

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

The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

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 for Commitment #233** *The Day of Resurrection*

✠ **Charge and Benediction**

Hallelujah Chorus

G.F. Handel

✠ **Postlude**

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

Thank you to today's musicians...

Trumpets – JaKobe Henry, Joshua Dolney

Trombones – Jeremiah St. John, Reid Lasley

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

April 9, 2023 Easter Sunday



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

Introit *This Is the Day*

Jacobus Gallus

✠Call to Worship

This is the Good News --
the grave is empty,
Christ is risen.

Hallelujah!

This is the Good News --
the light shines in the darkness
and the darkness can never put it out.

Hallelujah!

This is the Good News --
once we were no people,
now we are God's people.

Hallelujah!

Let us worship God.

✠Hymn of Praise #245 *Christ, the Lord is Risen Today*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

We come on this day, Dispeller of fears, walking through the shadows of our lives. Too often, we believe our foolishness is hidden from you; too often, we stand before the open door of hope, wondering if we dare enter. Uncertain of the good news offered to us, we would rather return to the comfort of our familiar ways rather than trusting in you. Forgive us, Lord.

**Yet you come, as persistent as Mary at the tomb,
Joy of our hearts, to open the gates of hope,
so we might walk in the gardens of hope;
you come, to open the gates of grace,
so we might plant peace in the wilderness of the world;
you come, to open the gates of resurrection,
so we might know our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.**

Assurance of Pardon

This is the day of resurrection and new life. This is the day God offers us steadfast hope and love which will never end.

We will sing and dance on this day! We will rejoice and give thanks to the God who saves us. Allelujah, Amen.

Passing of the Peace

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

Offertory – Sora Shepard

Response of Gratitude #22 *God of the Sparrow* (vs. 3)

**God of the rainbow, God of the cross, God of the empty grave,
How does the creature say Grace? How does the creature say Thanks?**

Prayer of Dedication

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*

**O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.
When I call, answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer.
O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.**

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 *Let Him Easter In Us*

Matt Matthews

Anthem *This Joyful Eastertide* (Dutch tune-Vreuchten)

setting by S. Drummond Wolff

This Week

Sunday, April 9

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

Monday, April 10 Office Closed

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 1:00 PM Knifty Knitters/Zoom
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

Tuesday, April 11

- 8:00 AM Men’s Breakfast Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 9:30 AM ELL In-Person/Rooms 102, 103, 104, 201, 204, 205, 206, 207, Café
- 10:30 AM Church Staff/Parlor & Zoom
- 12:00 PM Classic Book Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
- 3:30 PM DREAAM Culinary Arts Club/Centennial Hall & Kitchen
- 4:30 PM Mission Team/Parlor & Zoom
- 7:00 PM Worship/Parlor & Zoom

Wednesday, April 12

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 9:30 AM ELL In-Person/Rooms 102, 103, 104, 201, 204, 205, 206, 207, Café
- 1:30 PM Pakistan Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
- 6:30 PM Compassion, Peace, Justice/Parlor & Zoom

Thursday, April 13

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 9:00 AM Women’s Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 10:15 AM Library Committee/Library
- 12:30 PM Bible Study/Windsor of Savoy
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
- 4:30 PM Finance Team/Parlor & Zoom
- 6:30 PM Nurture/Zoom
- 6:30 PM Bell Rehearsal/Bell Room
- 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal/Choir Room

Friday, April 14 Church Office Closes at Noon

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 8:15 AM Men’s Prayer/Zoom
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building

Saturday, April 15

- 11:30 AM Beverly Kelton Memorial Service/Sanctuary
- 6:00 PM French Worship Service/Centennial Hall

The Church Office will be closed Monday, April 10.

Announcements

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

●If you would like to serve as a Sunday liturgist, contact **Carol Miles**.

●Rather than brunch this morning join us for **coffee and refreshments** after the service. We've got some special offerings for Easter 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 at firstpres.live. The Sunday sermon is available on-line anytime or on WDWS 1400AM the next Sunday at 10:30 AM.

●Do you have a **family member graduating this year from high school or college?** They don’t have to be a member of the church or even live in the area. Please send a photo and a message including where they are graduating from and what their future plans might be to **Brandi Lowe** brandiscrapbook@yahoo.com or text 217-369-5844. Please submit no later than May 14.

●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 **Little Free Pantry** is a small but important way you can help our neighbors on hard times. Food bars, snack bars, nut bars, dried goods, canned soups and meats with pull top lids, and other pantry items are great contributions. Donations may be brought to the church office or Westminster Hall.

●The **April newsletter** is available in the kiosks or at 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.

Coming Up...

Sunday, April 16

3 PMDavid LaMotte Concert; Reception following

Sunday, April 23

9 AMCelebration of Earth Day; Cindy Shepherd preaching

Sunday, May 7

9 AMMusic Sunday “Joy in the Lord;” Sanctuary Choir accompanied by brass quartet