

**An Affirmation of Faith** (from *Romans 8*)

Who will separate us from the love of Christ?

Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ...

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels,

nor rulers, nor things present,

nor things to come, nor powers,

nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation,

will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**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.

**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 #248** *Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!*

✠ **Charge and Benediction**

*Hallelujah Chorus*

G.F. Handel

✠ **Postlude**

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

Liturgy adapted from prayers by Sarah Are Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

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**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH** OF CHAMPAIGN

April 17, 2022

Easter Sunday



Welcome to First Presbyterian Church  
Bienvenue à La Première Église 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.

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## **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 pen.*

**Greeting & Announcements**

**Minute for Mission – One Great Hour of Sharing video**

**Introit** *Hosanna to the Son of David*

Tomas Vittoria

✠**Call to Worship**

This day is not like any other day.

**Today we are singing. Today we are full to the brim. Today joy cannot be contained.**

This day is not like any other day.

**Today the stone was rolled away. Today the women saw the empty grave.**

**Today we know—death does not win.**

Jesus Christ is Risen!

**He is Risen indeed!**

This day is not like any other day. Hallelujah!

**Hallelujah!**

✠**Hymn #232** *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession**

God of new life, we are a mixed bag.

We want to be full to the brim with hope and joy, but often we overflow with comparison and doubt. We want to embody the resurrection, but often we'd rather stay the same than to begin again.

We want to have the courage to be like the women on that Easter morning— to run and speak truth, but often we are lacking in courage and uncertain of our own voices.

Forgive us for all the ways we remain unchanged.

**Assurance of Pardon**

Family of faith, if there is life after death, then you can be certain— there is life after mistakes.

There is life after doubt.

There is new life freely given, and that life is for you.

You are forgiven, loved, and claimed. May we live full to the brim in response.

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen.**

**Passing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

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

**Offertory**

**Sung Response #240** *Alleluia, Alleluia!*

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Praise to his name.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.**

**Prayer of Dedication**

## **We Gather Around God's Holy Name**

*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!"*

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture** *John 20:1-18* (NT pg. 114)

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** *An Easter Meditation: Never*

Matt Matthews

## **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** *This Joyful Eastertide* (hymn tune Vreuchten)

arr. Jeremy Bankson

# This Week

## Sunday, April 17

- 9:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary
- 10:15 AM Worship/Windsor of Savoy
- 11:15 AM The Gathering/Chapel

## Monday, April 18 Church Office closed

- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
- 4:00 PM Barker Rehearsal/Choir Room
- 4:30 PM Environmental Team/Zoom
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

## Tuesday, April 19

- 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast Study/Zoom
- 9:30 AM ESL Classes/Rooms 204, 205, 206, 207, Café
- 10:00 AM ESL Classes/Zoom
- 10:30 AM Staff Meeting/Parlor & Zoom
- 12:00 PM Classic Book Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
- 3:00 PM DREAAM Aspire/Centennial Hall
- 4:00 PM Jazz Concert Discussion/Westminster Hall
- 4:30 PM World Mission Team/Parlor & Zoom
- 5:30 PM DREAAM Dance-Cheer Clinic/Gym
- 7:00 PM Worship Team/Parlor & Zoom

## Wednesday, April 20

- 9 & 10:00 AM ESL Classes/Zoom
- 12:00 PM Bach Concert/Sanctuary
- 1:00 PM Pakistan Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
- 3:00 PM DREAAM Aspire/Centennial Hall
- 4:00 PM ESL/Zoom
- 5:30 PM DREAAM Dance-Cheer Clinic/Gym
- 6:00 PM Bell Choir/Bell Room
- 7:00 PM Adult Choir/Choir Room

## Thursday, April 21

- 9:30 AM ESL Classes/Rooms 204, 205, 206, 207, Café
- 10:00 AM ESL Classes/Zoom
- 12:30 PM Bible Study/Windsor of Savoy
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
- 4:30 PM DREAAM Brotherhood Dinner/Centennial Hall Kitchen & Dining
- 6:30 PM Compassion, Peace, Justice/Zoom

## Friday, April 22 Church Office closes at noon

- 8:30 AM Men's Prayer/Zoom
- 4:00 PM U of I Choral Department/Sanctuary
- 4:00 PM DREAAM Self-Care Event Set-Up/Centennial & Westminster Hall, CE Building
- 7:30 PM Friday Nite Lights Study/Parlor & Zoom

## Saturday, April 23

- 8:00 AM DREAAM Self-Care Saturday/Centennial & Westminster Hall, CE Building
- 6:00 PM French Prayer/Zoom

# Announcements

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

●**Judi Geistlinger** is our liturgist this morning. We would love to have you serve as a liturgist! If interested, please contact **Carol Miles**.

●**Thank you to our brass ensemble this morning.** Trumpets: **Kayla Solomon** and **Tracy Parish**; Trombones: **Ben Carrasquillo** and **Reid Lasley**.

●**Many thanks to those who donated to the beautiful spring flowers for worship this morning.** See insert. Please feel free to take a plant after this morning's service.

●**Coffee is back on Sunday mornings!** Please consider signing up for coffee cleanup. A sign-up sheet is at the Welcome Center each Sunday morning.

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

●**If unable to attend church**, catch our 9 AM service live each Sunday morning at [firstpres.live](https://firstpres.live). The Sunday **sermon** is available on-line anytime or on WDWS 1400AM the next Sunday at 10:30 AM.

●**The Church Office will be closed on April 18 the Monday after Easter.**

●**Bach Concert** presented by the U of I Choral Department will be held Wednesday, April 20, at 12 noon in the Sanctuary. Concerts are free and open to the public.

●Friday, April 22, First Pres will host the culminating concert event of **“Lift Every Voice,”** co-sponsored by the U of I Choral Division and the American Choral Directors Association. This is a mentoring program for talented young choral conductors from underrepresented groups. The concert will be at 6 PM in the Sanctuary and will feature the U of I Women's Glee Club.

●Our new kitchen is done and ready to be used. Join us for a **Pancake & Sausage Dinner** on Wednesday, April 27, from 5-7 PM in Centennial Hall. Free will donations accepted to help stock the kitchen.

●Saturday, May 7, at 7:30 PM our church musician **Brendan Barker** will be presenting his **Doctoral Conducting Recital** in the church Sanctuary. It is a free performance open to the public and will feature works by Hildegard von Bingen, Alice Parker & Robert Shaw, William Byrd and others.

●If you or a loved one is **in the hospital or in need of a pastoral visit**, contact the church office.