

Welcome to Worship from First Presbyterian Church

We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate in the worship, service, and program life of First Pres!

- Please visit the church website: www.firstpresevansville.com to stay up-to-date on our ministry and service opportunities.
- Please visit our Facebook page - First Presbyterian Church - Evansville, Indiana. We hope you'll "like" us!

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

WE GATHER TO CELEBRATE NEW LIFE

THE PRELUDE

"Now Thank We All Our God"

M. Dupré

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

One Break forth into exclamations of joy and gladness, you who serve the Lord!

All God is here! God is ever our God!

One God made us and we belong to God. We are God's sons and daughters.

All God's love and care for us never runs out.

God's care and concern for us will go on forever.

One Let the world see our manifestations of joy! Let us lift up our voices in songs of praise.

All Let us surrender our lives as perpetual offerings of thanksgiving!

Let us bless God's name forever!

THE MUSIC FOR GATHERING

"Come Ye Thankful People, Come"

St. George's Windsor

Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home:

All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin;

God, our Maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied;

Come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field, fruit unto God's praise to yield;

Wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown;

First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear:

Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the harvest home;

From each field shall in that day all offenses purge away;

Give the angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,

But the fruitful ears to store in God's garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come to Thy final harvest home;

Gather Thou Thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin;

There forever purified, in Thy presence to abide:

Come, with all Thine angels come, raise the glorious harvest home.

THE OPENING PRAYER

THE WORDS OF WELCOME

The Greetings Among the People of God
The Concerns of the Church

WE HEAR THE GOOD NEWS OF NEW LIFE

THE PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

THE FIRST LESSON

Psalm 8

One O Lord our Lord, how exalted is your name in all the world!

**All Out of the mouths of infants and children
your majesty is praised above the heavens.**

One You have set up a stronghold against your adversaries,
to quell the enemy and the avenger.

**All When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,**

One what are human beings that you should be mindful of them?
mortals that you should seek them out?

**All You have made them but little lower than the angels;
you adorn them with glory and honor;**

One you give them mastery over the works of your hands;
you put all things under their feet:

All All sheep and oxen, even the wild beasts of the field,

One the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,
and whatsoever walks in the paths of the sea.

All O Lord our Lord, how exalted is your name in all the world!

THE SPECIAL MUSIC

“Many and Great, O God, Are Thy Works”

Lacquiparle

Many and great, O God, are thy works, maker of earth and sky.

Thy hands have set the heavens with stars; thy fingers spread the mountains and plains.

Lo, at thy word the waters were formed. Deep seas obey thy voice.

Grant unto us communion with thee, thou star-abiding One.

Come unto us and dwell with us. With thee are found the gifts of life.

Bless us with life that has no end, eternal life with thee.

THE SECOND LESSON

Psalm 34

One At all times I will bless the Lord,
whose praise shall ever be in my mouth.

All I will glory in the Lord; let the humble hear and rejoice.

One Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord;
let us exalt the name of the Lord together.

**All I sought the Lord, who answered me
and delivered me out of all my terror.**

One Look upon the Lord and be radiant,
and let not your faces be ashamed.

**All I called in my affliction and the Lord heard me
and saved me from all my troubles.**

One The angel of the Lord encompasses the God-fearing,
and the Lord will deliver them.

**All Taste and see that the Lord is good;
happy are they who trust in the Lord!**

One Fear the Lord, you holy ones,
for those who are God-fearing lack nothing.

**All The young lions lack and suffer hunger,
but those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good.**

One Come, children, and listen to me;
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

**All Who among you loves life
and desires long life to enjoy prosperity?**

One Keep your tongue from evil-speaking
and your lips from lying words.

**All Turn from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it.**

One The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous,
and the ears of the Lord are open to their cry.

**All The face of the Lord is against those who do evil,
to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.**

One The righteous cry, and the Lord hears them
and delivers them from all their troubles.

**All The Lord is near to the brokenhearted
and will save those whose spirits are crushed.**

One Many are the troubles of the righteous,
but the Lord will deliver the just out of them all.

**All The Lord will keep safe the bones of the righteous;
not one of them shall be broken.**

One Evil shall slay the wicked,
and those who hate the righteous will be punished.

**All The Lord ransoms the life of those chosen to serve,
and none will be punished who trust in the Lord.**

THE SPECIAL MUSIC

"For the Fruit of All Creation"

East Acklam

*For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God. For the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping, future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.
In the just reward of labor, God's will be done. In the help we give our neighbor, God's will be done.
In our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing, in the harvests we are sharing, God's will be done.
For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God. For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us, most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.*

THE THIRD LESSON

Jeremiah 30:18-22

Thus says the Lord:
I am going to restore the fortunes of the tents of Jacob,
and have compassion on his dwellings;
the city shall be rebuilt upon its mound,
and the citadel set on its rightful site.
Out of them shall come thanksgiving,
and the sound of merrymakers.
I will make them many, and they shall not be few;
I will make them honored, and they shall not be disdained.
Their children shall be as of old,
their congregation shall be established before me;
and I will punish all who oppress them.

Their prince shall be one of their own,
their ruler shall come from their midst;
I will bring him near, and he shall approach me,
for who would otherwise dare to approach me? says the Lord.
And you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

THE SPECIAL MUSIC

“God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens”

Holy Manna

*God, who stretched the spangled heavens infinite in time and place,
flung the suns in burning radiance through the silent fields of space,
We, your children in your likeness, share inventive powers with you.
Great Creator, still creating, show us what we yet may do.*

*Proudly rise our modern cities, stately buildings row on row.
Yet their windows, blank, unfeeling, stare on canyon streets below,
Where the lonely drift unnoticed in the city's ebb and flow,
lost to purpose and to meaning, scarcely caring where they go.*

*We have ventured worlds undreamed of since the childhood of our race;
Known the ecstasy of winging through untraveled realms of space;
Probed the secretes of the atom, yielding unimagined power,
Facing us with life's destruction or our most triumphant hour.*

*As each far horizon beckons, may it challenge us anew,
Children of creative purpose, serving others, honoring you.
May our dreams prove rich with promise, each endeavor well begun.
Great Creator, give us guidance till our goals and yours are one.*

THE FOURTH LESSON

Psalm 66

Be joyful in God, all you lands;
sing the glory of God's name;
sing the glory of God's praise.
Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!
because of your great strength your enemies cringe before you.
All the earth bows down before you,
sings to you, sings out your name."
Come now and see the works of God,
how wonderful God's actions toward all people.
God turned the sea into dry land,
so that they went through the water on foot,
and there we rejoiced in God.
In might God rules forever and keeps watch over the nations;
let no rebel rise up against God.
Bless our God, you peoples;
make the voice of praise to be heard.
God holds our souls in life, and will not allow our feet to slip.
For you, O God, have proved us;
you have tried us just as silver is tried.
You brought us into the snare;
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
You let enemies ride over our heads;
we went through fire and water;
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.
I will enter your house with burnt-offerings and will pay you my vows,
which I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams;
 I will give you oxen and goats.
 Come and listen, all you who fear God,
 and I will tell you what God has done for me.
 I cried out with my mouth,
 and God's praise was on my tongue.
 If I had found evil in my heart, the Lord would not have heard me;
 but in truth God has heard me and attended to the voice of my prayer.
 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
 nor withheld steadfast love from me.

THE SPECIAL MUSIC

"O Lord, Our God, How Excellent"

Winchester Old

*O Lord, our god, how excellent, how glorious is Your name.
 Your majesty surrounds the earth, and children sing Your fame.
 The heavens shout Your handiwork; we stand beneath in awe,
 To think the One who made all things should care for us at all.
 Yet You have made us less than gods, surpassing all but You,
 With heart and mind, with strength and will, to search for what is true.
 Into our hands You've placed all things: the earth, the sea;
 Each place we're called to probe for secret gifts and venture into space.
 O Lord, our God, how excellent, how glorious is Your name,
 Majestic in Your holiness. We sing and praise Your fame.*

THE FIFTH LESSON

Psalm 96

One Sing to the Lord a new song;
 sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.
**All Sing to the Lord and bless the Lord's name;
 proclaim the good news of salvation from day to day.**
 One Declare the glory of the Lord among the nations
 and the wonders of the Lord among all peoples.
**All For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised,
 more to be feared than all gods.**
 One As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
 but it is the Lord who made the heavens.
**All Oh, the majesty and magnificence of the presence of the Lord!
 Oh, the power and the splendor of the sanctuary of our God!**
 One Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples;
 ascribe to the Lord honor and power.
**All Ascribe to the Lord the honor due the divine name;
 come to the holy courts with your offerings.**
 One Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
 let the whole earth tremble in awe.
**All Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is Sovereign!
 the Lord has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved
 and will judge the peoples with equity."**
 One Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
 let the sea thunder and all that is in it;
 let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
**All Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
 before the Lord who is coming, who is coming to judge the earth.
 The Lord will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with truth.**

WE GIVE THANKS FOR THE GIFT OF NEW LIFE

A TIME OF INTENTIONAL SILENCE

THE MORNING OFFERING

We will receive the Presbyterian Women Thank Offering today. Please note “Thank Offering” on your gift. You may send a check to the church, or give online at <http://firstpresevansville.com/giving/>

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sharing Joys and Concerns

The Litany of Thanksgiving

One Give thanks to the Lord who is good.

All **God’s love is everlasting.**

One Come, let us praise God joyfully.

All **Let us come to God with thanksgiving.**

One For the good world;

for things great and small, beautiful and awesome;

for seen and unseen splendors;

All **Thank you, God.**

One For human life;

for talking and moving and thinking together;

for common hopes and hardships shared from birth until our dying;

All **Thank you, God.**

One For work to do and strength to work;

for the comradeship of labor;

for exchanges of good humor and encouragement;

All **Thank you, God.**

One For marriage and committed partnerships;

for the mystery and joy of flesh made one;

for mutual forgiveness and burdens shared;

for secrets kept in love;

All **Thank you, God.**

One For family;

for living together and eating together;

for family amusements and family pleasures;

All **Thank you, God.**

One For children;

for their energy and curiosity;

for their brave play and startling frankness;

for their sudden sympathies;

All **Thank you, God.**

One For the young;

for their high hopes;

for their irreverence toward worn-out values;

for their search for freedom;

for their solemn vows;

All **Thank you, God.**

One For growing up and growing old;
for wisdom deepened by experience;
for rest in leisure;
and for time made precious by its passing;

All Thank you, God.

One For your help in times of doubt and sorrow;
for healing our diseases;
for preserving us in temptation and danger;

All Thank you, God.

One For the church into which we have been called;
for the good news we receive by Word and Sacrament;
for our life together in the Lord;

All We praise you, God.

One For your Holy Spirit,
who guides our steps and brings us gifts of faith and love;
who prays in us and prompts our grateful worship;

All We praise you, God.

One Above all, O God, for your Son Jesus Christ,
who lived and died and lives again for our salvation;
for our hope in him;
and for the joy of serving him;

**All We thank and praise you, Eternal God,
for all your goodness to us.**

The Silent Prayers

The Lord's Prayer (*in unison*)

**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 DISPERSE TO SHARE THE GOOD NEWS OF NEW LIFE

THE MUSIC FOR DISPERSING

"Now Thank We All Our God"

Nun Danket Alle Gott

*Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices;
Who, from our mothers' arms hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.*

*O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
And keep us in His grace, and guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills in this world and the next.*

*All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,
To Father and to Son and Spirit now be given.
The one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore,
The God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.*

THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

THE MUSIC FOR DEPARTING

"Nun Danket Alle Gott"

S. Karg-Elert

Leading worship this morning:

Liturgists Mark Krahlung, Michael Thissen
Director of Music Robert Nicholls

Happening at First Presbyterian Church

Worship

Due to the current levels of COVID-19 in the Evansville community, we have returned to **virtual worship only**. Please join us online: at firstpresevansville.com or on the church's Facebook page (facebook.com/firstpresevansville) for worship.

We receive the **Presbyterian Women's Thank Offering today**. Received in the fall each year, this offering gives us a tangible way to express our gratitude for the special blessings in our lives. In recent years, the Offering has funded fifteen or more domestic and international projects including health ministries, new or expanded projects, and small capital improvement projects, all helping to meet crucial needs in marginalized communities. The eighteen projects funded in 2019 included a summer lunch program for children in an Alaskan region where traditional employment opportunities have disappeared; building improvements to provide handicapped accessibility for participants in an intergenerational experiential learning program in southeastern Illinois; and blood banks, a standby generator, and training workshops for lab staff, nurses, midwives, gynecologists, and general practitioners serving maternity units in rural health facilities in Cameroon. You may send a check to the church or give online at firstpresevansville.com/giving.

The Session of First Presbyterian invites you to join them - virtually - this **Wednesday, November 25 at 7:00 p.m.** We'll enjoy a brief **service** including favorite music of the season and time to express our gratitude **on Thanksgiving Eve**. You can join with our Elders by going to firstpresevansville.com and clicking on the blue livestream icon in the middle of the page.

Weekly Offerings

We continue to offer thirty minutes of **music on Thursdays at 12:00 p.m.** Robert and occasional guests will use the various instruments in the sanctuary to provide you with music at the midday.

Each week of Kevin's sabbatical, an Elder from Session is "on call." The **Elder of the Week** is available to respond to those with special needs, and may be reached directly or by calling the church office. This week's Elder is **Dan Korb**.

An important part of **Kevin's sabbatical** is a complete leave taking from the rigors and responsibilities of serving our congregation. While he is away, please help him accomplish this! If you find yourself wondering "what's Kevin up to," check out his personal Facebook page (facebook.com/kevin.s.fleming) where he will share photographs and video blogs or the September/October issue of *First Reports*.

This week's **daily reading schedule** includes:

Sunday, November 22	Psalm 108	Thursday, November 26	Matthew 20:1-16
Monday, November 23	Matthew 19:1-12	Friday, November 27	Matthew 20:17-28
Tuesday, November 24	Matthew 19:13-22	Saturday, November 28	Matthew 20:29-34
Wednesday, November 25	Matthew 19:23-30		

Join us **online next Sunday, November 29**, as we celebrate the beginning of Advent with Communion and the return of Kevin from sabbatical.