

## **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 A Declaration of Faith)*

We believe Christ gives us and demands of us lives in pilgrimage toward God's kingdom. Like Christ we may enjoy on our journey all that sustains life and makes it pleasant and beautiful. No more than Christ are we spared the darkness, ambiguity, and threat of life in the world. We are in the world, but not of the world. Our confidence and hope for ourselves and other people do not rest in the powers and achievements of this world, but in the coming and hidden presence of God's kingdom. Christ calls each of us to a life appropriate to that kingdom: to serve as he has served us; to take up our cross, risking the consequences of faithful discipleship; to walk by faith, not by sight, to hope for what we have not seen.

### **Song for Centering & Call to Prayer #543** *O Christ Surround Me* (vs.1)

God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to move my voice;  
God, be the strength to now uphold me: O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

### **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 #69** *I, the Lord of Sea and Sky* *(Here I Am Lord)*

◆ **Charge and Benediction**

◆ **Congregational Sung Benediction #648** *Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise*

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell everyone what God has done.  
Let everyone who seeks the Lord rejoice and bear the name of Christ.  
Send us with our promises and lead your people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving.  
Alleluia, alleluia.

◆ **Postlude**

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

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



# **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH** OF CHAMPAIGN

August 13, 2023    11<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 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** (adapted from *Psalm 105:1-6*)

O give thanks to Yahweh, call on God's name,  
make known God's deeds among the peoples.

**Sing to God, sing praises to Yahweh; tell of all God's wonderful works.**

Glory in God's holy name; let the hearts of those who seek Yahweh rejoice.

**Seek Yahweh and all God's strength; seek God's presence continually.**

Remember the wonderful works God has done, God's miracles, and the judgments God has uttered,

**O offspring of Yahweh's servant Abraham, children of Jacob, God's chosen ones.**

#### **◆Hymn of Praise #54** *Make a Joyful Noise to God* (hymn tune Dix - *For the Beauty of the Earth*)

### **Call to Confession**

We pause to examine our hearts, our wills, and our motives.

**Open our eyes, O Lord.**

We pause to examine the sin that warps the systems of which we are a part.

**Open our eyes, O Lord, and hear our prayer of confession.**

### **Prayer of Confession**

Holy God, cleanse us from all un-right-ness, and heal us from the idea that we have no un-right-ness. Help us be honest with ourselves, with others, and with you. 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. O, Righteous God, hear our prayer. AMEN.

### **Assurance of Pardon**

Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

**Alleluia!**

Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

**Thanks be to God.**

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

**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 #666** *O Splendor of God's Glory* (vs.1)

**O Splendor of God's glory bright, from light eternal bringing light;**

**O Light of Light, light's living spring, true Day, all days illumining.**

### **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 #829** *My Faith Looks Up To Thee* (vs.1)

**My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine!**

**Now hear me while I pray; take all my guilt away;**

**O let me from this day be wholly thine!**

#### **Scripture** *Genesis 37:1-4, 12-13, 17-28* (OT, pg. 34)

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** *God's Wonderful Works*

Rachel Matthews

# This Week

## Sunday, August 13

- 9:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Easy English Fellowship/Rooms 104/105
- 10:15 AM Brunch/Centennial Hall
- 10:15 AM Worship/Windsor of Savoy

## Monday, August 14

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 110, 212
- 1:00 PM GROW/Family Library
- 1:00 PM Knifty Knitters/Parlor & Zoom
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall
- 5:30 PM DREAAM Drumline/Gym

## Tuesday, August 15

- 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast/Parlor & Zoom
- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 110, 212
- 10:30 AM Church Staff/Parlor & Zoom
- 5:00 PM Community Mission Deacons/Parlor & Zoom
- 5:30 PM DREAAM Drumline/Gym

## Wednesday, August 16

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 110, 212
- 5:30 PM Covenant Bible Study/Centennial Hall

## Thursday, August 17

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 110, 212
- 12:30 PM Bible Study/Windsor of Savoy
- 7:00 PM Session/Parlor & Zoom

## Friday, August 18 Church Office Closes at Noon

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 110, 212
- 8:15 AM Men's Prayer/Zoom
- 7:30 PM Friday Night Lights/Zoom

## Saturday, August 19

- 6:00 PM French Worship Service/Chapel

The Session has called a **Congregational Meeting** for Sunday, August 20, immediately after worship, for the purpose of hearing and acting upon the report of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee. They will introduce their nomination for our new Associate Pastor. A reception will follow.

# Announcements

●**We are glad you're here!** Questions about First Pres, contact **Pastor Matt Matthews** or call the church office.

●**Mary Jane Kelley** is our liturgist this morning. If you would like to serve as liturgist, contact **Carol Miles**.

●The flowers this morning are donated by the children of **Gwen Pollard** in celebration of her birthday on August 11.

●Join us this morning for **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Brunch**. We will have a variety of brunch items. Enjoy the fellowship right after the 9 AM service. Donations appreciated. Volunteers are needed to help with the brunches. If interested, please contact **Jan Wittler, Gary Peterson** or the church office.

●**The Rev. Matt Matthews** will preach today's 10:15 AM service at the Windsor of Savoy.

●Do you enjoy singing and music? Consider joining the **Chancel Choir**. Rehearsals are held each Thursday at 7 PM beginning September 7. Contact **Joe Grant** at [joegrant@illinois.edu](mailto:joegrant@illinois.edu) for more information.

●Set aside Monday, September 11, from 6:30-8 PM for **World-Wide Game Night** in Centennial Hall. Snacks provided.

●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 **August 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 the law office on Sunday mornings. The spaces behind the law office belong to Meyer/Capel.

●**If unable to attend church**, catch 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.

●**Sunday School** for children is on summer break. Children are encouraged to attend church with their families. Childcare on Sunday mornings is provided for children 4 years and younger across the alley.