

Communion
Invitation

This is the table where God intends us to be nourished;
this is the time when Christ can make us new.
So come, you who hunger and thirst for a deeper faith, for a better life, for a fairer world.
Jesus Christ, who has sat at our tables, now invites us to be guests at his.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
It is right to give our thanks and praise....
Therefore we gladly join our voices to the song of the Church on earth and in heaven:

Sanctus Holy, Holy, Holy (see screens)

This is the mystery of faith:

Benedictus (see screens)

Breaking of the Bread and Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

... because we have shared the Living Bread and cannot remain the same.
Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us.
May we live to your glory, both as inhabitants of earth and citizens of heaven.
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.*

Connecting with our Community
Minute for Mission – Courage Connection

Matthew Fletcher

✚ Hymn for Commitment #314 *Longing for Light*

✚ Charge and Benediction

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

✚ Postlude

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

Service Materials:

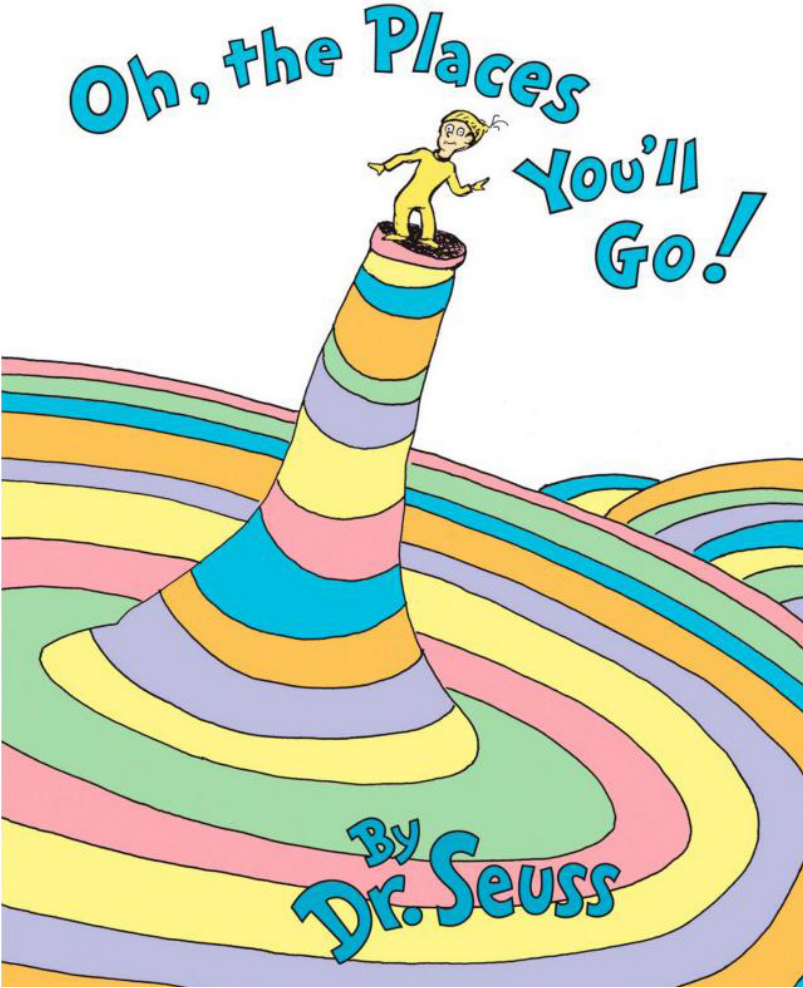
A Wee Worship Book by the Wild Goose Worship Group

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**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH** OF CHAMPAIGN

August 3, 2025 8th 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 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 107:1-6* (✠Please stand as you are able in body or spirit.)

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good,

God's steadfast love endures forever.

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,

Those God redeemed from trouble.

Those same people came from all over, and when lost in the desert, they cried out to the Lord,

And God delivered them from their plight.

✠**Opening Prayer**

✠**Hymn of Praise #22** *God of the Sparrow*

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

Prayer of Confession

God so often we ignore your call to spread your word and your love to all people. We are so comfortable in our own homes, and spaces, surrounded by people that are more like us. Remind us of Your call upon our lives, that we seek the outcast and the downtrodden. Sometimes, when we do reach out, we tire quickly, thinking you have abandoned us. Forgive us when we stay still rather than spread Your word to all Your children around the world. Help us to bring Your good news to all people. Remind us that you are with us always. Amen. *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 2x)

Scripture in French *Matthew 28:18-20*

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

Scripture in English *1 Kings 19:1-16*

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

Message *Oh, the Places You'll Go*

The Rev. Laura Johnston

✠**Hymn for Reflection #2155** from "Sing the Faith" hymnal *Blest Are They*

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 PCUSA *Brief Statement of Faith*

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

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.*)

This Week

Sunday, August 3

- 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

Monday, August 4

- 8:00 AM DREAAM IYIP Staff/Café
- 12:00 PM Lunch & Learn/Centennial Hall
- 1:00 PM GROW/Family Library
- 3:30 PM Transition Team/Library
- 4:00 PM HR/Parlor & Zoom
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

Tuesday, August 5

- 8:00 AM Men’s Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 8:00 AM DREAAM IYIP Staff/Café
- 9:00 AM Small Group Leaders/Parlor & Zoom
- 10:30 AM Church Staff/Parlor & Zoom

Wednesday, August 6

- 8:00 AM DREAAM IYIP Staff/Café
- 5:15 PM Children’s Ministry Team/Zoom
- 7:30 PM Wednesdays We Gather/Zoom

Thursday, August 7

- 8:00 AM DREAAM IYIP Staff/Café
- 12:30 PM Bible Study/Windsor of Savoy
- 1:00 PM Welcoming America Planning Team/Church Library
- 4:00 PM Spiritual Formation/Zoom

Friday, August 8 Church Office closes at 12 noon

- 8:00 AM DREAAM IYIP Staff/Café
- 8:15 AM Men’s Prayer/Zoom
- 10:00 AM Korean Choir Rehearsal/Chapel
- 7:00 PM French Prayer/Zoom

Saturday, August 9

- 6:00 PM Francophone Bethesda Fellowship/Chapel

Announcements

- 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.
- George Johnston** is our liturgist this morning. If you would like to serve as liturgist, contact **Carol Miles**.
- We welcome **Andrey Ivanov** as our guest musician this morning.
- 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**.
- Join us for **Lunch & Learn** Monday, August 4, at 12 noon in Centennial Hall. Bring a sack lunch, enjoy fellowship and learn about something you might have missed.
- Monday, August 4, is the last day to register for the **Cuba Study**. Contact Bob at 217-621-5915 or at rwk3213@gmail.com to register. The study is a prerequisite to visit Cuba next March.
- On Tuesday August 5, 2025 the **Men’s Bible Study** resumes. We meet in Mae Chapin Parlor at 8 AM. Please join us for coffee, donuts, and best of all, love, discussion, fellowship, and Bible study. If interested, please call or email **Bill Marble** (217.621.7882; Mrbill1205@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. 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 **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.