

## 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.

### ✦ An Affirmation of Faith *A Brief Statement of Faith*

God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

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

Offertory

Response of Gratitude #240 *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks (refrain only 2x)*

Prayer of Dedication & Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer (pg. 35; *in the language or wording most familiar to you.*)

## 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.

Connecting with our Community

✦ Hymn for Commitment *What a Friend We Have In Jesus* (See slides)

✦ Charge and Benediction

✦ Congregational Sung Benediction *The Lord Bless You and Keep You*

The LORD bless you and keep you;  
the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;  
the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.

✦ Postlude

✦ Please stand as you are able in body or spirit.

Service Material References © [worshipdesignstudio.com/stories](http://worshipdesignstudio.com/stories)

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# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

May 10, 2026

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after 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 worship space, please be mindful of the silent prayers of those around you. 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." How wonderful it is to be so loved! Our natural response is worship.

### **Prelude**

#### **Chiming of the Hour on Tower Bell**

#### **Greetings & Welcome/Act of Friendship & Prayer Concerns**

Please pass the Friendship Pad, noting with whom you are sitting, and list prayer concerns on the prayer request cards in the pews.

### **Threshold Moment**

#### **Call to Worship** (based on *John 21:9-19*)

Jesus made a charcoal fire to make breakfast, and Jesus beckoned the disciples to bring some of their fresh-caught fish.

**Abundance is meant to be shared. Jesus shows us how to serve and care.**

Jesus said, "Come and have breakfast" giving bread and fish to each disciple.

**In our fear of scarcity, we sometimes are hesitant to share, but Jesus shows us how.**

After offering sustenance to the weary disciples, Jesus turned to Simon Peter and asked: "Do you love me?" Peter said, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said: "Feed my lambs."

**Often we discover the love language of our faith by sharing with others.**

A second time, Jesus asked Peter, "Do you love me?" Peter said, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said: "Tend my sheep."

**We can grow in faith by caring for others.**

A third time, Jesus asked Peter, "Do you love me?" Peter felt hurt at the repeated request and said, "Lord, you know everything, you know that I love you." Jesus said: "Feed my sheep."

**We are called to feed and tend to the needs of all people, especially those in need of liberation from hunger and oppression.**

Jesus reminded the disciples that we all will need help at times in our lives. Then, Jesus said, "Follow me."

**We open our hearts and hands and resources to make better the circumstances of all people for living and thriving.**

This is a Word of Hope for the people who long for it.

**Thanks be to the Living Word.**

‡**Hymn of Praise #769** *For Everyone Born* (†Please stand as you are able in body or spirit.)

**Call to Confession** (*Congregation may be seated.*)

### **Prayer of Confession**

The Pharaoh decrees death to the foreigner. The power of fear and hate rage surround us. In the face of evil forgive us our complacency. The burning bush flickers beside us. The presence of God invites us. In the presence of the holy forgive us our lack of notice. The Red Sea waters stand at attention. The threshold of grace is breath-taking. In the company of grace forgive us our reticence to embrace.

*Silence is kept.*

**Kyrie #578** *O Lord, Have Mercy*

### **Assurance of Pardon**

Know that Christ shows us how to love ourselves and others, ensuring that all are nourished and cared for. Because of this, we can be honest about our lives, our struggles, and the things that keep us locked up. This is the key to peace: as soon as truth is spoken and the desire for liberation is known, Divine Love begins the process of resurrecting your life. In the name of Jesus Christ, you can know liberation.

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you can know liberation.**

### **Passing of the Peace**

## **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 #591** *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!* (*refrain only*)

### **Prayer for Illumination**

#### **Scripture in French** *Psalm 146*

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

#### **Anthem** *New Wine*

Jean René Balekita and Laeticia

Brooke Fraser

#### **Scripture in English** *Exodus 3:1-15*

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

#### **Message** *God Hears the Cry*

Rev. Beth Wagner

**Hymn for Reflection** *It Is Well With My Soul* (See slides)

# This Week

## Sunday, May 10

- 9:30 AM Worship/Sanctuary
- 10:45 AM Second Sunday Brunch/Centennial Hall

## Monday, May 11

- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Building & Café
- 1:00 PM DREAAM After School Academy/CE Building
- 1:00 PM GROW/Chapel
- 1:00 PM Knifty Knitters/Parlor & Zoom
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

## Tuesday, May 12

- 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Building & Café
- 10:30 AM Church Staff/Parlor & Zoom
- 12:00 PM Classic Book Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 1:00 PM DREAAM After School Academy/CE Building
- 4:30 PM Mission Team/Parlor & Zoom
- 5:30 PM DREAAM Family Dinner/Centennial Hall

## Wednesday, May 13

- 9:00 AM Nurture/Parlor & Zoom
- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Building & Café
- 10:00 AM Coffee with Beth/Espresso Royale
- 11:00 AM Francophone Ministry/Library
- 1:00 PM DREAAM After School Academy/CE Building
- 5:30 PM Outreach/Parlor & Zoom
- 6:00 PM Worship/Library & Zoom
- 7:30 PM Wednesdays We Gather/Zoom

## Thursday, May 14

- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Building & Café
- 11:00 AM Christ Community Church Korean Choir/Chapel
- 11:15 AM Easy English Christian Fellowship/Room 204
- 1:00 PM DREAAM After School Academy/CE Building
- 12:30 PM Windsor of Savoy Bible Study/Windsor of Savoy
- 6:00 PM DREAAM Cheer Practice/Centennial Hall

## Friday, May 15 Church Office closes 12 noon

- 8:15 AM Men's Prayer/Zoom
- 12:00 PM New Americans/Chapel
- 1:00 PM DREAAM After School Academy/CE Building
- 2:00 PM Mtg with Church Musician Candidate/Library
- 7:00 PM French Prayer/Zoom

## Saturday, May 16

- 6:00 PM Francophone Bethesda Fellowship/Chapel

# Announcements

- **Linda Sandquist** is our liturgist this morning. If you would like to serve as liturgist on a Sunday morning, contact **Carol Miles**.
- The **new parlor chairs** are a gift from the proceeds of the Zilly Fund for Parlor Maintenance. A gift from **Louise Zilly** sister of **Agnes Zilly Berger** - wife of Fred, mother of Tom, grandmother of church member **Jim Berger**. Endowments are a blessing from the donors.
- We have access to our hearing assistant loop during worship. This technology allows people with hearing aids equipped with **T-Coil technology** to hear the service through their hearing aids. If you know you have T-coil technology, plan to turn on the T-coil via your phone each Sunday morning.
- **We are glad you're here!** Questions about First Pres, see **either pastor** after the service or contact the church office ([info@firstpres.church](mailto:info@firstpres.church)).
- **We have NEW nametags!** If you cannot find your nametag, please contact the church office. The cost for your first nametag is provided by the church. If you lose your nametag, you will be responsible for the \$10 replacement cost.
- **Please be reminded our service time is now 9:30 AM each Sunday morning.**
- Join us immediately following worship for a special **Second Sunday Brunch** in Centennial Hall. We honor our mothers today!
- Next Sunday, May 17, our **Adult Discussion** immediately following worship begins our 6-part series on Cuba and our sister congregation in Havana. **Bob Kirby** will lead the discussion.
- Anyone interested in **donating flowers for use on Sunday mornings during worship**, please contact **Nancy Dankle** @217.778-4088 or [nkdankle@icloud.com](mailto:nkdankle@icloud.com).
- We are collecting royalties each time we hear a **Spiritual** in our service. Royalties were never paid for this music. Money we collect will go to the DREAAM Choir. Donation box is on the Welcome Center.
- Help fill our **Food Pantry**. Food will be distributed to those in our church community in the near future. List of items needed can be found in Westminster Hall. Monetary donations always welcome!
- Join **Pastor Beth** for **coffee in May** Wednesdays from 10-12 noon at Espresso Royale in Champaign.
- **Graduates will be recognized and celebrated Sunday, June 14.** If you have a high school, college, master's graduate, etc., please email name; relationship; where graduating from; degree; and future plans to **Brandi Lowe** at [brandiscrapbook@yahoo.com](mailto:brandiscrapbook@yahoo.com) by June 3.
- 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 **May newsletter** is available in the kiosks or at [firstpres.church/newsletter](http://firstpres.church/newsletter).
- Please **do not park** in the spaces marked Reserved 24/7 behind Meyer/Capel Law office on Sundays.
- **If unable to attend church**, watch the service live each Sunday at [firstpres.church/live](http://firstpres.church/live). The **Sunday service video** is available on-line this week; audio sermon available the following Sunday at 10:30 AM on WDWS 1400AM.
- **Scam/Email Spoof Alert ...** Your pastors will **never** send a text, email or voicemail asking you to purchase gift cards. If in doubt, contact the church office.
- **Help us tell the First Pres story—one photo at a time!** Our website refresh team is working on a warmer, more vibrant picture of our church family, and your candid photos can make a big difference. As you're at small groups, committee meetings, Bible studies, fellowships, and other church activities, snap unposed moments of people connecting, serving, learning, laughing, welcoming, praying, and worshiping. Please upload photos to: <https://bit.ly/4eWm5g0> or the QR code. For help or questions, reach out to the website refresh team: **Anne Craig, Melinda Miller, Camille James, or Joe Lundy.**

