

## **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** (PCUSA *Brief Statement of Faith*)

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

### **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 #693 *The Gift of Love*

◆ Charge and Benediction

◆ Congregational Sung Benediction #313 *Lord, Make Us More Holy*

Lord, make us more holy; Lord, make us more holy;  
Lord, make us more holy, until we meet again:  
Holy, Holy, Holy, until we meet again.

◆ Postlude

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

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# **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN**

July 28, 2024

10<sup>th</sup> 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 worshiping 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 & 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.*

### **Greetings**

### **Announcements**

### **◆Call to Worship**

Sojourning God,

**your Spirit exists everywhere, on every path, inviting us to move with curiosity and  
compassion toward each other.**

May we see that our home paths are the unfamiliar paths for someone else.

**With renewed compassion, open our hearts for hospitality, so that in our welcoming,**

**we will grow together in peace, expand our chances for love,**

and deepen understanding right where we are.

Nudge and guide us, we pray.

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

### **Call to Confession**

### **Prayer of Confession**

**Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole hearts and have  
not loved our neighbors as ourselves, through what we have done and left undone.**

**Forgive us when we return to the familiar in fear rather than promise. Forgive us when  
we turn inward rather than become the hosts you call us to be. Guide us as we seek  
to turn around toward greater love. Lead us to travel in your ways. Amen.**

### **Hymn of Reflection #703 *Jesus Thy Boundless Love to Me***

### **Assurance of Pardon**

Know this:

Jesus' welcome is always there. He stokes the flames of love and invites us to gather 'round,  
filling our emptiness, calming our fear, making home for all. He is our constant companion,  
inviting us to reach out in care to one another, traveling together toward the Kin-dom of Love.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen!**

### **Passing of the Peace**

The peace of the risen Christ is with you!

**And also with you!**

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

**Offertory *God Is My Shepherd***

text: Psalm 23; music Antonin Dvorak

Brandi Lowe, Soprano

### **Response of Gratitude #468 *In My Life***

**In my life, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.**

**In my life, Lord, be glorified today.**

### **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!"*

**Anthem *O Lord, Be Merciful***

Brandi Lowe, soprano

music: Nathan Brantlett

### **Word with Children**

### **Prayer for Illumination #314 *Christ, Be Our Light***

**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.**

**Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.**

### **Scripture *John 15:1-17* (NRSV)**

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")

### **Message *Abiding in the Branches and Vines***

Beth Wagner

## Announcements

### This Week

#### Sunday, July 28

- 9:00 AM Worship/Westminster Hall
- 10:10 AM Easy English Fellowship/Rooms 104 & 105

#### Monday, July 29

- 1:00 PM GROW/Family Library
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

#### Tuesday, July 30

- 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 7:30 PM Together on Tuesdays/Zoom

#### Wednesday, July 31

- 1:00 PM Pakistan Study/Parlor & Zoom

#### Thursday, August 1

- 4:00 PM Spiritual Formation/Zoom

#### Friday, August 2 Church Office closes at noon

- 8:15 AM Men's Prayer/Zoom

#### Saturday, August 3

- 6:00 PM French Worship Service/Chapel



Put it on your calendar!!!

**ALL Church Picnic  
Sunday, August 18  
4 PM Hessel Park**

●**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](mailto: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.

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

●**Coffeeshop Office Hours for Pastor Beth...**Pastor Beth is out of town for a few weeks. When she returns, she's headed southwest for coffee on August 21 and 28 from 10-12 noon. The new location is **Espresso Royale** in the Village Green Plaza, 2401 Village Green Place (Windsor and Duncan) next to Walgreens. Plenty of free parking and lovely drinks, snacks and ice cream. Join her!

●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.

●Throughout July we will be collecting for our **Annual Raindrop Offering**. This year the offering supports Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. In 1947, WWII pilots in the US and UK initiated the development of MAF by flying two missionaries to a jungle area of Mexico. MAF has evolved over the years and collaborates with sister organizations to meet spiritual and physical needs in 37 different countries. The fleet of 135 planes serves some 1,500 non-profits, churches and humanitarian organizations. Your donation of ... \$25 transports 120 Bibles; \$50 delivers 410 pounds of school supplies; \$100 transports two Christian workers; \$150 delivers 1,200 pounds of food or medicine while \$30 provides fuel for a life-saving flight or \$60 buys tools to help keep the planes safely in the air. Mark your check or a pew envelope with "Raindrop" or place in one of the Raindrop envelopes.

●**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 **July newsletter** is available in the kiosks or at [firstpres.church/newsletter](http://firstpres.church/newsletter). If you have anything you would like to include in the August issue, please send it to [info@firstpres.church](mailto:info@firstpres.church) this week.

●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.