

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Offertory

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

✠Prayer of Dedication & Thanksgiving

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 #756 *O God of Every Nation*

✠Charge and Benediction

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

✠Postlude

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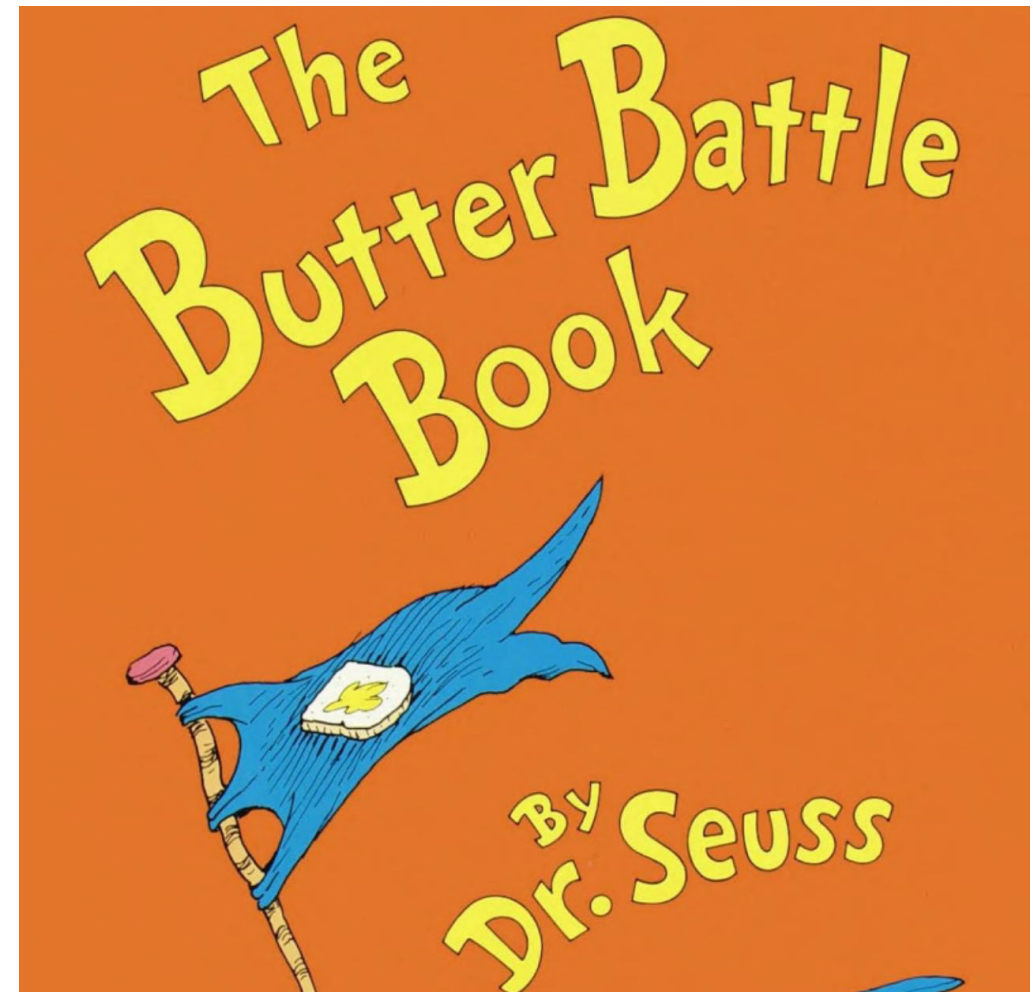
✠Please stand as you are able in body or spirit.



## **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH** OF CHAMPAIGN

July 20, 2025

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost



Office: 302 West Church, Champaign, IL 61820 ♦ 217.356.7238  
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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 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**

**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 pads.*

✚**Call to Worship** (✚Please stand as you are able in body or spirit.)

Strength is commanding the wind and sea to obey,

**Strength is wielding a slingshot in the face of a raging giant.**

Strength is accepting vulnerability from inside the boat,

**Strength is standing in solidarity with the powerless.**

Strength is turning a cheek,

**Strength is loving an enemy.**

We come to worship a God who redefines our vision of strength.

✚**Opening Prayer**

✚**Hymn of Praise #435** *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

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

**Prayer of Confession**

O God of Grace, may we not have received you in vain.

When we pray because we desire others' good opinion,

**Forgive us, Lord.**

When we give our gifts for others' approval,

**Forgive us, O God.**

When we deny ourselves to get others' admiration,

**Forgive us, Merciful One.**

When we fail to do unto others as we would like them to do unto us,

**Forgive us, Spirit of Love.**

When we put our privileged selves first,

before the poor and needy and disadvantaged of this world,

**Forgive us, Creator of Truth.**

When we keep for ourselves more than what we need,

**Forgive us, Give-Away God.**

Forgive us our sins and trespasses and debts.

**Only then can our souls be washed clean and spotless.**

**Only then can we be your true servants.**

**Only then will we reach the pure heart of the matter.** *Silence is kept.*

**Kyrie**

**Assurance of Pardon**

**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 1x)

**Scripture in French** *1 Corinthians 13:4-7*

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

**Scripture in English** *Matthew 5:38-39*

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

**Message** *A Butter Way*

Beth Wagner

✚**Hymn for Reflection** *Up On a Mountaintop* (See screens)

Tune: Traditional Irish melody #450 *Be Thou My Vision*;

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## **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 Presbyterian Mission Guide for a Matthew 25 Church

**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. We trust in God, whom**

**Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes**

**everyone equally in God's image to live as one community. We trust in God the Holy**

**Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through**

**faith and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.**

# Announcements

## This Week

### Sunday, July 20

- 9:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary
- 10:10 AM Summer Youth Sunday School/2<sup>nd</sup> Floor CE Building
- 10:10 AM Easy English Fellowship/Rooms 204, 206, 207

### Monday, July 21

- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Building
- 1:00 PM GROW/Family Library
- 3:30 PM Transition Team/Library
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

### Tuesday, July 22

- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Building
- 10:30 AM Staff/Parlor & Zoom
- 4:30 PM World Mission Team/Parlor & Zoom
- 5:00 PM DREAAM History Training/Café

### Wednesday, July 23

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Centennial Hall
- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Building
- 11:30 AM DREAAM IYIP Case Management/Café
- 4:00 PM Open House for Veda Gill/Home of Sallie Hutton
- 7:30 PM Wednesdays We Gather/Zoom

### Thursday, July 24

- 12:30 PM Bible Study/Windsor of Savoy

### Friday, July 25 Church Office closes at 12 noon

- 8:15 AM Men's Prayer/Zoom
- 10:00 AM Korean Choir Rehearsal/Chapel
- 7:00 PM French Prayer/Zoom

### Saturday, July 26

- 6:00 PM Francophone Bethesda Fellowship/Chapel

●**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)).

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

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

●With our return to the sanctuary, we have access to our hearing assistant loop. 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. You may have to ask your audiologist if you have this technology and how to turn it on. Let Pastor Beth know about your experience.

●**John Muirhead** is our liturgist this morning. If you would like to serve as liturgist, contact **Carol Miles**.

●**Flower donations** for use in the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings are always accepted. You can choose to honor family members, friends/loved ones or special events. If interested in participating, please contact **Nancy Dankle** 217.778.4088.

●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 next Sunday as we continue our **summer series of sermons of Dr. Seuss**.

●**Veda Gil**, Executive Director Presbyterian Education Board in Lahore Pakistan will be visiting July 22-25. All are invited to an **Open House** at the home of **Sallie Hutton**, 1410 Mayfair Road in Champaign, on Wednesday, July 23, from 4-6 PM to visit with Veda. For over 25 years, Veda has tirelessly worked to strengthen PEB schools, ensuring that education is accessible to those who need it most. Veda's connection to PEB runs deeper than her role, it's part of her story. A PEB scholarship changed her mother's life, opening doors that led to generations of education and opportunity. Now, Veda continues that legacy, advocating for students and leading with compassion, vision, and unwavering commitment.

●Plans are underway for the **175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration** of First Presbyterian Church. We are organizing various events on Sundays from September 14 through October 12. Please contact **Nancy Martin**, Chairman, at [nemartin81@hotmail.com](mailto:nemartin81@hotmail.com) or text 217-359-0753 or contact **Carol Ann Green** at [cadgreen@comcast.net](mailto:cadgreen@comcast.net) or text 217-621-4933 if you are interested in helping with the celebration of our historical church. If you have pictures that celebrate events at the church and would like to share them, send or take to the church office by August 15. Include the name of the event, year if possible and names of people in the picture. All pictures will be returned.

●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 **July 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.