

Prayer for Illumination #629 *Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee*

Jesus, the very thought of thee with sweetness fills my breast.
But sweeter far thy face to see, and in thy presence rest.

Scripture *Psalms 23*

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 *Every Day, Earth Day*

Cyndy Ash

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 Hymn #713 *Touch the Earth Lightly*

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.
Hear our prayer, O Lord.

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 #14 *For the Beauty of the Earth*

◆Charge and Benediction

◆ Congregational Sung Benediction #286 *Breathe On Me, Breath of God*

Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life anew,
That I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.

◆Postlude

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

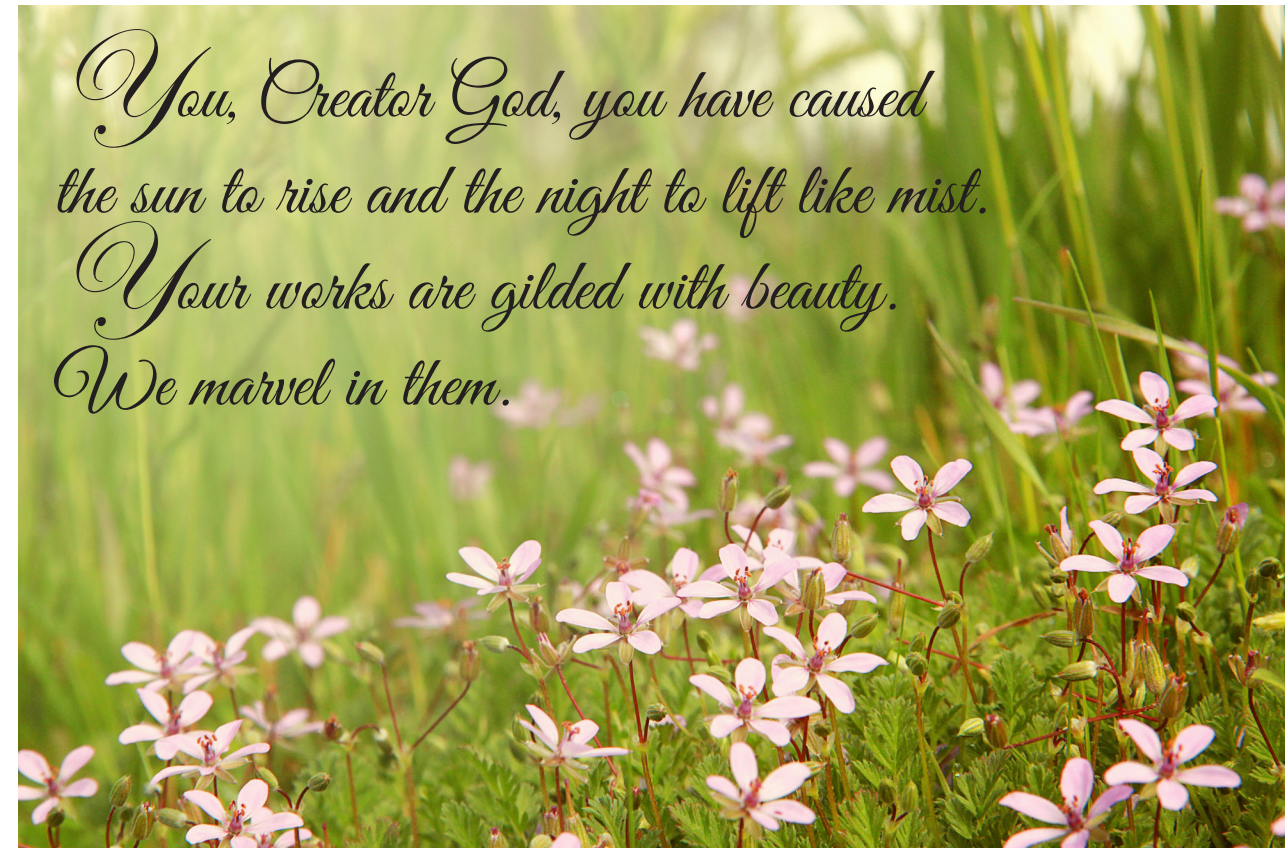
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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

April 21, 2024

4th Sunday of Easter/Earth Day



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 worshipping 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**

You, Creator God, you have caused the sun to rise and the night to lift like mist.

Your works are gilded with beauty. We marvel in them.

You have shown us most tender love in your son Jesus Christ.

You, Holy God, are the spinner of the cosmos.

We stand in awe. We bow down in worship and to serve.

Hear our prayers, our songs, our wondering, and our praise.

Accept our delight, our joy, and our worship!

♦**Hymn of Praise #36** *For the Fruit of All Creation*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (*Forgive Us* adapted from Willard L. Sperry)

O God, forgive our wanton waste of the wealth of the soil and sea and air; our desecration of natural beauty; our heedlessness of those who shall come after us, if only we be served; our undue love of money; our contempt for small things and our worship of what is big; our neglect of struggling peoples, for such wrongs to our natural and human heritage, and for many things left undone, forgive us, O God.

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.

Passing of the Peace

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

Offertory *I've Got Shoes* (spiritual)

arr. Sharon Elery Rogers

Upper Room Ringers; Libby Sternhagen, director

Response of Gratitude #716 *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*

God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store,

Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door:

Gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise;

Thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

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 *Earth Sunday! Baptism! WOW!*

Celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism

Sentences of Scripture (from *Matthew 28:18-20*)

The Presentation

Profession of Faith

Constitutional Questions for the Parents

Constitutional Questions for the Congregation

The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Baptism

The Welcome

Announcements

This Week

Sunday, April 21 Earth Sunday

- 9:00 AM Worship/Westminster Hall
- 10:00 AM Easy English Fellowship/Room 204 & 207
- 10:10 AM Sunday School/CE Building
- 10:10 AM Adult Ed/Parlor
- 10:15 AM Worship/Windsor of Savoy

Monday, April 22

- 9:00 AM Compassion, Peace, Justice/Zoom
- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Building
- 1:00 PM Knifty Knitters/Parlor & Zoom
- 1:00 PM GROW/Family Library
- 3:30 PM DREAAM Mentoring/Room 206, 212, Gym
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

Tuesday, April 23

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

Wednesday, April 24

- 9:00 AM Cuba Partners/Zoom
- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Building
- 3:30 PM DREAAM Youth Bible Club/Centennial Hall
- 5:00 PM DREAAM Effective Black Parenting/Various spaces

Thursday, April 25

- 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/Bell Room
- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir/Westminster Hall
- 7:00 PM Circle of Peace/Parlor & Zoom

Friday, April 26 Church Office closes at noon

- 8:15 AM Men's Prayer/Zoom

Saturday, April 27 Christie Clinic Marathon

- 7:30 AM Marathon Volunteer Snack Station/corner of State & Church (CE Building)
- 2:00 PM Wedding Shower/Parlor
- 6:00 PM French Worship Service/Chapel

●**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 our **Associate Pastor Joe Lundy** get acquainted.

●This morning we welcome the **Rev. Cyndy Ash** as our guest preacher. Immediately after worship, she will lead **Faith in the Real World** in the Parlor. Cyndy is an ordained pastor within the UCC, called to her farm ministry in Clinton, IL where she raises sheep, alpacas, and chickens as well as growing produce. She is committed to land sustainability, animal welfare, food justice and sustainable fibers. She has an undergrad in nursing, an MBA and MDiv. She has six children and has worked full time for Merck in the vaccine division for 22 years and is looking forward to retirement. She enjoys reading, cooking/baking, growing her own food, and spending time with her herd (people and animal).

●**Judi Geistlinger** is our liturgist this morning. If you would like to serve, contact **Carol Miles**.

●**Violet Ann Cole**, daughter of **William and Kathryn Cole**, will be baptized this morning by **Commissioned Lay Pastor Judi Geistlinger**.

●**Judi Geistlinger** will preach this morning's service at the Windsor of Savoy.

●**Congratulations Graduates!** You've worked hard, passed the exams and now it's time to **celebrate your graduation**. Celebrate with your FPC family on Sunday, June 9 during the worship hour and then we will continue the celebration during the brunch to follow the service. Please contact **Pat Tarr** at pat.tarr@icloud.com 217-427-5203 with your information and include your degree and what you have planned for the future. If you have a graduate in your family, whether a church member or not, we would love to recognize them. Please submit their name, relation to you, information on future plans, and a picture.

●**Church Office hours have changed.** The church office is now open Monday-Thursday 8:30 AM-2 PM; Fridays 8:30 AM - noon. You can always leave a voicemail after hours or on weekends.

●This year's **Illinois Marathon** on Saturday, April 27, brings back the first full marathon since Covid. The Saturday route runs down Church Street in front of the Education Building. Sign-up this morning to volunteer with other church members to cheer the runners on or help man the water/snack station that we will host at the Education Building. Contact **Joe Lundy** for more information and questions.

●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 **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 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.