

- that for God pure and undefiled religion is to visit the orphans and the widows in their suffering;
- that God wishes to teach the church to do what is good and to seek the right;
- that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, which implies, among other things, that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an everflowing stream;
- that the church as the possession of God must stand where the Lord stands, namely against injustice and with the wronged; that in following Christ the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others.

Song for Centering & Call to Prayer #552 *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

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 #730 *I Sing a Song of the Saints of God*

❖Charge and Benediction

❖Congregational Sung Benediction #542 *God Be With You Till We Meet Again* (vs. 1)

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

August 14, 2022

10th 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 pen.

Greeting & Announcements

❖ **Call to Worship** (Based on *Hebrews 12:1-2*)

We are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses.

Let us lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely.

Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.

Let us look to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

❖ **Hymn #37** *Let All Things Now Living*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Christ calls us to stand with the least and the last, but we cling to power and privilege.

We fear worldly consequences for faithful action. We fail to follow where Christ leads, making excuses for ourselves, for our silence in the face of oppression, for our lack of action. Forgive us, God, and help us risk following where Christ calls. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

God's love is sure and steadfast. Receive the good news that you are forgiven and return to right relationship with God.

Thanks be to God.

Passing of the Peace

Let us share signs of Christ's peace with one another. The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you.

(Please greet one another in the peace of Christ.)

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

Offering Song

Sung Response #659 *Know That God Is Good*

Know that God is good. Know that God is good.

Know that God is good; God is good; God is good.

Halle, hallelujah. Halle, hallelujah.

Halle, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

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 #455 *Listen to the Word That God Has Spoken*

Listen to the word that God has spoken;

Listen to the One who is close at hand;

Listen to the voice that began creation;

Listen even if you don't understand.

Scripture *Hebrews 11:29-34, 12:1-2* (NT pg. 226)

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 *The Future of the Church*

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.

Special Music *Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)*

The Gathering Band led by Kelsey Stremplewski

Affirmation of Faith (From *The Belhar Confession*)

We believe that God has revealed himself as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people;

• **that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged**

• **that God calls the church to follow him in this; for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry;**

• **that God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind;**

• **that God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly;**

This Week

Sunday, August 14

- 9:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Easy English Fellowship/Room 204
- 10:15 AM Worship/Windsor of Savoy
- 10:15 AM Second Sunday Brunch/Centennial Hall
- 1:00 PM Wanda Tuchel Memorial Service/Sanctuary
- 1:00 PM APNC/Chapel & Zoom
- 6:00 PM Fun In the Sun Event/Centennial Park Pavilion & Sholem Pool

Monday, August 15

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 9:00 AM DREAAM/Cafe
- 10:00 AM CYF/Zoom
- 1:00 PM GROW/Family Library
- 4:00 PM Environmental Team/Parlor & Zoom
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

Tuesday, August 16

- 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast Study/Zoom
- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 10:30 AM Church Staff/Parlor & Zoom
- 4:30 PM World Mission Committee/Parlor & Zoom

Wednesday, August 17

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

Thursday, August 18

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 12:30 PM Bible Study/Windsor of Savoy
- 7:00 PM Session/Parlor & Zoom

Friday, August 19 Church Office closes at noon

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 8:30 AM Men's Prayer/Zoom
- 1:00 PM Barbara Suter Memorial Service/Sanctuary
- 7:30 PM Friday Night Lights/Zoom

Saturday, August 20

- 6:00 PM French Worship Service/Centennial Hall

Announcements

- **We are glad you're here!** Questions about First Pres, contact **Pastor Matt** or call the church office.
- **Jane Seiler** is our liturgist this morning. We would love to have you serve as a liturgist! If interested, please contact **Carol Miles**.
- **Coffee is back on Sunday mornings!** Please consider signing up for coffee cleanup. A sign-up sheet is at the Welcome Center each Sunday morning.
- We are excited to announce the August worship services will be blended services at 9 AM with **Sora Shepard**, our new church musician and our Gathering Band led by **Kelsey Stremplewski**.
- **Judi Geistlinger** 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 morning at firstpres.live. The Sunday **sermon** is available on-line anytime or on WDWS 1400AM the next Sunday at 10:30 AM.
- The Session's Covid Response Team **recommends that we wear masks indoors**. Covid cases are high in Champaign County. Let's continue to hold each other in prayer as we strive to be Christ's (healthy) body on earth.
- **2nd Sunday Brunch TODAY** at 10:10 AM. Come and enjoy brunch in Centennial Hall. We will have an array of brunch items each month prepared in our new kitchen by volunteers led by trained cooks. Select from different hot dishes, meats, fruits, pastries and beverages each month. Enjoy the fellowship right after the 9 AM service. Donations are appreciated to help cover the costs. We are also in need of volunteers to help with the brunches. Contact **Jan Wittler, Gary Peterson** or the church office if you would like to help one of the Sundays.
- **Fun in the Sun...TODAY**, August 14, 6 PM at Centennial Park for hotdogs, popcorn, cotton candy and snacks with lawn and carnival games. Then at 8 PM we will move to Sholem Pool for a private pool party. Free and open to everyone!
- **Dinner for One...**Wednesday, August 17, 5:30 PM, at Sunsinger. RSVP to **Sallie Hutton** or the church office.
- **It takes a village!** Volunteers are needed to help on the AV desk at the back of the Sanctuary during our Sunday morning services. If you would like to volunteer, please email info@firstpres.church. No experience required. We will train.
- If you or a loved one is **in the hospital or in need of a pastoral visit**, contact the church office.
- The **August newsletter** is available in the kiosks or at firstpres.church/newsletter.