

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 *In Christ Alone* Jean René Balekita

A Litany for the Church (An African Canticle, Traditional)

All you big things, bless the Lord.

**Mount Kilimanjaro and Lake Victoria, the Rift Valley and the Serengeti Plain,
Fat baobabs and shady mango trees, all eucalyptus and tamarind trees,**

Bless the Lord.

Praise and extol Him for ever and ever.

All you tiny things, bless the Lord.

**Busy black ants and hopping fleas, wriggling tadpoles and mosquito larvae,
Flying locusts and water drops, pollen dust and tsetse flies,**

Millet seeds and dried dagaa,

Bless the Lord.

Praise and extol Him for ever and ever.

The Lord is risen!

The Lord is risen, indeed!

Commissioning Our Cuba Travel Team

Sarah Laufenberg, Brandi Lowe, Rachel & Matt Matthews, Linda Sandquist

Song for Centering & Call to Prayer #474, *As a Child Rests* (refrain)

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Concern

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 #248** *Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!*

‡ **Charge and Benediction**

‡ **Congregational Sung Benediction #649** *Amazing Grace* (vs. 5)

**When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.**

‡ **Postlude**

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

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

April 16, 2023 2nd Sunday of Easter

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 sanctuary, 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 downstairs 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 pew.

Greeting & Announcements

Minute for Mission – Mission in Indonesia

Rachel Matthews

✠Call to Worship

Lord, you invite us to come to worship, and we come . . .

Alleluia!

Those who are faithful and of little faith,

Humbly, we come.

Those who are weak and strong,

with confidence, we come.

Those who are hungry and satisfied,

with awe, we come.

Those who are lions and lambs,

with doubts and reservations, we come.

Those who are doves and sword bearers,

with gratitude, we come.

Those who are afflicted and comfortable,

with a hunger for justice, we come.

Lord, you invite us to come to worship, and we come . . .

Accept our prayers and praise. Alleluia.

✠Hymn of Praise #246 *Christ Is Alive!*

Call to Confession (from 1 John 1:8-9)

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just
will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

In confidence of God's enduring love and forgiveness let us confess our sins to God.

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, when our "personal" experience of You allows no room for others,

help us to seek your forgiveness.

When "church" becomes a sanctuary only and never a launch pad,

help us to seek your forgiveness.

When our children are to be seen but not heard,

help us to seek your forgiveness.

When worship becomes simply a resting place before brunch,

help us to seek your forgiveness.

Forgive us, Holy God, for the ways we seek a personal relationship with you
to the exclusion of the whole world.

Hear our prayer.

Open us to new friendships.

Hear our prayer.

Inspire us to be curious about ways of thinking different than our own.

Hear our prayer.

Forgive our pride that proclaims "my way is the best way."

Hear our prayer.

Help us to listen *and* to hear.

Hear our prayer.

Use our doubts to kindle deeper awe and wonder.

Hear our prayer.

Help us repair our community with hospitality and friendship, in the manner of Jesus.

Hear our prayer.

Grow our kinship with the world you love and have so graciously redeemed in Jesus Christ.

AMEN.

Assurance of Pardon

Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

Alleluia!

Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

Thanks be to God.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven

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

And also with you.

Passing of the Peace

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

Offertory – Shaloom Boboto Gabriel Mboyo

Response of Gratitude #22 *God of the Sparrow* (vs. 3)

God of the rainbow, God of the cross, God of the empty grave,

How does the creature say Grace? How does the creature say Thanks?

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 #471 *O Lord, Hear My Prayer*

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.

When I call, answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer.

O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

Scripture *John 20:19, 24-29* (NT pg. 115)

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 *Doubt*

Matt Matthews

This Week

Sunday, April 16

- 9:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Called Session Meeting/Library
- 10:00 AM Sunday School/Christian Education Building
- 10:00 AM Easy English Fellowship/Room 204
- 10:15 AM Adult Education/Parlor
- 10:15 AM Worship/Windsor of Savoy
- 1:00 PM APNC/Parlor
- 3:00 PM David LaMotte Concert/Sanctuary

Monday, April 17

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 10:00 AM ELL In-Person/Room 204
- 1:00 PM GROW/Family Library
- 1:30 PM Bible Study (Rempe)/Westminster Hall
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
- 3:30 PM Environmental Team/Parlor & Zoom
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

Tuesday, April 18

- 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 9:30 AM ELL In-Person/Rooms 102, 103, 104, 201, 204, 205, 206, 207, Café
- 10:30 AM Church Staff/Parlor & Zoom
- 12:00 PM Classic Book Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
- 3:30 PM DREAAM Culinary Arts Club/Centennial Hall & Kitchen
- 5:00 PM Community Mission Deacons/Parlor & Zoom

Wednesday, April 19

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 9:30 AM ELL In-Person/Rooms 102, 103, 104, 201, 204, 205, 206, 207, Café
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
- 5:30 PM Dinner for One/Houlihan's

Thursday, April 20

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
- 6:30 PM Bell Rehearsal/Bell Room
- 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal/Choir Room

Friday, April 21 Church Office Closes at Noon

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 8:15 AM Men's Prayer/Zoom
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building

Saturday, April 22

- 6:00 PM French Worship Service/Centennial Hall

Announcements

- **We are glad you're here!** Questions about First Pres, contact **Pastor Matt Matthews** or call the church office.
- **Jane Seiler** is our liturgist this morning. If you would like to serve as a Sunday liturgist, contact **Carol Miles**.
- **Sunday School** for children this morning at 10 AM. Sign in children at the Welcome Center 8:45-9. After worship, they will be escorted to their class. Meet your child or children in the library in the Education Building at 11.
- Join us this morning in the **Parlor at 10:15 for a TED talk by David LaMotte** *Music Can Help Us Understand Peace and Conflict*.
- **The Rev. Dr. Rachel Matthews** will preach today's 10:15 AM service at the Windsor of Savoy.
- Come back this afternoon at 3 PM for **David LaMotte in Concert**. The concert is free and open to the public. Reception following.
- **If unable to attend church**, catch our 9 AM service live each Sunday at firstpres.live. The Sunday sermon is available on-line anytime or on WDWS 1400AM the next Sunday at 10:30 AM.
- Do you have a **family member graduating this year from high school or college?** They don't have to be a member of the church or even live in the area. Please send a photo and a message including where they are graduating from and what their future plans might be to **Brandi Lowe** brandiscrapbook@yahoo.com or text 217-369-5844. Please submit no later than May 14.
- 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 for yourself.
- You are invited to hear our **mission co-worker** from Indonesia, **Farsijana Adeney-Risakotta** on Tuesday, April 25, 4:30 PM, on Zoom in Mae Chapin Parlor. You are welcome to zoom or be in-person. The bulletin insert today is an Easter message designed and written by her to our congregation. She is a mover and shaker in microfinancing in mission. Watch Matt's Friday mailer for the zoom address.
- The **April 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 Sunday mornings. The spaces behind the law office belong to Meyer/Capel.

Coming Up...

TODAY

3 PM David LaMotte Concert; Reception following

Sunday, April 23

9 AM Celebration of Earth Day; Cindy Shepherd preaching

Sunday, May 7

9 AM Music Sunday "Joy in the Lord;" Sanctuary Choir accompanied by brass quartet