

✚Prayer of Dedication & Thanksgiving

Invitation to the Table

Communion

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give our praise and thanks to the Lord our God
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

...Which Christ alone can offer. *(See screens; Silence)*

Memorial Acclamation/Communion Liturgy

...Great is the mystery of faith. *(See screens)*

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

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Communion Hymn #500 *Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread*

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

Moment for Ministry – Small Group Opportunities

Betty Hollister

✚Hymn for Commitment #679 *Let the Whole Creation Cry*

✚Charge and Benediction

✚Congregational Sung Benediction *God Be With You Till We Meet Again* (See screens; vs. 1 and refrain)

✚Postlude *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*

✚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.
- Betty Hollister is our liturgist this morning. If you would like to serve as liturgist, contact Carol Miles.

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**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH** OF CHAMPAIGN

September 7, 2025 13th 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 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

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 Praise you, Lord God, with all our heart.

You build the foundations of the earth, and it will never be shaken.

The waters follow the paths laid by you,

All your creation can satisfy their thirst.

You created all the creatures and they rely on you.

We too rely on your love and grace, and we hope our thoughts and praise please you.

✙ **Opening Prayer**

✙ **Hymn of Praise #664** *Morning Has Broken*

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

Creator, so often we fail to live up to the world that you have given us. We abuse our
resources, we mismanage things such that people remain in need, and we so often
forget that all people are made in your image. God, forgive us, help us to find new ways
to live in your creation, help us to feed all your people, and help us to remember that all
people are your children. 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 1:1-4*

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

Scripture in English *Genesis 1:1-2:4a*

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

Message

Joe Lundy

✙ **Hymn for Reflection #15** *All Creatures of Our God and King* (vs. 1-4)

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 *Belhar Confession*)

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and
cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning
of the world and will do to the end. We believe in one holy, universal Christian church,
the communion of saints called from the entire human family.

We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the
community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another; that
unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that
through the working of God's Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality
which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must
continually be built up to attain; that this unity must become visible so that the world
may believe that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is sin which
Christ has already conquered, and accordingly that anything which threatens this unity
may have no place in the church and must be resisted...that this unity can be
established only in freedom and not under constraint; that the variety of spiritual gifts,
opportunities, backgrounds, convictions, as well as the various languages and cultures,
are by virtue of the reconciliation in Christ, opportunities for mutual service and
enrichment within the one visible people of God. Amen

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

Offertory *This Little Light of Mine*

arr. Mark Hayes

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

This Week

Sunday, September 7

9:00	AM	Worship/Sanctuary
10:10	AM	Youth Sunday School/CE Building
10:10	AM	Easy English Fellowship/Rooms 204, 206, 207
10:10	AM	Adult Discussion/Parlor

Monday, September 8

9:15	AM	ELL Classes/CE Building & Café
12:00	PM	Lunch & Learn/Centennial Hall
1:00	PM	Knifty Knitters/Parlor & Zoom
1:00	PM	DREAAM After School Academy/CE Building
1:00	PM	GROW/Family Library
1:30	PM	Women’s Bible Study/Library
4:00	PM	HR Team/Parlor & Zoom
5:30	PM	AA/Centennial Hall

Tuesday, September 9

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
4:30	PM	Mission Team/Parlor & Zoom

Wednesday, September 10

9:15	AM	ELL Classes/CE Building & Café
9:30	AM	Nurture/Parlor & Zoom
10:00	AM	Coffee with Beth/Espresso Royale
1:00	PM	175 Celebration Tour Leader Rehearsal/Parlor
1:00	PM	DREAAM After School Academy/CE Building
5:30	PM	Outreach/Parlor & Zoom
6:00	PM	Worship Team/Library & Zoom
7:00	PM	Choir Rehearsal/Choir Room
7:30	PM	Wednesdays We Gather/Zoom

Thursday, September 11

9:00	AM	Women’s Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
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
4:30	PM	Finance Team/Parlor & Zoom

Friday, September 12 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 13

9:00	AM	DREAAM Saturday Academy/CE Building & Café
6:00	PM	Francophone Bethesda Fellowship/Chapel

Announcements

●**Sunday School for Youth** resumes this morning at 10 AM in the Education Building for K-12th grade. This is a great time to get all children/grandchildren involved and learning the stories that form our faith. While the youth are at their classes, please join our **Sunday Adult Discussion**. This morning **Matthew Fletcher** from Courage Connection is our guest speaker.

●**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!)

●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 Wednesdays in September at Espresso Royale (2401 Village Green Pl.-Champaign).

●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. See this morning’s insert on the special events planned for the month long celebration.

●**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. Check the September newsletter for dates and times. **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 **September 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.

175th Anniversary 1850-2025

Join us as we celebrate 175 years of worship and service with gatherings five Sundays. Regular Sunday service is held at 9 AM each week.

Sunday, September 14 - Coincides with West Side Arts organized by 40 North and the Champaign Park District. We along with First United Methodist and Emmanuel Memorial Episcopal will offer open house and tours from 12-3 Sunday afternoon. When the County History Museum was advised of our plan, **Director Will Best** and **Historian Rick Williams** arranged their own Historic Church Tour from 1-2:30 to include our buildings.

Sunday, September 21 - Photo and Memorabilia Display with historic souvenirs (free will offering)

Sunday, September 28 - Afternoon tours from 2-4 open to all but emphasizing our relationship with other local Presbyterian churches.

Sunday, October 5 - World Communion Sunday with music from other cultures during our regular 9 AM service.

Sunday, October 12 - Welcome former pastors and guests with bagpipes, mini tours, and refreshments after worship.

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Celebrate 175 yard signs are being placed in high traffic driving and walking areas.

Pick up yours today; check Westminster Hall for availability.

Plan to place your sign at least through October...preferably until the end of the year.



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