

September 15, 2024  
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost  
11:00am — Sanctuary



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*), 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**

## **COMING TOGETHER**

**Prelude** Trumpet Tune in D Major

Bert Landman

**Tolling of the Hour**

**Greeting**

**Call to Worship**

**\*Hymn No. 321** The Church's One Foundation

AURELIA

**\*Confessing Our Sins Against God and One Another**

**Gracious God, You have given each of us unique gifts to build up the Body of Christ and to serve our communities. Yet we confess that we do not always honor these gifts in one another. At times, we belittle the contributions of others or fail to see their value. We become prideful of our own abilities, and we overlook the ways others can help us grow. Forgive us for the times we have sown division instead of unity. Remind us that we are all essential parts of your body, each with a role to play in your work. Help us to celebrate the gifts in others and to work together for your kingdom. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

**\*Assurance of Forgiveness**

**\*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. 205 Live in Charity**

UBI CARITAS (Taizé)

The musical score is written in 2/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: "Live in char - i - ty and stead - fast love. U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor, Live in char - i - ty; God will dwell with you. u - bi ca - ri - tas De - us i - bi est." There are triplets in the second system of the vocal line.

**PROCLAIMING REALLY GOOD NEWS**

**Time with Children**

*Children and youth in kindergarten thru 9th grade are encouraged to head to Sunday School after the Time with Children.*

**Old Testament Reading**

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

Psalm 19

**Anthem** My God and King

Russell Broughton

*Let all the world in every corner sing, My God and King! The heavens are not too high, his praise may thither fly; the earth is not too low, his praises there may grow. Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King! The Church with psalms must shout, no door can keep them out; but above all, the heart must bear, the longest part. Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!*

**New Testament Reading**

1 Corinthians 12:1-26

A word of God for our times.

**Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon** “Unity in Diversity”

Rev. Dr. Anne Bain Epling

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

**We believe in God, the giver of every good gift, who has blessed each of us with unique skills and talents. We affirm that these gifts come from the Holy Spirit and are meant to build up the Body of Christ and strengthen our communities.**

**We believe that the Church is called to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world, using our diverse gifts in unity to share God's love, grace, and justice. Each gift has a purpose, and together we reflect the fullness of God's presence. We commit to using what we have been given to serve others, to lift up the brokenhearted, to work for peace, and to shine the light of Christ in all we do.**

**We are many members, but one body, united in Christ and called to be Christ's living presence in the world. Amen.**

## **RESPONDING WITH ALTERNATIVE NARRATIVES**

**\*Hymn No. 314** Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness

CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

**Prayers of the People 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.**

## Announcements

## Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Robert A. Hobby

**\*Responsive Hymn** Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Musical score for the hymn "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow". The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (D major). It consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here be - low; Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Help us to work to - geth - er well, off' ring our kind - ness to the world. Fol - low Je - sus, praise the Spir - it, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!"

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

Loving God, we give thanks for the variety of gifts you have given to each of us. As we offer these gifts of our time, talents, and resources, we pray that they may be used to build up your body and strengthen our community. Bless what we have given and guide us in using it to serve others, uplift those in need, and spread your love in the world. May we continue to work together, each using our gifts to bring unity and hope to all. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

## RIPPLING FORTH

**\*Hymn No. 383** Dream On, Dream On

DREAM ON

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude** Procession on the *Te Deum* Marc Antoine Charpentier/Austin Lovelace

## **CHANCEL FLOWERS**

The Chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Kathleen Paddock Offerle  
by her sons, Steve and Geoff Paddock

***Hearing Loop: To use the “Hearing Loop” during the service, please switch your hearing aid or cochlear device to the “T,” T-Coil or telephone position.***

***Large Print Hymns are available from the Ushers***

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## Assisting with Worship this Morning

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**Pastors:** Rev. Dr. Anne Epling, Rev. Carrie Winebrenner

**Elders of the Month/Greeters:** Tony Borton, Vernell Fettig

**Ushers:** Anne Barnett, David Beer, Jack Patton, Dan Serban

**Liturgist:** Carole Slater

**Readers:** Judy and Tom Mettler

**Candle Lighters:** Joyce Sines, Hannah Kopec, Zoey Kopec

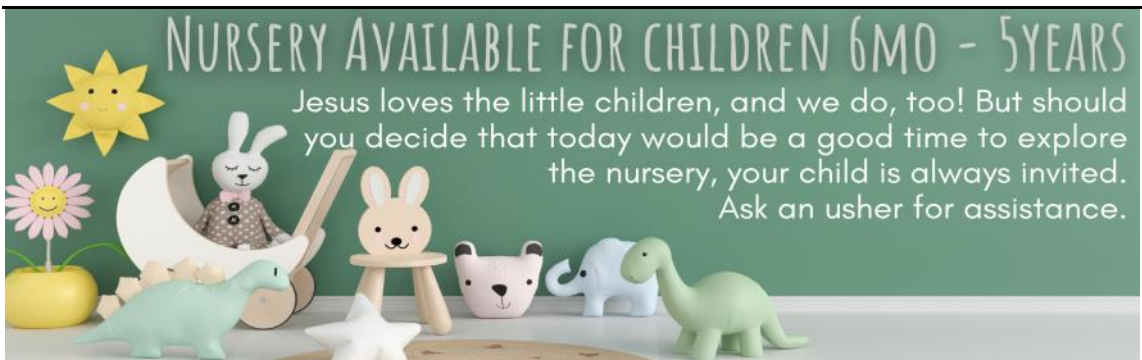
**Director of Music Ministries & Organist:** Brent Neuenschwander

**Assistant Organist:** Kathryn Miller

**Chancel Choir**

**Live Stream Operator:** Dick Florea

**Sound Board Operator:** Jeff Slater



**Sunday School for Children and Youth meets during church. We'll all start in worship together, and then head to our SS rooms as a group. Grown-ups, please pick your children up in the education wing after worship.**



## This Week at First Pres

- ◆ "The Bill of Obligations: The Ten Habits Of Good Citizens" book study begins next Sunday at 10:00am in the Parlor on the 2nd floor. All are welcome to attend this study led by Rev. Annie Epling. For more info email her at [aepling@firstpresfortwayne.org](mailto:aepling@firstpresfortwayne.org) or see her after church.
- ◆ "Beauty and the Beast" opened this weekend in the theater to nearly sellout audiences. You won't want to miss this timeless tale about neighbors and the power of community. Tickets can be purchased at the door or online/phone through Artstix. 260-422-4226
- ◆ The Women's Bible Study is meeting again, Friday at 1pm via Zoom. For more information contact Ann at [apitman@firstpresbyterianfortwayne.org](mailto:apitman@firstpresbyterianfortwayne.org)