

## **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.*

**Anthem** *Draw the Circle Wide*

**Song for Centering & Call to Prayer #833** *O Love That Will Not Let Me Go* (vs. 1)  
O Love that wilt not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee;  
I give thee back the life I owe, that in thine ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller, be.

**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.

**Commissioning for Service to Larger Church** – Judi Geistlinger & Rachel Matthews

## **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 #372** *O For a World*

◆ **Charge and Benediction**

◆ **Congregational Sung Benediction #804** *Rejoice, Ye Pure In Heart!*  
Rejoice, ye pure in heart! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!  
Your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

◆ **Postlude**

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

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# **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN**

September 10, 2023      Gift of New Immigrants Sunday



Photo by Judi Geistlinger

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**

### **Minute for Mission – Small Groups**

### **◆Call to Worship** (*Come Unto Me* from *Liturgies from Below*)

Come unto me you who are depressed

**And you who are oppressed.**

Come unto me you who are hungry

**And you who are angry.**

Come unto me you who are unemployed

**And you who are underemployed.**

Come unto me you who are anxious

**And you who are bitter and frantic.**

Come to the place of blessings

where you will find respite, peace and joy.

### **◆Hymn of Praise #754** *Help Us Accept Each Other*

### **Call to Confession**

### **Prayer of Confession** (based on *A Place for Everyone* from *Liturgies from Below*)

**Heavenly Father and Mother, we pray for the immigrant families, those who have built their lives outside of their homeland; those who had to run from their cities, leave their homes, and their environments because of death threats, dangers, natural disasters, or for better economic opportunities, because they had no other possibility.**

**Forgive us for our hard hearts, for not welcoming all your children.**

**Let the promise of the gospel become real in our community.**

**Let us be the table that receives all ethnic groups, races, languages, cultures, and families.**

**Let us be the place of protection, place of peace, of food, of fostering, of family, of refuge and care.**

**Let this be a place for everyone.**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

People of God, our sins are forgiven.

**God is merciful and gracious and is Lord of us all.**

Reconciled to the God who loves us,

**let us live and love through Christ our Lord.**

### **Passing of the Peace**

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

**Offertory** – Gabriel & Solange Mboyo

### **Response of Gratitude #17** *Sing Praise to God, You Heavens* (vs. 2)

**Sing praise, O earth, sing praises! Sing praises, hill and plain**

**You mountains thrusting skyward, you valleys ripe with grain!**

**Sing praise, each fragrant flower; your fairest hues display.**

**Sing praise, you trees of autumn in glowing, glad array**

### **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 #471** *O Lord, Hear My Prayer* (vs. 2)

**The Lord is my song; the Lord is my praise: All my hope comes from God.**

**The Lord is my song; the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.**

### **Scripture** *Romans 13:8-10* (NT, pg. 163)

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** *What's Love Got to Do With It?*

Matt Matthews

# Announcements

## This Week

### Sunday, September 10

- 9:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Brunch/TBA
- 10:15 AM Worship/Windsor of Savoy

### Monday, September 11

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 110, 212
- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Bldg
- 1:00 PM Knifty Knitters/Parlor & Zoom
- 1:00 PM Prayer Ministry/Library
- 4:00 PM Game Night/Centennial Hall
- 5:30 PM AA/Chapel

### Tuesday, September 12

- 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast/Parlor & Zoom
- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 110, 212
- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Bldg
- 10:30 AM Church Staff/Parlor & Zoom
- 12:30 PM DREAAM Board Mtg/Parlor & Zoom
- 4:30 PM Mission Team/Parlor & Zoom
- 7:00 PM Worship Team/Parlor & Zoom

### Wednesday, September 13

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 110, 212
- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Bldg
- 10:00 AM Compassion, Peace, Justice/Parlor & Zoom
- 3:00 PM DREAAM/Cafe

### Thursday, September 14

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 110, 212
- 3:00 PM DREAAM/Cafe
- 4:30 PM Finance Team/Parlor & Zoom
- 6:30 PM Nurture/Parlor & Zoom
- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal/Choir Room

### Friday, September 15 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, September 16

- 6:00 PM French Worship Service/Chapel

There will be a **Congregational Meeting** on Sunday, September 24, immediately following worship for the purpose of dissolving the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee.

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

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

●**The liturgy this morning** is from *Liturgies from Below* by Claudio Carvalhaes.

●Today's **bulletin cover** was photographed by **Judi Geistlinger** and was selected after four rounds of judging by Clearview Farm as the BEST OVERALL photo in their 2023's sunflower photo contest.

●Enjoy **brunch with an international flair this morning** immediately following worship. We will have a variety of "international" items to celebrate "Welcome America Week." Brunch is free but donations appreciated.

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

●Join a small group this fall. The **Fall/Winter Small Group brochure** is now available in kiosks throughout the church. You can sign up for a small group at the table at this morning's brunch.

●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 for more information.

●Set aside Monday, September 11, from 4:30-6 PM for **World-Wide Game Night**. Snacks provided.

●**Books from the collection** of the late **Leland Andrews** have been donated for the congregation to take home and cherish. They are displayed on the table in the church library in stacks according to the author or subject matter. Most are duplicates of items already in the church library.

●How would you like to join a **group from First Pres at a Cubs game**? We plan to attend the 1:20 PM game at Wrigley Field on Saturday, September 23. We will leave the church parking lot between 9-9:30 AM and drive straight to Wrigley. Cost is probably around \$60 each depending on number attending and where the seats are. If taking the church van, we might ask for donations for gas. If interested, contact **Tom Ulen** at thomas.ulen@gmail.com or 217.390.4667.

●We are planning a **Churchwide Picnic** for Sunday, October 1, at 4 PM at the Hessel Park pavilion. Bring a dish to share; fried chicken and hotdogs will be 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 **September 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.