

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

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

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 #664 *Morning Has Broken*

◆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.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

April 23, 2023 3rd Sunday of Easter
Celebration of 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.

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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 pen.

Greeting & Announcements

◆**Call to Worship** (from *Ps. 24:1-2, 9-10 RSV, Flames of the Spirit*, JCW, p. 68)

The earth and all that is in it belongs to God,

For God has made the sea its foundation and made it firm upon the rivers of the deep.

So let us rejoice in God and in all creation.

We shall rejoice in the God of Hosts, the God of Glory!

Lift up your heads, O gates! Lift them high, O everlasting doors!

For the God of Glory shall enter and sign over us all!

◆**Hymn of Praise #630** *Fairest Lord Jesus*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (from *Flames of the Spirit*, LB, p. 74)

Caring and Compassionate Creator, we enter this place set apart for your worship, knowing that we have failed to see you in other places. We have ignored your beauty

around us, in earth and sky, in plants and creatures, in the people who surround us.

We have chosen to live more by our fears than by our faith, to be weighted down by

what we do not have, rather than rejoicing in your gifts to us. In these moments

together, draw us so close that we cannot help but know every day that you are with us,

whoever we go. Enlarge our capacity to care, so we may see you in all whom we meet.

In Jesus' name. 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 – *Praise to the Lord the Almighty*

arr. Jason Krug

Upper Room Ringers, Libby Sternhagen Director

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 *Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19* (OT pg. 564)

Luke 24:13-35 (NT pg. 90)

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 *Earth Care Easter: What We Don't Know...*

Cindy Shepherd

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 *Rejoice, O Christian, Sing God's Praise*

Michael McCabe

Affirmation of Faith (from *Romans 8*)

We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen?

But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

This Week

Sunday, April 23

- 9:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Sunday School/Christian Education Building
- 10:00 AM Easy English Fellowship/Room 204
- 10:15 AM Faith in the Real World/Parlor
- 10:15 AM Worship/Windsor of Savoy
- 1:00 PM APNC/Parlor

Monday, April 24

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 10:00 AM ELL In-Person/Room 204
- 1:00 PM GROW/Family Library
- 1:00 PM Knifty Knitters/Parlor & Zoom
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

Tuesday, April 25

- 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 9:00 AM PW Coordinating Team/Zoom
- 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
- 4:30 PM World Mission with Farsijana Adeney-Risakotta/Parlor & Zoom

Wednesday, April 26

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 9:30 AM ELL In-Person/Rooms 102, 103, 104, 201, 204, 205, 206, 207, Café
- 11:30 AM Interfaith Alliance/Westminster Hall
- 1:30 PM Pakistan Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
- 6:30 PM Compassion, Peace & Justice/Parlor & Zoom

Thursday, April 27

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 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
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
- 6:30 PM Bell Rehearsal/Bell Room
- 7:00 PM Circle of Peace/Parlor & Zoom
- 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal/Choir Room

Friday, April 28 Church Office Closes at Noon

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 8:15 AM Men's Prayer/Zoom
- 12:00 PM DREAAM Family Meal Prep & Dinner/Centennial Hall & Kitchen
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building

Saturday, April 29

- 11:00 AM Sandy Carr Memorial Service/Sanctuary
- 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.
- We welcome the **Rev. Cindy Shepherd**, Director of Outreach for Central IL Faith in Place, as our guest speaker this morning. Cindy served in parish ministry for the Presbyterian Church (USA) and joined Faith in Place in 2012. Cindy became the Director of Outreach for the Central Illinois office in June 2014.
- Miriam Chenault** is our liturgist this morning while **John Muirhead** will serve as our host. If you would like to serve as a Sunday liturgist, contact **Carol Miles**.
- Flowers this morning** are given by the **Tim and Amy Born family** in honor of Amy's mother, **Judy Nicolette**, who will celebrate her 87th birthday on April 30.
- 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 *Faith in the Real World* with **Libby Sternhagen**.
- Betty Hollister** will preach today's 10:15 AM service at the Windsor of Savoy.
- 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 or in Mae Chapin Parlor. You are welcome to zoom or be in-person. Farsijana is a mover and shaker in microfinancing in mission. Matt's Friday mailer this past Friday shared 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.

Music Sunday Sunday, May 7 9 AM
"Joy in the Lord"
featuring the Chancel Choir accompanied by a brass quartet and strings.