

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 #828** *More Love to Thee, O Christ*

◆ **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.

Today is **Consecration Sunday**. The congregation will be invited to come forward during worship and place their 2024 pledge cards in the basket. We will dedicate both our gifts and the givers to God. If you have already turned your pledge card in, you are still invited to come forward (to walk the walk) during this offering.

While the pathways to and from the pulpit may be a little crowded in Westminster Hall, we will do our best to come forward.

Thank you. God bless you. And, by God's grace, may our gifts and our lives be a blessing to God.

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**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH** OF CHAMPAIGN

October 29, 2023 22nd 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 are presently worshiping in Westminster Hall while our elevator is being replaced.

*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." 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

♦Call to Worship

Our help is in the name of the LORD,
who made heaven and earth. (*Psalm 124:8*)
Let us worship God!
The Lord's name be praised!

♦Hymn of Praise #708 *We Give Thee But Thine Own*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (adapted, United Church of Christ *Book of Worship* 1986)

God of all mercy,
we know that you love us even when we
are not sure that we love ourselves.
Embrace us when frustration and failure
leave us hollow and empty.
Forgive our sins, and grant us forgiving
hearts toward others.
Help us not to take any of your gifts for granted;
but make us truly grateful for all our many blessings.
In the confession of our lips, show us
now the promise of a
new day, the springtime of the forgiven;
through Jesus Christ, who is able to
make all things new. **AMEN.**

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.
In Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven.

Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

Thanks be to God.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Passing of the Peace

Consecration of Our Pledges for 2024 (*You are invited to bring your pledge card and put it in the basket on the communion table. If you have already mailed your card in, thank you. Come forward anyway as a sign of our journey together in the faith.*)

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 *Deuteronomy 34:1-12* (OT, pg. 191)

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 *Making Our Lives Matter*

Matt Matthews

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

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.**

This Week

Sunday, October 29

- 9:00 AM Worship/Westminster Hall
- 10:00 AM Easy English Fellowship/Room 104
- 10:00 AM Session Meeting/Library
- 10:10 AM Sunday School/CE Building
- 10:10 AM Adult Education/Parlor
- 10:15 AM Worship/Windsor of Savoy
- 4:00 PM Trunk or Treat/Church Parking Lot

Monday, October 30

- 9:15 AM ELL in-person/CE Building
- 1:00 PM Grow/Family Library
- 4:30 PM Presbytery Debriefing/Parlor
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall
- 6:30 PM Cuba Study/Home of Bob & Claudia Kirby

Tuesday, October 31

- 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast/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
- 5:00 PM DREAAM Martial Arts/Gym
- 7:30 PM Together on Tuesdays/Zoom

Wednesday, November 1

- 9:15 AM ELL in-person/CE Building
- 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch/Parlor

Thursday, November 2

- 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 10:30 AM Finance/Parlor & Zoom
- 11:00 AM Sign Language Review Class/Library
- 12:30 PM Bible Study/Windsor of Savoy
- 2:30 PM Congregational Care Deacons/Parlor & Zoom
- 4:00 PM Spiritual Formation/Zoom
- 6:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal/Bell Room
- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal/Choir Room

Friday, November 3 Church Office Closes at Noon

- 8:15 AM Men's Prayer/Zoom

Saturday, November 4

- 8:30 AM Adopt a Highway/Entry Way to CE Building
- 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. We are presently worshipping in Westminster Hall while our elevator is being replaced.
- Please wear your **nametag** to help new **Associate Pastor Joe Lundy** get acquainted.
- **Mary Jane Kelley** is our liturgist this morning. If you would like to serve, contact **Carol Miles**.
- **Flowers** this morning are given by **Terri Dodson** in loving memory of John Dodson as today would have been our 57th wedding anniversary.
- **Sunday School classes for children K thru 8th grade from 10:15-11!** Walk across the alley, go upstairs, and see what's happening. Youth will be escorted to their class.
- Grab a cup of coffee and stop by the Parlor at 10:10 this morning for **Adult Education**. **Dixie Jackson**, from the Twice Is Nice Thrift Shop will tell us about this local mission activity.
- **Matt Matthews** will preach this morning's service at the Windsor of Savoy. **Judi Geistlinger** is preaching in Hoopston this morning.
- 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 TODAY 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!
- **Adopt a Highway** Saturday, November 4, at 8:30 AM. To sign up email colletta.ackermann@gmail.com.
- **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**.
- **Gary Winder**, clarinet, will present a concert on Sunday, November 12, at 3:30 PM in Westminster Hall. Gary played solos for us on a couple of occasions this past summer and is an excellent performer.
- You are invited to **Thanksgiving Dinner** with our English language learners on Tuesday, November 14, at 11:30 AM in Centennial Hall. Bring a favorite Thanksgiving dish to share. RSVP to bonnie@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 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.