

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 #20 *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

◆Charge and Benediction

What does the Lord require of us?

To seek justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God. (*Micah 6:8*)

May God help us live this high calling faithfully, as we strive to be good stewards of all our gifts.

Alleluia!

God has richly blessed us to be a blessing to the world in Christ's name.

Alleluia!

As we leave this sanctuary to serve God, let us greet our mission partners: The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

(God is good! All the time!)

◆Congregational Sung Benediction #744 *Arise, Your Light Is Come*

Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey;

Show forth the glory of your God, which shines on you today.

◆Postlude

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



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

May 21, 2023 7th 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.

Office: 302 West Church, Champaign, IL 61820 ♦ 217.356.7238
info@firstpres.church ♦ Rev. Matt Matthews (matt@firstpres.church)
www.firstpres.church ♦ Facebook: fb.com/firstpreschampaign

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

♦Call to Worship

This is the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

The Lord is risen!

The Lord is risen, indeed!

Let us worship the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

♦Hymn of Praise #619 *Praise My Soul, the God of Heaven*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, you've asked us to tell the world about your love. We are reluctant to do so. Forgive us.

In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. AMEN.

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

By the grace of God 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 – Sora Shepard

Response of Gratitude #399 *God Welcomes All*

God welcomes all, strangers and friends;

God's love is strong and it never ends.

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 #291 *Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness* (refrain)

Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness, calling and free.

Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

Scripture *Acts 1:6-14* (NT, pg. 118)

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 *You Will Be My Witnesses*

Matt Matthews

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 *Lift High the Cross*

arr. Joel Raney

Sora Shepard, organ; Sean Foster, piano

An Affirmation of Faith (from *The Confession of 1967*; for three readers & congregation)

(See slides)

Song for Centering & Call to Prayer #469 *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*

Lord, listen to your children praying. Lord, send your Spirit in this place.

Lord, listen to your children praying. Send us love; send us power; send us grace.

This Week

Sunday, May 21

- 9:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Sunday School/Christian Education Building
- 10:00 AM Antique Car Show/Doxology Lane (Alley)
- 10:00 AM Easy English Fellowship/Room 204
- 10:15 AM Worship/Windsor of Savoy

Monday, May 22

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 1:00 PM GROW/Family Library
- 1:00 PM Knifty Knitters/Parlor & Zoom
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

Tuesday, May 23

- 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 10:30 AM Church Staff/Parlor & Zoom
- 12:00 PM Classic Book Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 3:30 PM DREAAM Culinary Arts Club/Centennial Hall & Kitchen
- 4:30 PM World Mission/Parlor & Zoom

Wednesday, May 24

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 1:30 PM Pakistan Study/Parlor & Zoom

Thursday, May 25

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 12:00 PM PW Spring Gathering/Westminster Hall
- 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal/Choir Room

Friday, May 26 Church Office Closes at Noon

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 8:15 AM Men's Prayer/Zoom
- 7:30 PM Friday Night Lights/Zoom

Saturday, May 27

- 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.

●**Linda Miller** is our liturgist this morning. If you would like to serve as a Sunday liturgist, contact

●Flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are in loving memory of **Sophia Van Arsdell** from her family.

●This morning we celebrate **Val Smith**, our English Language Learner Director. Val is retiring and we want to wish her well. Stop by the coffee hour after service, enjoy some special refreshments and thank Val for her service to the church's ELL program.

Immediately afterwards, join us in viewing the antique cars just outside the church. **Harvey Hodges** is coordinating this effort and has invited car enthusiasts from around town to show their cars.

●**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.

●**Gary Peterson** 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.church/live. The Sunday **sermon** is available on-line anytime or on WDWS 1400AM the next Sunday at 10:30 AM.

●**Presbyterian Women's Spring Gathering** Thursday, May 25, 2023 at 11:30 AM. **Lisa Wilson**, the Executive Director of the Refugee Center, will be the guest speaker. All are welcome! Please RSVP to church office. If unable to attend, here is the URL link <https://youtube.com/live/YC-nEENzk5TU>.

●**Spring cleaning?** Our Community Mission Deacons are collecting **small items** for Salt & Light and Habitat's Restore. Items may be brought to the church May 30-June 3 before noon each day.

●Starting Thursday, June 8, at 11 AM in-person and via zoom *Talk With Me*, a 4-week class to learn sign language led by **Alan Thomas** and **Michael Hogue**. Be able to converse with deaf friends. If interested, text Michael at 217-841-8486.

●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.

●The **May 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.