

## 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 #819 *Be Still, My Soul*

✚Charge and Benediction

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

✚Postlude *When We All Get to Heaven* Emily D. Wilson; arr. Brent Olstad  
Trenna Thomas, flute; Yuxi Chen, piano

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

**Service Materials:** by Bruce Prewer; by United Church of Christ's *Worship Ways*

- 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** 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.
- Beth Wagner** is our liturgist this morning. If you would like to serve as liturgist, contact **Carol Miles**.
- The flowers for worship this morning are from **Carol and Dick Arnould**.
- Anyone who is interested in **donating flowers in honor of our 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary**, please contact **Nancy Dankle @ 217-778-4088** or [nkdankle@icloud.com](mailto:nkdankle@icloud.com).
- We have **guest musicians** participating in worship in the upcoming weeks as part of our **175 Celebration**. This morning **Trenna Thomas, flute** joins us; October 5, **Jean Rene Balekita**; October 12, a bagpiper will participate in the service.

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## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

September 28, 2025 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost



**Sanctuary decorated for post WWI wedding.**

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

We are gathered here not because we have seen fit to choose Christ, but because he has looked upon us, and called us to be his own.

**O God, you have searched me and known me, you read my every thought from afar,  
There is not a word on my tongue that you do not know altogether.**

The joy of those who hear the call of Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

### ✠Opening Prayer

### ✠Hymn of Praise #288 *Spirit of the Living God* (sing twice)

### 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

**Holy One, you have called us by name. You will not let us lounge in bed. You wake us  
up in the middle of the night to remember...***Pause for a moment of silence.*

**You will not let us hide under the tree. You summon us from the shade to be changed...**  
*Pause for a moment of silence.*

**You will not let us bury our secrets within the earth. You unearth our fears and speak  
them to you...***Pause for a moment of silence.*

**Forgive us, O God, when we cannot speak. Reveal the words we need most.**

**In Jesus Christ, we pray. 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 *John 1:47-50*

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

### Anthem *God So Loved the World*

John Stainer

Quartet

### Scripture in English *Jeremiah 32:1-2, 6-9a, 15*

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

### Message *Seeing Beyond What Is...To What Could Be*

Rev. Laura Aull Johnston

### ✠Hymn for Reflection #450 *Be Thou My Vision*

## 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 – *A 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.**

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

### Offertory *Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus*

William J. Kirkpatrick; setting by Marianne Kim

Trenna Thomas, flute; Yuxi Chen, piano

### 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.*)

# This Week

## Sunday, September 28

9:00	AM	Worship/Sanctuary
10:10	AM	Sunday School/CE Building Classrooms
10:10	AM	Adult Discussion/Parlor
10:10	AM	Easy English Fellowship/Rooms 204 & 207
1:00	PM	DREAAM Parent Leadership/Rooms 104, 105
2:00	PM	Church Tour & Ice Cream Social/Centennial Hall
5:00	PM	Confirmation Class/Café

## Monday, September 29

9:15	AM	ELL Classes/CE Building & Café
1:00	PM	DREAAM After School Academy/CE Building
1:00	PM	GROW/Family Library
3:30	PM	Transition Team/Church Library
5:30	PM	AA/Centennial Hall

## Tuesday, September 30

8:00	AM	Men's Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
9:15	AM	ELL Classes/CE Building & Café
10:30	AM	Church Staff/Parlor & Zoom
12:00	PM	Classic Book Study/Parlor & Zoom
1:00	PM	DREAAM After School Academy/CE Building

## Wednesday, October 1

9:15	AM	ELL Classes/CE Building & Café
1:00	PM	DREAAM After School Academy/CE Building
4:30	PM	DREAAM Parent School/Centennial Hall
5:15	PM	Children's Ministry Team/Zoom
7:00	PM	Choir Rehearsal/Choir Room
7:30	PM	Wednesdays We Gather/Zoom

## Thursday, October 2

9:00	AM	Women's Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
9:15	AM	ELL Classes/CE Building & Café
10:00	AM	Coffee with Beth/Good Judy's Bagels
12:30	PM	Windsor of Savoy Bible Study/Windsor of Savoy
1:00	PM	PW Fall Gathering/Westminster Hall
1:00	PM	DREAAM After School Academy/CE Building
2:30	PM	Care Deacons/Parlor & Zoom
4:00	PM	Spiritual Formation/Zoom

## Friday, October 3

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's Ministry/Chapel
1:00	PM	DREAAM After School Academy/CE Building
6:00	PM	New Beginnings All Church Gathering/Sanctuary
7:00	PM	French Prayer/Zoom

## Saturday, October 4

8:30	AM	New Beginnings Leadership Training/Westminster Hall
9:00	AM	DREAAM Elite Awards Brunch/Centennial Hall
6:00	PM	Francophone Bethesda Fellowship/Chapel

# Announcements

- You are invited to join us this afternoon from 2-4 PM for a **church tour** emphasizing our relationship with other local Presbyterian churches as part of our **175<sup>th</sup> Celebration**. We will distribute **ice cream at 3 PM** in Centennial Hall.
- Today at 5 PM our **Confirmation Class** for our youth continues. This is the third of a 4-week class, and we really need anyone participating to be there for every session. we will try to be done by 7 PM each week.
- As part of our **175 Celebration**, here is this week's trivia. **First Pres was instrumental in the formation of new churches including:** Urbana 1856; Salem 1858 Middletown (Mahomet); Prairieview 1874 Savoy; McKinley Memorial 1923 Champaign, named to honor the Senator's father; Rantoul 1951; Westminster Champaign 1956; Copper Creek Champaign 2012.
- Grab some coffee and join us this morning following worship for **Adult Discussion** in the Mae Chapin Parlor. **Ken Chapman** and **Joe Lundy** for discussions of *Matthew 28:18-20* and *Habakkuk 2:2-3*.
- 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!)
- Pick up a **Fall/Winter Small Group Opportunity** flyer from the kiosk this morning. Join a small group this Fall!
- Join **Pastor Beth** for **Coffee and Conversation** at 10 AM Thursdays in October at Good Judy's Bagels (2740 S Philo Road, Suite D, Urbana, IL).
- Presbyterian Women will host their **Fall Gathering** *Presbyterian Women Global Reach, Local Roots* on Thursday, October 2, at 1 PM in Westminster Hall. Join us as we celebrate 175 years of ministry and learn the role of women in our church history. All are welcome!
- First Pres Mission Study...On Friday, October 3, at 7 PM** ALL are encouraged to join us in the Sanctuary when we will meet our transition coach and further learn about the process. Watch your email for the zoom link if unable to attend in person. The small groups for this study meet in October and the first week of November. Watch your mail for the date and time of meeting you signed up for. **This study will provide valuable information in our journey toward our next pastor.**
- It's Fall!** The annual **Trunk & Treat** will be held Sunday, October 26, from 3:30-5 PM in the church parking lot with a soup supper in Centennial Hall. Beginning October 12, we invite you to donate bags of candy and young children's books in the labeled container in Westminster Hall. If you would like to decorate a trunk for the event, contact [info@firstpres.church](mailto:info@firstpres.church)
- 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 **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 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.