church as the fellowship of Christ's people, called to respect and support one another through joys and tribulations as we travel the road towards the "promised land" of God's future. Because Christ has called me in this I truly believe. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering *(We are invited to return God's tithes and give our offering.)*

Offertory *Take My Life and Let It Be*

Response of Gratitude #609 *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*

This Week

- Sunday, October 19**
- 9:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary
 - 10:10 AM Sunday School/CE Building Classrooms
 - 10:10 AM Easy English Fellowship/Rooms 204 & 207
 - 10:10 AM Small Group Mission Study/Parlor, Westminster Hall, Centennial Hall

- Monday, October 20**
- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Building & Café
 - 12:00 PM Small Group Mission Study/Centennial Hall
 - 1:00 PM GROW/Family Library
 - 1:00 PM DREAAM After School Academy/CE Building
 - 1:30 PM Women’s Bible Study/Library
 - 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

- Tuesday, October 21**
- 8:00 AM Men’s Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
 - 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Building & Café
 - 9:30 AM PW Coordinating Team/Zoom
 - 12:00 PM Classic Book Study/Parlor & Zoom
 - 1:00 PM DREAAM After School Academy/CE Building
 - 2:30 PM Small Group Mission Study/Westminster Hall
 - 3:30 PM Community Mission Deacons/Parlor & Zoom
 - 6:00 PM Small Group Mission Study/Centennial Hall

- Wednesday, October 22**
- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Building & Café
 - 1:00 PM DREAAM After School Academy/CE Building
 - 5:30 PM DREAAM Debutante Committee/Family Library
 - 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal/Choir Room
 - 7:30 PM Wednesdays We Gather/Zoom

- Thursday, October 23**
- 9:00 AM Women’s Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
 - 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Building & Café
 - 10:30 AM Circle of Joy/Parlor & Zoom
 - 12:00 PM Transition Team/Good Judy’s Bagels
 - 1:00 PM Circle of Faith/Parlor & Zoom
 - 1:00 PM DREAAM After School Academy/CE Building
 - 7:00 M Circle of Peace/Parlor & Zoom

- Friday, October 24** Church Office closes at 12 noon
- 8:15 AM Men’s Prayer/Zoom
 - 10:00 AM Korean Choir Rehearsal/Chapel
 - 12:00 PM New American’s Ministry/Chapel
 - 1:00 PM DREAAM After School Academy/CE Building
 - 7:00 PM French Prayer/Zoom

- Saturday, October 25**
- 8:00 AM DREAAM Imagine STEM Saturday/CE Building
 - 9:30 AM DREAAM Mentoring/Centennial Hall
 - 6:00 PM Francophone Bethesda Fellowship/Chapel

Announcements

●**Small Group Discussions** as part of our Mission Study for transitioning to a new pastor resume this week with three groups meeting this morning immediately following worship.

●We are collecting royalties each time we hear a **Spiritual** in our service. Royalties were never paid for this music. Money we collect will go to the DREAAM Choir. A donation box is on the Welcome Center.

●Your **Nominating Committee** has begun their work to find church officers for those whose terms expire. Pick up a Nomination Form at the Welcome Center to submit your suggestion(s) for Elders and/or Deacons for the coming year. (You may also nominate yourself!)

●Pick up a **Fall/Winter Small Group Opportunity** flyer from the kiosk this morning. Join a small group this Fall.

●Join **Pastor Beth** for **Coffee and Conversation** at 10 AM Thursdays in October at Good Judy’s Bagels (2740 S Philo Road, Suite D, Urbana, IL). The group will not meet this week as Beth is out of town.

●Please join in on Saturday, October 25, 2025, from 9 to 11 AM to pick up litter for **America Recycles Day @ Boneyard Creek**. This event will be hosted by City of Champaign staff and members of Keep Champaign Beautiful. A free pizza lunch will be provided immediately following the clean-up. For planning purposes, it is requested that volunteers pre-register at champaignil.gov/ard.

●**It’s Fall!** The annual **Trunk & Treat** will be held Sunday, October 26, from 3:30-5 PM in the church parking lot with a soup supper in Centennial Hall. We invite you to donate bags of candy and young children’s books in the labeled container in Westminster Hall. If you would like to decorate a trunk for the event, contact info@firstpres.church

●If you or a loved one is **in the hospital or in need of a pastoral visit**, contact the church office.

●Check out the **book cart** in Westminster Hall. Donate a book for others to enjoy and take some.

●The **October newsletter** is available in the kiosks or at firstpres.church/newsletter.

●Please **do not park** in the spaces marked Reserved 24/7 behind Meyer/Capel Law office on Sundays.

●**If unable to attend church**, watch our 9 AM service live each Sunday at firstpres.church/live. The Sunday **sermon** is available on-line anytime or on WDWS 1400AM the next Sunday at 10:30 AM.