

and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

Song for Centering & Call to Prayer #474 *As a Child Rests*

As a child rests in its mother's arms, so will I rest in you.
As a child rests in its mother's arms, so will I rest in you.

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Concern (*Prayer concern cards are in the Friendship Pad.*)

The 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.

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.*

◆ Hymn for Commitment #708 *We Give Thee But Thine Own*

◆ Charge and Benediction

◆ Congregational Sung Benediction #765 *May the God of Hope Go With Us*

May the God of hope go with us every day, filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way, bringing light and hope to every land and race.
Praying, let us work for peace; singing, share our joy with all;
Working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.

◆ Postlude

◆ Please stand if able. Remain seated if need be.

Office: 302 West Church, Champaign, IL 61820 ♦ 217.356.7238
info@firstpres.church ♦ Rev. Matt Matthews (matt@firstpres.church) ♦ Rev. Joe Lundy (joseph@firstpres.church)
www.firstpres.church ♦ Facebook: fb.com/firstpreschampaign



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

October 22, 2023 21st 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 stop by our Welcome Center in Westminster Hall 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." Wonderful it is to be so loved! Our natural response is worship.

Prelude

Chiming on the Hour of Tower Bell

Act of Friendship & Sharing of Prayer Concerns

Please pass the Friendship Pad and list prayer concerns on the prayer request cards in the pads.

Greeting & Announcements

A Stewardship Moment

Jennifer Nelson

♦Call to Worship (from Psalm 96)

Lord we will sing to you a new song

All the earth shall join us in singing

We will sing blessings to your name!

We will tell of your salvation without ceasing!

All Honor and Majesty are yours almighty God,

Strength and beauty are in your Sanctuary.

We worship you in your holy splendor,

May the earth tremble before you, and exalt your holy name!

♦Hymn of Praise #305 *Come Sing, O Church, In Joy*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (taken from *Wild Goose Big Book of Liturgies* from the Iona Community, prayer written by Norman Shanks)

God of freedom and justice, God of grace and truth in the glory of earth, sea, and stars, in the kaleidoscope of human experience, we celebrate your loving kindness.

Forgive us when we stray from your way and ignore the potential of your grace to bring new life and light into the darkest place, the most difficult situation. Forgive the sins and suffering of our society in which we are complicit. Set us free from the prison of grudging hearts, mean desires, vain ambitions, resentful or envious spirits; give us the courage in all things, at all times, to act with compassion justice, and generosity, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Passing of the Peace

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

Offertory Sora Shepard

Response of Gratitude #329 *God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength*

God is our refuge and our strength, our ever present aid,

And therefore, though the earth be moved, we will not be afraid.

Prayer of Dedication & Thanksgiving

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 #174 *Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom* (vs. 1)

Come and seek the ways of Wisdom, she who danced when earth was new.

Follow closely what she teaches, for her words are right and true.

Wisdom clears the path to justice, showing us what love must do.

Scripture *Matthew 22:15-22* (NT, pg. 24)

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

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

Sermon *Taxes?*

Joe Lundy

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.

Anthem Upper Room Ringers; Libby Sternhagen, Director

An Affirmation of Faith (from *A Brief Statement of Faith*)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith

This Week

Sunday, October 22

- 9:00 AM Worship/Westminster Hall
- 10:00 AM Easy English Fellowship/Room 104
- 10:10 AM Sunday School/CE Building
- 10:10 AM Adult Education/Parlor
- 10:15 AM Worship/Windsor of Savoy

Monday, October 23

- 9:00 AM Compassion, Peace & Justice/Parlor & Zoom
- 9:15 AM ELL in-person/CE Building
- 1:00 PM Grow/Family Library
- 1:00 PM Knifty Knitters/Parlor & Zoom
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall
- 6:30 PM Cuba Study/Home of Bob & Claudia Kirby

Tuesday, October 24

- 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast/Parlor & Zoom
- 9:00 AM PW Coordinating Team/Parlor & Zoom
- 9:15 AM ELL in-person/CE Building
- 10:30 AM Church Staff/Parlor & Zoom
- 12:00 PM Classic Book Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 4:30 PM World Mission/Parlor & Zoom
- 7:30 PM Together on Tuesdays/Zoom

Wednesday, October 25

- 9:15 AM ELL in-person/CE Building

Thursday, October 26

- 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 10:30 AM Circle of Joy/Parlor & Zoom
- 12:30 PM Bible Study/Windsor of Savoy
- 1:00 PM Circle of Faith/Parlor & Zoom
- 6:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal/Bell Room
- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal/Choir Room
- 7:00 PM Circle of Peace/Parlor & Zoom

Friday, October 27 Church Office Closes at Noon

- 8:15 AM Men's Prayer/Zoom

Saturday, October 28

- 6:00 PM French Worship Service/Chapel

Announcements

- **We are glad you're here!** Questions about First Pres, contact **Pastor Matt Matthews** or call the church office.
- Please wear your **nametag** to help new **Associate Pastor Joe Lundy** get acquainted.
- **Jane Seiler** is our liturgist this morning. If you would like to serve, contact **Carol Miles**.
- **Sunday School classes for children K thru 5th grade from 10:15-11!** Walk across the alley, go upstairs, and see what's happening. Youth will be escorted to their class. Transportation is not being provided at this time.
- Grab a cup of coffee and stop by the Parlor at 10:10 this morning for **Adult Education**. **Cynthia Heren**, daughter of **Virgina Erickson** will speak on how faith supports her in home-schooling and producing materials for teaching neurological divergent children.
- **Judi Geistlinger** will preach this morning's service at the Windsor of Savoy.
- Please enjoy meeting **Joe Lundy** at the home of one of the **Cottage Gathering** hosts. Space is limited so RSVP to the church office. November 6 @ 11:30 **Sabrina & Wen-Mei Hwu**; Saturday, November 18 @ 10 **Linda & Gary Peterson**.
- The **Fall/Winter Small Group brochure** is now available in kiosks throughout the church.
- **Trunk or Treat** will be held Sunday, October 29, from 4-5:30 PM for children ages 2-12 accompanied by parents/guardians. Treats and books will be handed out; there will be music, games and lots of fun! Look for a sign-up sheet to donate treats, with specific suggestions, at church in October. Looking for fun-loving volunteers to furnish a decorated trunk. Questions? Contact **Nicole Miller** reservationforfive@gmail.com or 217.355.8512.
- **All Saints Day** will be celebrated in church on Sunday November 5. We will recognize those who have died this past year during the 9 AM worship service. Any saints who are not members of the church which should be celebrated can be added to the list. Please contact the church office with names.
- **Western Illinois University's** choir will present a concert Monday, November 6, 7:30 PM in the Sanctuary. They will be joined by the University High School's Madrigal Choir directed by **Richard Murphy**. If you are willing to host a couple of the WIU students overnight following the concert, please contact **Joe Grant**.
- **Gary Winder**, clarinet, will present a concert on Sunday, November 12, at 3 PM in the Sanctuary. Gary played solos for us on a couple of occasions this past summer and is an excellent performer. A reception will follow.
- 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 the law office on Sundays.
- **If unable to attend church**, catch 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.