

widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

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

Anthem *Above All Powers* Lenny LeBlanc/Paul Baloche
Jean René Balekita & Laetitia Kyungu

Sermon *Some Highlights from James' Letter*
Rev. 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.*

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Concern

**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 #401** *Here In This Place*

❖ **Charge and Benediction**

❖ **Congregational Sung Benediction #748** *Go With Us, Lord*
**Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through
this and every coming day, that in your Spirit
strong and true our lives may be our gift to
you.**

❖ **Postlude** *Fugue in C* JS Bach
You may wish to be seated for the postlude.

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

Liturgy in part by Thom M. Shuman.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

August 29, 2021
14th Sunday after Pentecost

9 AM



*Every gift comes
from God, especially the
gifts of mercy and love.*

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 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 the Welcome Center downstairs in Westminster Hall after the service. Mingle with other friends and guests, and learn how this congregation can become your church home. *Welcome!*

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 Variation on *Salzburg* Pachelbel
Chiming of the Hour on 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

Recognition of Staff

After each request, the leader says:

We pray to the Lord,

Congregation responds:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Call to Worship

Here, our Beloved speaks to us;
the voice of our Beloved sounds in our hearts:
**calling us to generous acts, to share the gifts
we have been given.**

Now, our Beloved speaks to us;
the voice of our Beloved sounds in our land:
**calling us to generous acts, to open our hearts
to all in need.**

In every place, in every moment, our Beloved speaks
to us; the voice of our Beloved sounds in all creation:
**calling us to generous acts, to stand with God's
people: the least, the lost, the little, the last.**

Call to Confession

Do we honor God only with our lips, while keeping
our hearts from the Holy One? Do we deceive
ourselves, thinking we are religious rather than living
faithful lives? Let us confess to God our sin, trusting
in the One who seeks to make us whole.

Prayer of Confession

**Holy One of leaders and little children, we
hear your words every day, but rarely live them
out. Our anger roars like a flooded creek, but
our forgiveness drips like a rusty faucet. Our**

**impetuous tongues rush to judgment, while
our words of hope sound like a sluggish
sound track. We listen with impatient ears to
the cries of the poor.**

**Father of Lights, may your mercy fall on us like
a summer shower on parched grass; may your
hope overflow our hearts; may your Beloved
Child, Jesus Christ, speak to us and call us to
life.**

Assurance of Pardon

Listen and understand – the voice of the Beloved
speaks to us, implanting the word of hope, the word
of grace, and the word of forgiveness into our
hearts.

**We listen and understand. Every gift comes
from God, especially the gifts of mercy and
love. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven.
Amen.**

Invitation to the Offering

We are invited to return God's tithes and give our offering.

Offertory Improvisation on *Lasst Uns Erfreuen*

Prayer of Dedication & Thanksgiving

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!"*

Word with Children

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture *James 1:19-27 (NRSV)*

¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let
everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to
anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's
righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all
sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and
welcome with meekness the implanted word that has
the power to save your souls.

²²But be doers of the word, and not merely
hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are
hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those
who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look
at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget
what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into
the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being
not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will
be blessed in their doing.

²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle
their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is
worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before
God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and

This Week

Sunday, August 29

- 9:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary
- 10:15 AM Worship at Windsor of Savoy
- 10:15 AM CYF Volunteer Training/Parlor & Zoom
- 11:15 AM The Gathering/Chapel

Monday, August 30 September Newsletter Deadline

- 8:00 AM Men's Prayer/Zoom
- 10:00 AM ESL/Rm 201 204, 205, 206, 207, Café
- 1:00 PM GROW/Family Library
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

Tuesday, August 31

- 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 9:00 AM PWV Coordinating Team/Chapel & zoom
- 10:00 AM ESL/Rm 201 204, 205, 206, 207, Café
- 10:30 AM Staff Meeting/Parlor & Zoom

Wednesday, September 1

- 9:00 AM Cuba Steering Committee/Parlor & Zoom
- 10:00 AM ESL/Rm 201 204, 205, 206, 207, Café
- 1:30 PM Pakistan Study/Zoom
- 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal/Westminster Hall

Thursday, September 2

- 10:00 AM ESL/Rm 201 204, 205, 206, 207, Café
- 10:30 AM Compassion, Peace, Justice/Zoom
- 2:00 PM Congregational Care Deacons/Parlor

Friday, September 3 Church office closes at noon

- 9:30 AM Nurture Budget Discussion/Parlor
- 7:30 PM Friday Nite Lights Study/Zoom

Saturday, September 4

- 6:00 PM French Prayer/ Zoom

Worship

•We **welcome children** of all ages to worship. Childcare is available for children 4 years and younger in the education building 8:45 AM-12:15 PM.

•Liturgist this morning is **Mary Jane Kelley**. Contact **Carol Miles** to serve as a liturgist. Thank you to **Jose Pukata** for reading our scriptures in French this morning.

•Vaccinated and unvaccinated people **must wear a mask** indoors for their safety and the safety of others.

•This morning's **sermon** will be available online early this week or on WDWS 1400AM next Sunday at 10:30 AM.

Connect

•**We are glad you're here!** Questions about First Pres, contact **Pastor Matt** or call the church office. After the service, join us for coffee and conversation in Westminster Hall.

•**If unable to attend church**, you can catch our 9 AM service live each Sunday morning at firstpres.live

•Check out our **Small Groups** for this Fall. Stop by the sign-up table after the 9 AM service in Westminster Hall or fill out the interest sheet in the Small Group brochure to sign up for a group this fall.

•Check out **Dreams of Peace** at the corner of Church and State. DREAM youth and CYF staff painted over 240 doves as prayers for peace for shooting incidents in CU this year.

•Keep up with the latest news...**August newsletter** available in the kiosks or at firstpres.church/newsletter.

THE MATTHEW STORIE QUARTET

Matthew Storie
Tenor Saxophone
Jesus Fuentes-
Piano
Emma Taylor-
Bass
Frank Kurtz-
Drums

**OCT 10
WESTMINSTER HALL
10-1045**

COME ENJOY COFFEE AND A PRELUDE OF MUSIC FOR THE UPCOMING C.U. JAZZ FESTIVAL.

Staff Recognition

This morning we welcome and recognize your church staff.

Pictured

Judi Geistlinger, Commissioned Lay Pastor
Mindy Watts-Ellis, Director of Children, Youth & Families
Samantha Nichols, Sunday School Coordinator
Erika Motley, Child Care Room Supervisor
Audrey Mfulama, Child Care Provider
Emilio Kabakele, Child Care Worker
Jolina Ntambwe, Child Care Worker
Blaise Pascal Zamena, CYF Connections Assistant
Marcia Franks, Administrative Assistant
Patty Farthing, Receptionist
Ann Petry, Bookkeeper
Ritchie Drennen, Facilities Manager
George Almasi, Facilities Assistant
Fred Foster, Evening Custodian
Robert Ferrer, Audio Visual Technician
Jeanette Pyne, ESL Director
Rachel Matthews, Mission Coordinator
Joe Grant, Director of Music
Brendan Barker, Church Musician
Leslie Thomas, Assistant Accompanist
Sam Haupt, Director of Contemporary Worship Band

Not Pictured

Jacqueline Buckingham, Child Care Worker
Chris Hartley, Contemporary Worship Band Musician
Kelsey Stremplewski, Soloist

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