

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 #719 Come, Labor On

✚Charge and Benediction

✚Congregational Sung Benediction #742 We Will Walk With God (repeat)

✚Postlude

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

●We are glad you’re here! Questions about First Pres, see either pastor after the service or contact the church office (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.

●Tanya Deckert is our liturgist this morning. If you would like to serve as liturgist, contact Carol Miles.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

August 17, 2025

10th Sunday after Pentecost



"You are never too
old to set a new goal
or dream a new dream."

C. G. Lewis

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** paraphrased from *Psalms 34* (✚Please stand as you are able in body or spirit.)

God above, we have run the race for you

For you we have fought the good fight.

Be with us now, sustain us,

Give us the energy to worship you today!

✚**Opening Prayer**

✚**Hymn of Praise #757** *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples*

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

Prayer of Confession *Prayer of St. Francis*

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:

where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

to be consoled as to console,

to be understood as to understand,

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

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 #701 *Lord, Prepare Me*

Scripture *Ecclesiastes 12:1-8*

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

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

Message *You're Only Old Once*

Gary Peterson

✚**Hymn for Reflection #726** *Will You Come and Follow Me*

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** *The Apostle's Creed*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

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**

This Week

Sunday, August 17

- 9:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary
- 10:10 AM Summer Youth Sunday School/2nd Floor CE Building
- 10:10 AM Easy English Fellowship/Rooms 204, 206, 207
- 1:00 PM DREAAM Parent Leader Training/Chapel

Monday, August 18

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

Tuesday, August 19

- 8:00 AM Men’s Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 9:15 AM Compassion, Peace & Justice/Zoom
- 10:30 AM Church Staff/Parlor & Zoom
- 3:30 PM Community Mission Deacons/Parlor & Zoom
- 4:30 PM Taco Tuesday/Guido’s

Wednesday, August 20

- 9:00 AM Cuba Partners/Zoom
- 11:00 AM French Ministry Team/Family Library
- 7:30 PM Wednesdays We Gather/Zoom

Thursday, August 21

- 1:30 PM Bible Study/Windsor of Savoy
- 7:00 PM Session/Westminster Hall & Zoom

Friday, August 22 Church Office closes at 12 noon

- 8:15 AM Men’s Prayer/Zoom
- 10:00 AM Korean Choir Rehearsal/Chapel
- 2:00 PM Parkhill Memorial Service/Sanctuary
- 7:00 PM French Prayer/Zoom

Saturday, August 23

- 6:00 PM Francophone Bethesda Fellowship/Chapel

Announcements

●Join us this morning immediately following worship for **Second Sunday** brunch. Brunch is free as is the fellowship.

●**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 conclude our **summer series of sermons of Dr. Seuss**.

●**Taco Tuesdays** resume August 19 and 26 at Guido’s in downtown Champaign. Join **Pastor Beth** for tacos and conversation 4:30 - 5:30 PM these next two Tuesdays.

●On August 25, **Bill and Pat Metcalf** will celebrate their **70th wedding anniversary**. Their family is suggesting those who know them flood their day with emails, phone calls or send cards either via snail or email. (1713 Westhaven Drive, Champaign, IL 61820; cwm89md@gmail.com; patriciametcalf399@gmail.com).

●Plans are underway for the **175th 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 or text 217-359-0753 or contact **Carol Ann Green** at cadgreen@comcast.net or text 217-621-4933 if you are interested in helping with the celebration of our historical church.

●**First Pres Mission Study...**The small groups for this study will meet in October and the first week of November. We need everyone’s participation to help develop a plan for our church’s future. Participation will involve the opportunity to meet with your group four times during the study. To assist in the scheduling of these meetings, please stop by the Welcome Center after worship to talk to a Transition Team member and let us know when you would be available. **This study will provide valuable information in our journey toward our next pastor.**

●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 **August 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.