

May 5, 2024
Sixth Sunday of Easter
11:00am — Sanctuary



Kindness Links Us Together, Mohita Garg, India
Painting, Gouache on Paper



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WEST WAYNE STREET

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church!

Thank you for joining us today! We're grateful for your presence and invite you to take part in our worship, mission, and programs. Please join us after worship for coffee, cookies, and punch in our fellowship hall, called McKay Hall. Just follow the crowd, and you cannot miss it! Livestreaming is available to watch via the website or YouTube, but we know this is no substitute for the community built through in-person connections. We're glad you're here!

Rev. Dr. Anne Epling (*she/her*), Rev. Carrie Winebrenner (*she/her*)
Rev. Dr. Youngsoo An (*he/him*), and Rev. Ann Pitman (*she/her*)

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Please silence and put away your cellphone as you enter this worship space.

**Those who are able, please stand*

Congregation responds in bold

GATHERING

Prelude

Adagio from Sonata I in F Minor, Op. 65
Trumpet Voluntary in A Major

Felix Mendelssohn
Thomas Pavlechko

Tolling of the Hour

Call to Worship

From east and west, north and south, we gather in God's name,

to pray, to worship, to sing, to celebrate the Lord's Supper.

We give thanks that we are part of a large, diverse faith family.

We are old. We are young. We come from tribes of all kinds.

We stand with our friends and family around the world, reclaiming the name of Jesus.

We give thanks for Jesus' resurrection, a truth that tells us that God's love wins.

Come, let us worship God and gather at God's wide and wonderful table.

***Hymn No. 435** There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

IN BABILONE

*Call to Confession

Sisters and brothers, siblings in Christ, in order to speak the truth in love, we are called to speak the hard truth of our sins. Let us together confess our sins.

***Prayer of Confession**

God of Mercy and Steadfast Love,

**You gave us our tongues that we may speak words of love, wisdom, and grace,
but too often, we speak of other things.**

Instead of love, hatred;

instead of wisdom, foolishness;

instead of grace, rage.

Like a small fire that sets a forest ablaze,

too often a word can set forth a flood of fear and anger.

Help us to use our tongues to start other things:

kindness, compassion, and courage.

In the name of your son, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

The grace of God is always doing a new thing—whether we are prepared, or worthy, or not. Let yourself live and believe this good news:

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

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

As you are comfortable, we invite you to take a moment to share the Peace of Christ with those around you with a smile, wave, or other signs of connection.

***Responsive Hymn No. 238 Thine Is the Glory**

JUDAS MACCABEUS

Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, conquering Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry
thou o'er death hast won. An - gels in bright rai - ment rolled the stone a - way,
kept the fold - ed grave - clothes where thy bod - y lay. Thine is the glo - ry,
ris - en, con - quering Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won.

HEARING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Reading

John 15:9-17

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem Make Our Church One Joyful Choir

Jonathan Crutchfield

Make our church one joyful choir on this glad and festive day and by song invoke the fire that invites our hearts to pray: shape us, Christ, to live and claim all it means to bear your name. Bend us low by song and prayer, low enough to lift the cross and to take the weight and bear love's uncounted final cost. Shape us, Christ, to live and claim all it means to bear your name. Lift us up by song and prayer till the way we deal with loss and our acts and words of care trace the pattern of your cross: shape us, Christ, to bear your name. Bend us, lift us, make us strong, send us out with wind and fire, so the world may hear the song that we offer as your choir: shape us, Christ, to live and claim all it means to bear your name. Amen, Amen, Amen!

Sermon "Thank You for Being a Friend"

Rev. Carrie Winebrenner

*Affirmation of Faith

We have been created the cloth of diverse colors, made from many gifts and graces. We are the people flowing forth from the Creator God, surprising ourselves with the things which can be done.

We have been created the raw material for rewarding relationships as our lives interweave, contributing one to the other, holding each other firm when one is weak or breaking.

We have been created worthy of being respected and cared for, skilled in our appointed tasks as sources of laughter and sharers of tears.

We have been created to work together, that one day, this world may be a place where all people live in justice, kindness, and peace. Amen.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Hymn No. 761** Called as Partners in Christ's Service

BEECHER

Presentation of the 2024 Distinguished Christian Service Award

Given annually in honor of Bill and Elaine Wareham

Announcements

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory In the Valley Flows a River

Douglas Nolan

In the valley flows a river, gentle waters from the Lord, and those who stop and drink there will never thirst for more. In the valley flows a river, cooling stream that has no end. In its grace we find forgiveness, cleansing fountain for our sins. From the mountain springs it cometh to the deserts, to the plains, bringing life to all it touches, bringing peace where there is pain. In the valley there is comfort where the peaceful waters flow, and all who pause and pray there will find rest for their souls. In the valley flows a river fed by heaven's gentle rain, and all who stop and drink there will never thirst again.

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation to Communion

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and 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.

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Elements

First Presbyterian Church believes the table is not ours, but God's. All who put their trust in Jesus Christ, regardless of church affiliation, are encouraged to come and be fed.

Assisting with Worship this Morning

Pastors: Rev. Dr. Annie Bain Epling, Rev. Carrie Winebrenner

Elders of the Month/Greeters: Dick Florea, Judy Mettler

Ushers: David Beer, Eric Evans, Anita Wolfe, Linda Yount

Communion Preparers: Anne Barnett, Chuck Chapman, Carole Offerle,
Anita Wolfe

Communion Servers: Anne Barnett, Tony Borton, Carolyn Krebs, Marj Sapp,
Cynthia Scott, Carole Slater

Director of Music Ministries & Organist: Brent Neuenschwander

Assistant Organist: Kathryn Miller

Chancel Choir: Soprano: Irene Ator, Susan Dorion, Liz Graham, Antoinette Lee,
Gretchen Lee, Ellis Pedersen, Sandy Shearer; **Alto:** Joan Kern, Angela Green, Jane
McGeehan, Mary Jane Ormerod, Cassandra Petrie, Carol Rhudy, Jill Therrien, Mary
Winters; **Tenor:** Jude Balthazar, Quinton Davis, DuWayne Hintz, Marj Sapp; **Bass:**
David Beer, Scott McMeen, Jim Mergenthal, and Kip Ormerod

Live Stream Operator: Dick Florea

Sound Board Operator: Marj Sapp

MINISTRIES FOR OUR YOUNGER DISCIPLES



Because Communion is so important in the life of the church, we feel it's important that we all celebrate it together. But, be not afraid! Sunday School for our Kinders thru 5th grade will be back next Sunday! Miss Rachel and friends will be excited to be back in action!



NURSERY AVAILABLE FOR CHILDREN 6MO - 5YRS

Jesus loves the little children, and we do, too! But should you decide that today would be a good time to explore the nursery, your child is always invited to drop in. Ask an usher for assistance.



Please return after church,
so it's there next week!

Worship isn't always easy for little hands and minds to focus, so you are invited to "check out" a fidget toy-filled Busy Bag or a book from our Littles' Library, located in the narthex!

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FIRST PRES THIS WEEK

Sunday, May 5, 2024

- 10:00am Chancel Choir Rehearsal , MR
- 10:00am Wired Word, PR
- 10:30am Children's Choir, SS RM 2
- 11:00am English Worship, SC
- 11:00am KLM Worship, CH
- 12:00pm English Fellowship, MH
- 12:15pm KLM Fellowship, FH

Monday, May 6, 2024

- 1:30pm 3B Exercise Class, MH
- 3:00pm Faith, Fibers, and Fellowship, 302

Tuesday, May 7, 2024

- 5:30pm Personnel Meeting, SR
- 7:00pm Compassionate Friends, PR

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

- 10:00am Table Talk, ZM
- 1:30pm 3B Exercise Class, MH
- 6:00pm Stephen Ministries, SR

Thursday, May 9, 2024

- 3:30pm Handbell Rehearsal, SB

Friday, May 10, 2024

- 10:00pm Men's Bible Study, ZM
- 7:30pm "The Father" Performance, TH

Saturday, May 11, 2024

- 7:30pm "The Father" Performance, TH

Sunday, May 12, 2024

- 9:15am Handbell Rehearsal, SB
- 10:00am Chancel Choir Rehearsal, MR
- 10:00am Wired Word, PR
- 10:30am Children's Choir, SS RM 2
- 11:00am English Worship, SC
- 11:00am KLM Worship , CH
- 11:00am Sunday School, 210
- 12:00pm English Fellowship, MH
- 12:00pm KLM Fellowship, FH

Campus Room Abbreviations

CH	Chapel	MF	McKay Foyer	SB	Sanctuary Balcony
CL	Chapel Lounge	MH	McKay Hall	SC	Sanctuary
CN	Chapel Narthex	MR	Music Room	SDR	Small Dining Room
CY	Courtyard	NP	North Parking Lot	SM/O	Stephen Ministry Office
FH	Fellowship Hall	NX	Narthex	SR	Session Room
FO	Finance Office	NR	Nursery	TH	Theater
GL	Gallery	OS	Offsite	YL	Youth Lounge
KT	Main Kitchen	PR	Parlor	ZM	Zoom