

## 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 #39 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

✚ Charge and Benediction

✚ Congregational Sung Benediction #542 *God Be With You Till We Meet Again* (vs. 1,2)

✚ Postlude *Crown Him With Many Crowns*

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

### Service Material References

<https://centerforfaithandgiving.org/2025/08/august-31-2025/>

<http://resources.mennonitechurch.ca/FileDownload/14014/Equip-116AssembluSunday.pdf>

● We are glad you're here! Questions about First Pres, see **either pastor** after the service or contact the church office ([info@firstpres.church](mailto: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.

● **Laura Johnston** is our liturgist this morning. If you would like to serve as liturgist, contact **Carol Miles**.

● **Sunday School for Children** will resume Sunday, September 7.

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## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

August 31, 2025

12<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

삼패인 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** *Sweet, Sweet Spirit*

**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** (✙ Please stand as you are able in body or spirit.)

*In this safe place, come! Let's lift our voices to praise God!*

**We rejoice in the One who cares for all creation.**

*We eagerly anticipate growing in faith as we worship the Lord.*

**It is this God who yearns to lead us;**

*this God who wants to satisfy us with sweet honey and finest wheat.*

**So let us worship God!**

✙ **Opening Prayer**

✙ **Hymn of Praise #838** *Standing on the Promises*

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

*If we say we are completely put together, the truth is not in us.*

**But if we confess our distractions, our errors, and our anxieties, God will meet us and  
renew us.**

**Prayer of Confession**

**O God, You who are always doing a new thing, we confess that we sometimes close  
windows against the fresh air of new ideas, against the noise of other people's worries,  
against the winds of change.**

**God of every place and time, we confess that we often draw the curtains against people  
who are different, against world news or community concerns.**

**Forgive us our insulation in our locked homes, our shuttered churches, the security  
systems on our hearts.**

**Open up our lives, and let your Spirit blow through. 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 #701** *Lord, Prepare Me*

**Scripture in French** *Romans 8:24*

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

**Scripture in English** *Revelation 21:1-6*

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

**Message** *Doing Something New*

Beth Wagner

✙ **Hymn for Reflection #353** *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

## **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** *PCUSA Brief Statement of Faith*

**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** *Spirit of the Living God*

**Response of Gratitude #606** *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

✙ **Prayer of Dedication & Thanksgiving**

**Prayers of the People**

**The Lord's Prayer** (pg. 35; *in the language and wording most familiar to you.*)

# Announcements

## This Week

### Sunday, August 31

- 9:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary
- 10:10 AM Summer Youth Sunday School/2<sup>nd</sup> Floor CE Building
- 10:10 AM Easy English Fellowship/Rooms 204, 206, 207

### Monday, September 1 Church Office closed in observance of Labor Day

- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

### Tuesday, September 2

- 8:00 AM Men’s Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Building & Café
- 10:30 AM Church Staff/Parlor & Zoom
- 1:00 PM DREAAM After School Academy/CE Building
- 3:30 PM Transition Team/Church Library
- 4:00 PM HR Team/Parlor & Zoom

### Wednesday, September 3

- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Building & Café
- 10:00 AM Coffee with Beth/Espresso Royale
- 12:00 PM DREAAM IYIP Life Skills/Room 201
- 1:00 PM DREAAM After School Academy/CE Building
- 5:15 PM Children’s Ministry/Zoom
- 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal/Choir Room
- 7:30 PM Wednesdays We Gather/Zoom

### Thursday, September 4

- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Building & Café
- 1:00 PM DREAAM After School Academy/CE Building
- 1:30 PM Bible Study/Windsor of Savoy
- 2:30 PM Congregational Care Deacons/Parlor & Zoom
- 4:00 PM Spiritual Formation/Zoom

### Friday, September 5 Church Office closes at 12 noon

- 8:15 AM Men’s Prayer/Zoom
- 10:00 AM Korean Choir Rehearsal/Chapel
- 12:00 PM New American Ministry/Chapel
- 1:00 PM DREAAM After School Academy/CE Building
- 7:00 PM French Prayer/Zoom

### Saturday, September 6

- 6:00 PM Francophone Bethesda Fellowship/Chapel

●Congratulations to **Jack and Gwen Pollard** who will celebrate their 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on September 3. The flowers this morning are given by the **Pollards** in celebration of their anniversary.

●**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.

●Your **Nominating Committee** has begun their work to find church officers for those whose terms expire. Pick up a Nomination Form at the Welcome Center to submit your suggestion(s) for Elders and/or Deacons for the coming year. (You may also nominate yourself!)

●Join **Pastor Beth** for **Coffee and Conversation** at 10 AM Wednesdays in September at Espresso Royale (2401 Village Green Pl.-Champaign).

●Plans are underway for the **175<sup>th</sup> 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. A letter was sent this past week to the congregation noting dates, times and locations. **This study will provide valuable information in our journey toward our next pastor.**

●Our **English Language Learners** classes meet Monday through Thursday in the Education Building. They are in need of **magazines** for various learning activities. If you have any you can donate, drop them off at the church office.

●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](http://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](http://firstpres.church/live). The Sunday **sermon** is available on-line anytime or on WDWS 1400AM the next Sunday at 10:30 AM.