

22nd Sunday After Pentecost
November 9, 2025
11:00am — Sanctuary



“Feed the Hungry” painting by Stan Blgda, oil on canvas



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WEST WAYNE STREET

**Those who are able, please stand*

Congregation responds in bold

GATHERING

Prelude

Allein Gott in der Höh Sei Ehr BWV 662 Johann Sebastian Bach

Chiming of the Hour

Call to Worship

We come to worship the God who satisfies the hungry and lifts the lowly.

We come with open hands and open hearts.

God calls us to loose the bonds of injustice
and to share our bread with the hungry.

Then our light shall rise in the darkness, and our gloom be like the noonday.

Come, beloved of God, for in Christ, the Bread of Life, we find nourishment for
our souls and hope for the world.

Thanks be to God!

***Hymn No. 620**

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

LAUDA ANIMA

***Call to Confession**

God calls us not to pretend we are full, but to come honestly with the hunger of
our hearts. When we confess our sins, we open ourselves to the One who feeds
us with mercy and grace. Let us come before God in humility and hope, trusting
that even in our emptiness, God meets us with love.

***Prayer of Confession**

**Gracious and merciful God, You have given us a world of abundance, yet we cling
to what we have. You call us to feed the hungry, yet we often turn away, not out
of cruelty, but out of comfort; not from malice, but from habit.**

**Forgive us for the times we have mistaken charity for justice, and kindness for
transformation. Forgive us when we have offered our leftovers instead of our
love. Stir in us a holy hunger for righteousness, for compassion, for a world
where all are fed. Open our eyes to see You in every neighbor and open our
hands to serve with joy. Amen.**

*Declaration of Forgiveness

Friends, hear the good news: God does not leave us empty-handed or empty-hearted. When we turn toward compassion, we find Christ already breaking bread with us. So let us proclaim this together:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, fed, and made whole. Thanks be to God!

*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. 582 Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me



1. Glo - ry to God, _____ whose good-ness shines on me, and to the Son, _____ whose grace has
2. World with-out end, _____ with-out end. A - men. World with-out end, _____ with-out

par - doned me, and to the Spir - it, _____ whose love has set me free. As it
end. A - men. World with-out end, _____ with-out end. A - men.

was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

HEARING THE WORD

Time with Children

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

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Isaiah 58:1-11

Anthem

Draw Us In the Spirit's Tether

Harold Friedell

Gospel Reading

Matthew 25:37-45

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon

“Food, Glorious Food”

Rev. Carrie Winebrenner

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Affirmation of Faith**

We believe in Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life,
who feeds the hungry, welcomes the outcast,
and blesses broken bread and broken people
so that all may be made whole.

We believe our deepest hunger is not for food alone,
but for the love, mercy, and justice of God.
Christ meets us in that holy hunger,
filling us with grace
and sending us to feed the world in His name.

We believe the Spirit moves among us like yeast in the dough,
stirring compassion, raising hope,
and reminding us that in God’s kingdom,
there is always enough. Amen.

***Hymn No. 767**

Together We Serve

SAN ANSELMO

Announcements

Moment for Mission

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.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

Amazing Grace

arr. Dale Wood

*Responsive Hymn No. 606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise God, all crea-tures here be-low; praise
God a - bove, ye heaven-ly host; Cre - at - or, Christ and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

*Prayer of Dedication

Generous God, You have filled our lives with good things: tables of plenty, hearts of grace, and the joy of community. Receive these offerings as signs of our gratitude and trust. Bless them, and bless us, that together we might build a world where all are fed and none are forgotten. Through Christ, our Bread of Life. Amen.

SENDING

*Hymn No. 525

Let Us Break Bread Together

LET US BREAK BREAD

*Benediction

*Postlude

Psalm-Prelude No. 3, Set 2

Herbert Howells

IN MEMORIAM

A memorial service for William (Bill) Shassere is scheduled for 2:00 pm on Tuesday, November 11, 2025, in the Chapel. His obituary can be found by scanning the QR code.



Assisting with Worship this Morning

Pastors: Rev. Dr. Annie Epling (she/her), Rev. Carrie Winebrenner (she/her)

Elders of the Month/Greeters: Tony Borton, Besty Perry Patton

Ushers of the Month: Esther Coplin, Eric Evans, Carol Offerle, Penny Pulz, June Schwertfager, Beth White

Director of Music Ministries: Colin Andrews

Assistant Organist: Irene Ator

Chancel Choir: Richard Baughman, David Beer, Cade Carpenter, Edith Coplin, Esther Coplin, Quinton Davis, Susan Dorion, Andrew Graham, Liz Graham, DuWayne Hintz, Joan Kern, Jane McGeehan, Scott McMeen, Alli McQueen, Kelem Mitchell, Kip Ormerod, Mary Jane Ormerod, Ellis Pedersen, Carol Rhudy, Marj Sapp, Sandy Shearer, Jill Therrien, Mary Winters

Live Stream Operator: Dick Florea

Sound Board Operator: Jeff Slater

Prayer List

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Kathy Miller | • Jim & Sondra Mergenthal |
| • Family of Dana Gurney | • Cormac Wallace |
| • Kelly Leach | |

If you are in need of prayer or an encouraging word, let us know.

Care & Support

FPC is a **Stephen Ministries** congregation and has a dedicated group of Stephen Ministers. Stephen Ministers are lay congregation members trained to provide one-to-one care to those experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or relocation. The Stephen Ministry is completely confidential, and open to all FPC members. Please email Rev. Ann Pitman, or call her at 260-426-7421, extension 106, for more information.

NEWS AND EVENTS

FPC Gallery Presents: Art of Hope

Join us for the opening of the new FPC Gallery exhibit, Art of Hope, on Friday, November 14, from 6:00-7:30 PM. Mental Health America of Northeast Indiana's Art of Hope is an art exhibit highlighting local artists and sharing inspiring stories about recovery, healing, and hope. Enjoy light refreshments while viewing the art and meet the artists behind the work. The event is free and open to the public!



Coming Soon to First Presbyterian Theater: The Gift of the Magi

Experience the warmth and wonder of the season with The Gift of the Magi, a touching operatic retelling of O. Henry's beloved Christmas story. Running for one weekend only, November 14–16, this intimate production follows Jim and Della, a poor married couple who long to give each other meaningful Christmas gifts, only to discover that love itself is the greatest gift of all.

Directed by Maestro Robert Nance and featuring talented singers from Heartland Sings, this cherished American chamber opera captures the humor, tenderness, and timeless beauty of selfless devotion. Join us for The Gift of the Magi, a heartfelt celebration of love, generosity, and the true spirit of Christmas! Tickets are available by scanning the QR code, or by calling ArtsTix at 260-422-4226. See you at the theater!



KLM Thanksgiving Dinner

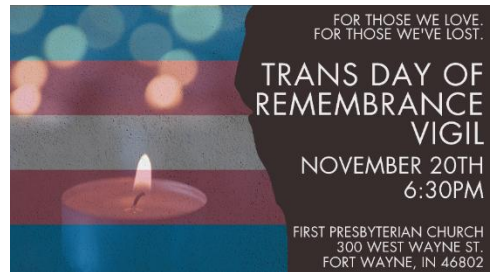
A Special Invitation to Veterans: KLM's annual Thanksgiving Dinner will be held on Sunday, November 23, after worship in McKay Hall. This year, we will especially take time to express our gratitude for the service and dedication of veterans within our church community.

We plan to send invitations not only to Korean War veterans but also to all veterans connected to our church. If you would like to receive an invitation, please send your mailing address and preferred email contact to Rev. An at ysan@firstpresfortwayne.org.

Community TDOR Vigil

Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) is an annual observance on November 20 that honors the memory of the transgender people whose lives were lost in acts of anti-transgender violence. TDOR was started in 1999 by transgender advocate Gwendolyn Ann Smith as a vigil to honor the memory of Rita Hester, a transgender woman who was killed in 1998.

In honor of those in our community and the world who have suffered violence or death, several local congregations and community organizations will join us for a special spoken-word and candle-lighting vigil held on November 20th at 6:30 PM in the McKay Hall Foyer. All are welcome.



Interfaith Thanksgiving

Join community members of all faith backgrounds for a Thanksgiving meal at The Temple on Tuesday, November 26th at 7pm. A cookie reception and fellowship time will follow.

Congratulations to the Michaels

Congratulations to Max and Jenny Michaels on the birth of their son, Luke, on November 2, 2025! We hope and pray for a blessed future for them all. Max was our Resident Pastor and is now pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Cheraw, SC.

GETTING CONNECTED

MEMBERSHIP

Whether you live in the Fort Wayne area or worship with us online, we welcome you to join our family of faith. Through Coffee with the Pastors, you'll learn more about First Presbyterian Church, its history, and its current ministry in a relaxed atmosphere. Whether you're sure membership is right for you, or you're just beginning to wonder if this might be your spiritual home, we'd love to have you join us for coffee. Keep an eye out for our next date of Coffee with the Pastors.

NURSERY

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, ages 6 months through five years, is always invited. Our nursery meets in the first-floor day school wing, so please ask an usher or the front office volunteer for assistance and a key fob.

ADULT EDUCATION

Wired Word — Sunday Mornings, 10am

Join us each week as we delve into a topic inspired by recent news and explore how the Bible speaks to the events shaping our world today. Each Sunday brings a fresh topic, making this group perfect for those with busy schedules who may not be able to attend every week. Topics are emailed each Friday, so please let Luci Gilpin at lucifoltz@gmail.com know if you'd like to receive that email. All are welcome — come as you are and join the conversation.

Women's Bible Study — Fridays, 1pm

This group is led by Rev. Ann Pitman and meets on Zoom. For more information, email Rev. Pitman at apitman@firstpresfortwayne.org.

Table Talk for Women — Wednesdays, 10am

This group reads a book at their own pace and is led by members of the group on Zoom. ZOOM Meeting ID: 870 6712 2177. ZOOM Passcode: 260 426 7421. For more information, please contact Marj Sapp at 260-413-2639 or Marcie Weissner at 260-312-5733.

Men's Bible Study — Fridays, 10am

This group is led by Rev. Youngsoo An and meets on Teams. For more information, email Rev. An at ysan@firstpresfortwayne.org.

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

North and South Dinner Groups — 2nd Monday of the month, 5:30pm

Join a Dinner Group! Every 2nd Monday of the month at the same time, 5:30 PM. South Dinner Group meets at Hall's Coventry, no RSVP needed! North Dinner Group meets at Don Hall's Factory. Please RSVP to Marj Sapp at 260-413-2639 or by email at marj.sapp@gmail.com.

Faith, Fiber, and Fellowship — Mondays, 3pm

This group meets weekly at 3pm on Mondays in Room 302 on the 3rd floor. Bring your latest fiber project for a time of fellowship and crafting.

Body, Brain, and Belief (3B) — Mondays and Wednesdays, 1:30PM in McKay Hall

Maintaining balance is essential as we age. A decline in stability increases the risk of falls, impacting independence and quality of life. Good balance helps prevent falls, supports daily activities, and reduces the risk of serious injuries.

Join us for 3B, a lifetime fitness class designed to improve balance, flexibility, and strength using chairs and other provided equipment. These free classes are open to all adults aged 50 and older and are filled with fun, fellowship, and fitness. Our holistic approach combines proven physical therapy exercises, healthy brain activities, and opportunities for spiritual, emotional, and social growth. Classes meet twice a week in McKay Hall. We'd love to have you join us!

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

Sunday School for Children and Youth

Both Sunday School Age groups attend worship through the "Time with Children" and then head to class as a group. Neither class meets on Communion Sundays so that we may celebrate as a whole church.

Youth Group

All 6th-12th graders are encouraged to join this amazing group of young people! Keep an eye on the Family Ministry bulletin board (by the elevator) for schedules and plans.

MISSIONS

Through our **Missions Ministry**, many of our members and friends are engaged in volunteering and advocacy. Our programs include collecting, making, and serving meals for shelters, schools, food banks, and more. We also maintain mission partnerships with many local, national, and international partners.

The **Schools Team** wishes to remind everyone that a designated bin is available in the Small Dining Room to deposit gently-used clothing for the Fort Wayne Community Schools Clothing Bank. Through school referrals, the Clothing Bank has provided clothing for thousands of students and families in need. All types of gently-used clothing in all sizes are needed. (Socks and underwear must be new.) If you're paring down your wardrobe, please remember to bring in a bag of wearable items for the FWCS Clothing Bank bin. Thank you!

Our **Green Team** is active throughout the year. In the winter, you can find them distributing the "Bag of Bags," which are reusable grocery bags. In the spring, they have a booth at Eco Fest, sponsor a recycling drive at Hands ON Fort Wayne, and host our biennial Pet Blessing with a collection of items for local animal shelters. Throughout the year, they sell Fair Trade chocolate with proceeds supporting our food bank ministry.

FINE ARTS MINISTRY

The **Fine Arts Ministry** consists of the Art Gallery, Music Series, and the Theater. Throughout the year, the three art forms together present exhibits, concerts, and shows which seek to enhance our faith through visual art, music, and drama, all while highlighting themes and challenges within our world. The mission of the Fine Arts Ministry is to *Enrich Our Faith Through the Arts*. This important ministry seeks to create artistic beauty and to help us grow in our faith with God, right along with the mission of the church. A full listing of these events can be found at <https://firstpresfortwayne.org/arts/>.

The Chancel Choir sings for all English Worship Services and they welcome anyone who enjoys singing God's praises. Chancel Choir rehearsal is on Thursdays 7pm-8:30pm, and Sundays at 10am. The Handbell Choir practices Thursdays 5:30pm-6:30pm and rings occasionally in Worship.

CALENDAR

Today

- 10:00 am** **Wired Word.**—2nd Floor Parlor.
Choir Rehearsal.—Music Room.
- 11:00 am** **English Worship.**—Sanctuary & Livestream.
Korean Language Worship Service.—Chapel & Livestream.
Sunday School.—2nd floor classrooms and Youth Lounge
- 12:00 pm** **Fellowship Time.**—McKay Hall.
Blessings in a Backpack.—McKay Hall.

This Week

Mon Nov 10

- 1:30 pm** **Body, Brain, and Belief (3B).**—McKay Hall.
3:00 pm **Faith, Fibers, and Fellowship.**—Room 302.

Tues Nov 11

- 2:00 pm** **Memorial Service for Bill Shassere.**—Chapel.

Wed Nov 12

- 1:30 pm** **Body, Brain, and Belief (3B).**—McKay Hall.

Fri Nov 14

- 10:00 am** **Men's Bible Study.**—Teams.
1:00 pm **Women's Bible Study.**—Zoom.
6:00 pm **Art of Hope Opening Reception.**—Gallery.
8:00 pm **"The Gift of the Magi" Opening Production.**—Theater.

Coming Soon

Sun Nov 16

- 12:00 pm** **Congregational Reception/Meet and Greet.**—Gallery. Come view the Art of Hope exhibition and meet Colin Andrews, the new Director of Music Ministries.

Thurs Nov 20

- 6:30 pm** **Transgender Day of Remembrance Vigil.**—McKay Foyer.

Sun Nov 23

- 12:00 pm** **KLM Thanksgiving Dinner.**—McKay Hall after worship.