

will roll down like a mighty stream. True peace and true reconciliation are not only desired, they are assured and guaranteed in Christ. This is our faith. This is our hope.

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

**Offertory** *Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore*

✠**Response of Gratitude #822** *When We Are Living* (vs. 2)

Through all our living, we our fruits must give. Good works of service are for offering.  
When we are giving, or when we are receiving, we belong to God; we belong to God.

✠**Prayer of Dedication & Thanksgiving**

**Call to Prayer #5** *God the Sculptor of the Mountains* (vs. 4)

God the unexpected infant, God the calm, determined youth,  
God the table turning prophet, God the resurrected truth:  
You are present every moment; we are searching; meet us now.

**Prayers of the People**

**The Lord's Prayer** (pg. 35; *in the language and 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 #591** *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah*

✠**Charge and Benediction**

✠**Congregational Sung Benediction #742** *We Will Walk With God*

We will walk with God, my brothers; we will walk with God.  
We will walk with God, my sisters; we will walk with God.  
We will go rejoicing till the kingdom has come.  
We will go rejoicing till the kingdom has come.

✠**Postlude**

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

**Service Material References**

worshipdesignstudio.com/emerge; Rev. Mindi @ **Rev-o-lution** blog

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## **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH** OF CHAMPAIGN

May 18, 2025

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter



Presbyterian Reformed Church of Cuba

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." How wonderful it is to be so loved! Our natural response is worship.

### Prelude

### 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 pads.*

### ✠Call to Worship

In the silence of the tomb, we wondered...

...what force could be stronger than death?

When our dreams died and our safety nets split, we wondered...

...what do I do now?

Stumbling through our days half-asleep, we wonder...

...will I ever awaken from this feeling of numbness?

When we hear resurrection stories, we wonder...

...is there a new beginning for me too?

Then the love of the Divine reminds us,

**"You too are my child. You can emerge to renewed life. Again and again."**

### ✠Hymn of Praise #301 *Let Us Build a House*

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

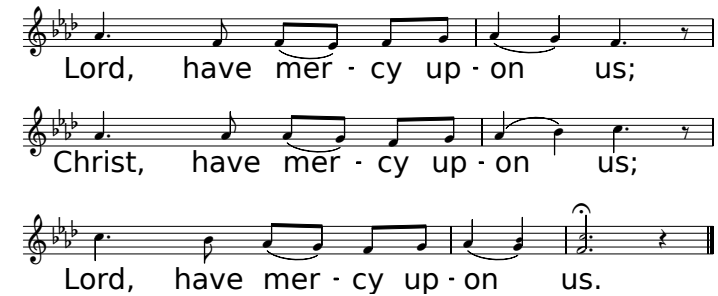
### Prayer of Confession

God beyond borders, we know that on our way to worship, we may not have noticed the exiles in our neighborhoods. We admit how easy it is for us to wander down the streets of temptation, pausing at the corner of easy choices. We fall silent in the presence of those who speak words of anger and hate. We tolerate a culture that suspects all who are different from us.

Have mercy on us, O God, for surely you take the side of justice. Open our hearts to all the wonders you are performing in our lives. You gift us with those of other cultures, that our lives might be blessed.

You send us friends out of places we least expect, that our community might be enriched. You call us to be generous with our blessings, so others might be graced with the gift of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. *Silence is kept.*

### Kyrie



### Assurance of Pardon

God challenges us, God encourages us. God confronts us, and God accepts us. God works wonders in our midst and gives us the eyes, the hearts, the souls to see such miracles.

**God forgives us, God guides us through the wilderness of the world, God leads us home. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### 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

### Prayer for Illumination #695 *Change My Heart, O God* (refrain)

**Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.**

**Change my heart, O God; may I be like you. (Repeat)**

### Scripture *Jeremiah 29:11-13*

Ceci est la Parole du Seigneur./**Gloire à Dieu** (pronounced "glow-ah ah dew")  
This is the Word of the Lord./**Thanks be to God!**

### Message *Hope Lives in the Light*

Beth Wagner

### ✠Hymn for Reflection #733 *We All Are One In Mission*

## 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 (from the Mennonite tradition)

Jesus taught us to speak of hope as the coming of God's kingdom. We believe that God is at work in our world turning hopeless and evil situations into good. We believe that goodness and justice will triumph in the end and that tyranny and oppression cannot last forever. One day all tears will be wiped away; the lamb will lie down with the lion, and justice

# This Week

## Sunday, May 18

- 9:00 AM Worship/Westminster Hall
- 10:10 AM Easy English Fellowship/Rooms 204, 206, 207
- 10:10 AM Children’s Sunday School/CE Building
- 10:10 AM Adult Discussion/Parlor

## Monday, May 19

- 12:00 PM Lunch & Learn/Centennial Hall
- 1:00 PM Grow/Family Library
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

## Tuesday, May 20

- 8:00 AM Men’s Breakfast Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 9:30 AM PW Coordinating Team/Zoom
- 10:30 AM Staff/Parlor & Zoom
- 12:00 PM Classic Book Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 3:30 PM Community Mission Deacons/Parlor & Zoom
- 5:00 PM DREAAM Mentoring/Café
- 6:00 PM DREAAM Praise Dance/Chapel

## Wednesday, May 21

- 9:00 AM Cuba Partners/Zoom
- 11:00 AM French Ministry Team/Family Library
- 1:00 PM Music Search Team/Library
- 7:30 PM Wednesdays We Gather/Zoom

## Thursday, May 22

- 10:00 AM Coffee with Beth/Good Judy’s Bagels, Urbana
- 11:30 AM PW Spring Gathering/Centennial Hall
- 12:30 PM Bible Study/Windsor of Savoy
- 7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal/Choir Room

## Friday, May 23 (Church Office Closes at Noon)

- 8:15 AM Men’s Prayer/Zoom

## Saturday, May 24

- 6:00 PM French Worship Service/Chapel

# Announcements

●**We are glad you’re here!** Questions about First Pres, see **either pastor** after the service or contact the church office (info@firstpres.church). We are presently worshipping in Westminster Hall while the elevator to our historic Sanctuary is being replaced.

●Please wear your **nametag** to help our **staff** get acquainted.

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

●**Large print bulletins** are available for use on Sunday mornings. Ask an usher if you cannot find one.

●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. A donation box is on the Welcome Center.

●Join us this morning immediately following worship as our **Adult Discussion** continues with the study of Parables. This morning **Peter Yau** will lead a discussion of The Lost Pearl.

●**Lunch and Learn** Mondays at noon in Centennial Hall. Bring a sack lunch and join us.

●Join **Paster Beth** for coffee Thursdays in May at Good Judy’s Bagels in Urbana from 10 to 12 noon.

●**We celebrate ALL graduates this morning.** This morning's insert contains the names of the graduates we were notified about. Congratulations!

●All are invited to the **Spring Gathering** hosted by Presbyterian Women on Thursday, May 22, at 11:30 AM in Centennial Hall. **Kena Jo Chapman** will present the program *Our God, Our Environment, Our Church* and we will conclude this year’s Circle study. A light lunch will follow the program.

●Save Sunday, June 8, for a *special* celebration. It’s **Second Sunday Brunch**. We will also say farewell to **Matthew and Sora Shepard**. If you would like to donate to a love gift for the Shepards, please make your check payable to the church and mark it Shepard farewell.

●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 our 9 AM service live each Sunday at [firstpres.church/live](http://firstpres.church/live). The Sunday **sermon** is available on-line anytime or on WDWS 1400AM the next Sunday at 10:30 AM.