

teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,
healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

Anthem *Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above*

text: Charles Wesley; music: Michal Larkin

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 #450** *Be Thou My Vision*

◆ **Charge and Benediction**

◆ **Congregational Sung Benediction #542** *God Be With You Till We Meet Again*

**God be with you till we meet again;
Loving counsels guide uphold you, with a shepherd's care enfold you;
God be with you till we meet again.**

◆ **Postlude**

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

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

June 23, 2024

5th Sunday after Pentecost



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** (from *A Wee Worship Book: Fourth Incarnation* by Wild Goose Worship Group)

The world belongs to the Lord

The earth and all its people

How good and how lovely it is

To live together in unity

Love and faith come together,

Justice and peace join hands.

If the Lord's disciples keep silent,

These stones would shout aloud.

Lord, open our lips

And our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

♦**Hymn of Praise #611** *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy God. It is easy for us to get disheartened. We are often dissuaded from your call upon our lives, believing it to be above our abilities. It is easy for us to forget who it is that we serve. Forgive us God, forgive our lack of faith. Forgive us when we underestimate ourselves. Help us to follow your word and your will. It's in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Our righteousness is found in Christ alone, a gift of God by faith.

Beloved people of God, believe the good news: through the grace of Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

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 #240 *Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks*

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to his name.

Prayer of Dedication & Thanksgiving

Hymn of Reflection #69 *I the Lord of Sea and Sky*

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

Special Music *Nzambe aponi yo osalela ye* (God chooses you to serve him)

Gabriel Mboyo

Prayer for Illumination #137 *He Came Down*

He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;

He came down that we may have love; hallelujah forevermore.

Scripture *Mark 4:35-41*

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 *How Do I Love Thee?*

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.

Affirmation of Faith (from *A Brief Statement of Faith*)

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,

This Week

Sunday, June 23

- 9:00 AM Worship/Westminster Hall
- 10:00 AM Farewell Celebration/Centennial Hall
- 10:15 AM Worship/Windsor of Savoy

Monday, June 24

- 9:15 AM ELL Classes In-Person/CE Building & Cafe
- 1:00 PM GROW/Family Library
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

Tuesday, June 25

- 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 9:15 AM ELL Classes In-Person/CE Building & Cafe
- 10:30 AM Church Staff/Parlor & Zoom
- 7:30 PM Together on Tuesdays/Zoom

Wednesday, June 26

- 9:15 AM ELL Classes In-Person/CE Building & Cafe
- 7:00 PM Adult Ed Summer Series/Parlor & Zoom

Thursday, June 27

- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir/Westminster Hall

Friday, June 28 Church Office closes at noon

- 8:15 AM Men's Prayer/Zoom
- 10:00 AM Joyce Wittler Visitation/Centennial Hall
- 12:00 PM Joyce Wittler Memorial Service/Westminster Hall

Saturday, June 29

- 6:00 PM French Worship Service/Chapel

10:30 – 11:30 AM Music for kids with drumming at the Community Center for the Arts

12 – 2 PM Fashion show and speech by King HRH Togbi Nyaho Tamakloe VI, Miafiaga of Anlo kingdom- Volta region, Ghana at Lincoln Square Mall.

3 – 4 PM Public Dance at Urbana Free Library

4 – 7 PM African cuisine for sale and music with Congolese guest artist Jose Nzita on Gregory Street between Krannert Center and

JUNE 23, 2024

URBANA, ILLINOIS USA 🇺🇸

MUSIC
ART EXHIBITION
CUISINE
FASHION

Announcements

- We are glad you're here! Questions about First Pres, see **Associate Pastor Joe Lundy** after the service or contact the church office (info@firstpres.church). We are presently worshipping in Westminster Hall while our elevator to our historic Sanctuary is being replaced.
- Please wear your **nametag** to help our **staff** get acquainted.
- The flowers this morning are from **Linda and Gary Peterson's** garden given with love and appreciation for **Rachel and Matt Matthews'** joyful ministry and friendship.
- Bruce Rainey** is our liturgist this morning. If you would like to serve, contact **Carol Miles**.
- Gale Brandner** will preach this morning's service at the Windsor of Savoy. **Judi Geistlinger** is preaching at Westminster Presbyterian in Champaign this morning while **Dave Whitford** is in Hoopeston. **Judi** will begin serving part-time as Westminster's Interim Pastor beginning July 1.
- Summer vacation time is here and for June, July & August there are no Adult Sunday School Discussions scheduled. Many of our small groups also take a break during the summer. But for a mid-week spiritual pick-up there's **Bible Study and Christian Discussion** on Wednesdays 7 – 8 PM in Mae Chapin Parlor and on Zoom. We'll have light snacks, soft drinks, good fellowship and serious theology led by **Rev. Joseph Lundy**. Our first set of lessons comes from PCUSA. It's a 3-part series on what it means to be a Matthew 25 congregation, June 19, 26 and July 10. No extra book needed, just a Bible and an open mind.
- This morning immediately following worship we will host a **Farewell Celebration** honoring **Matt and Rachel Matthews**. You are invited to join us in Centennial Hall for fruit, pastries, cake and coffee as we say goodbye and good luck to the Matthews.
- Celebrate our African friends as they honor our community with a festival of music, photography, public dance, food and fashion today at the **Ngoma African Arts Festival**. Church member and friend **Jean René Balekita** is coordinating this community wide event. For a complete schedule of today's events and locations see the calendar page in today's bulletin.
- Thank you for your generosity in signing up for the **meals for Habitat volunteers** on the third Saturday. All slots are filled. Join us in solidarity with the Summer build by fixing for your own families the recipes we have provided for you on the mission kiosk in Westminster.
- 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 voice mail after hours or on weekends.
- 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 **June newsletter** is available in the kiosks or at 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. The Sunday **sermon** is available on-line anytime or on WDWS 1400AM the next Sunday at 10:30 AM.