

# First Presbyterian Church

Ninth at Washington, Michigan City, Indiana

March 3, 2024

10:00 A.M. (Sanctuary)

Communion Sunday



## THE WORSHIP OF OUR LORD

† † †

*\* Indicates those who are able, please stand*

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## WE GATHER BEFORE GOD

† WELCOME – WORSHIP – CELEBRATE – SERVE †

PRELUDE: “Lamentation”

H. Purcell

WELCOME

\*CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: God has gathered us to hear again the good news of God’s love.

**All: *God empowers each one of us to share the good news of grace in Jesus Christ***

One: God shows us a new vision in the work of the Holy Spirit

**All: *Each one of us is a minister called to proclaim the good news!***

\*HYMN #220 “All People That on Earth Do Dwell” (Blue Presbyterian Hymnal)

## WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD’S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION (1 John 1:8-9) (Spoken by liturgist)

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just. He will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Please join in unison)

***God, you share with us words of hope, words of Good News. But sometimes we are unable to hear them because the source is too familiar. You call us to share the Good News with those around us. But sometimes we are unable to share, because the people know us too well. You encourage us to send messengers to other places where they will be heard better. But we can be jealous, wanting the Good News to be for us, not them. In the multitude of ways we can and have subverted your message of freedom and healing, in all the ways we have kept the Jubilee year from happening, we have left the path of true wisdom and call upon your grace to lead us back on track. Amen.***

SILENT IS KEPT

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Pastor: This is the time of God’s favor. God’s grace continues to proclaim release to the captives, sight to the blind, Good News to the poor and freedom to the oppressed. We live as loved, forgiven and free people through the grace of God!

**All: *Amen***

\*SINGING GOD’S GLORY: Gloria Patri “Glory to the Father” #567 (Please join in unison)

***Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen Amen Amen***

Passing of the Peace of Christ

\*SHARING THE PEACE OF GOD (Please join in unison)

Leader: Since God has forgiven us in Christ,  
let us all forgive one another,  
and pass the peace of Christ to each other.  
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

***People: And also with you!***

## WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (Please join in unison)

*Living God, help us so to hear your holy Word that we may truly understand; that, understanding, we may believe, and, believing, we may follow in all faithfulness and obedience, seeking your honor and glory in all that we do; through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke: 4

YOUTH SCRIPTURE DRAMA

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 John 1:1-3

SERMON "Can I Get a Witness?"

HYMN: #516 "Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation" (Blue Presbyterian Hymnal)

Children are excused for Sunday school. Please join Ms. Barb and Mr. Brock in the lobby to walk up together as a group.

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: (Please join in unison)

*We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. Amen.*

EXPRESSING OUR GRATITUDE IN OUR OFFERING

OFFERTORY: "Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee"

D. Hegarty

Many ways to give and give back  paypal.com **Click on link**

<https://www.paypal.com/fundraiser/112574644767835624/charity/3545525>

OR [Scan here:](#)



\*Doxology Song #592

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

OLD HUNDREDTH

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you**

One: Lift up your hearts!

**All: We lift them up to the Lord**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise**

One: It is truly right and our greatest joy...

(...the prayer continues and includes The Prayers of the People)

...Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, now and forever....(ending with the Lord's Prayer). (Together, using "debts")

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

*It is traditional in our congregation to share the bread all at once, after everyone has been served. Likewise, we wait to share the cup with each other.*

Communion Music: "We Come as Guest Invited"

*J. Steurlein*

Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion

*Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love; the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.*

### **WE GO OUT IN GRATITUDE TO SERVE IN GOD'S NAME**

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold onto what is good; return no one evil for evil; support the weak; help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

\*POSTLUDE: "Come, Redeemer"

*R, Graham*

**SHARE OUR PRAYERS WITH:**

For each of us to share the Gospel with someone this week

- Dave Dougherty, Johanna Miller, Craig Molden, Jonathan Patterson, Barb Reichert, Mary Steider, Barb Vinson and Donna Wiseman for health needs.
- Pray for our Military and their families.
- AmeriCorps and Peace Corps workers and their families

**GUESTS AND VISITORS**

We are delighted to welcome you and worship with you today! **First time visitors**-we would love to connect with you. Please text "welcome" to 219-300-9867 and share your contact information with us.

**The CHANCEL FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God from Mary Jo McDonald in memory of Jim McDonald.

### **SERVING TODAY**

Ministers  
Preacher  
Organist  
Choir Director  
Liturgist  
Greeters  
Usher  
Video & Sound Crew

All Members of the Congregation  
Reverend Dr. Ericka Parkinson Kilbourne  
Carol Garrett  
Jennifer Keeley  
Brian Spiece  
Mary Barr  
Debbie Langley  
Stan Holdcraft, Rylie Thornton  
and Antoinette Jackson



### **MEMORIALS/DONATION**

No donations were received this week. We are always thankful for your kindness

Noisy Offering: on February 25<sup>th</sup> the children collected \$75.00

## March Birthdays Have a Very Happy Day!

March 1 Brenda Branch  
March 6 Stan Holdcraft  
March 7 Amy McDaniel  
March 10 Mary Jo McDonald  
March 13 Jennifer Blank  
March 15 Rick Blank  
March 17 Molly Wray



March 19 Joleen Jackson  
March 20 Walt Barbknecht  
March 24 Thea Mosher  
March 25 Sean Towle  
March 26 Nicholas Simpson  
March 28 Andrea Gasaway  
March 29 Linda Jackson

## CHURCH CHAT

“Any or all information is Subject to change without notification”



- ✚ March 3 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed-Make Disciples
- ✚ March 3 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship Service- Communion Sunday
- ✚ March 4 Monday Pastor Off
- ✚ **March 4 Monday DEADLINE TO PLACE LILY ORDER**
- ✚ March 5 Tuesday 10 a.m. 3B in Edith Boyd Lounge
- ✚ March 5 Tuesday 5:30 p.m. PFLAG in Undercroft
- ✚ March 7 Thursday 10 a.m. 3B in Edith Boyd Lounge
- ✚ March 7 Thursday 11 a.m. Urban Monks-Rev. Patterson
- ✚ March 7 Thursday 12:30 p.m. PEO meeting
- ✚ March 7 Thursday 5:30 p.m. Girl Scouts
- ✚ March 8 Friday Office closed Pastor available by appointment
- ✚ March 9 Saturday 10 a.m. Tweens Upstairs
- ✚ March 9 Saturday 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
- ✚ March 10 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed-Make Disciples
- ✚ March 10 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship Service
- ✚ March 11 Monday Pastor Off
- ✚ March 12 Tuesday 10 a.m. 3B in Edith Boyd Lounge
- ✚ March 12 Tuesday 6 p.m. Finance Meeting
- ✚ March 13 Wednesday 10 a.m. Outreach meeting
- ✚ March 13 Wednesday 12 p.m. Wednesday Circle meeting
- ✚ March 13 Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal
- ✚ March 14 Thursday 10 a.m. 3B in Edith Boyd Lounge
- ✚ March 14 Thursday 11 a.m. Urban Monks-Rev. Patterson
- ✚ March 15 Office closed Pastor available by appointment
- ✚ March 15 Saturday 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen

### LILIES-UPDATED DATE

**Sorry, the florist needs the order sooner so the cut off to order is now March 4<sup>th</sup> instead of the 6<sup>th</sup>.**

If you would like to order lilies, please complete the enclosed order form and return it to the office along with your check by **March 4<sup>th</sup>**. (Sooner would be better because we have a deadline to place our order to guarantee pick up date). They will be in the sanctuary on March 30<sup>th</sup> and April 7<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to take your lily, you can pick it up after worship service on April 7<sup>th</sup>.

The cost this year is \$15.00 per lily (sorry the florist raised their price).

If you have any questions, please contact the office.

Thank you, Diane Yettaw, Administrative Assistant

### 2024 Per Capita

The 2024 Per Capita amount is \$43.62 **per member**.

If you have any questions, please contact the church office.



## **NEW MONTHLY BOOK STUDY**

There will be a monthly book study based on the book "11 Indispensable Relationships You Can't Live Without" by Leonard Sweet. We will spend each time focusing on a different relationship from the Bible and how that type of relationship can be beneficial in our own lives. The book is available on Amazon or other online bookstores. Even if you don't have the book yet, please join us at 9:30 a.m. on the fourth (changed from the third beginning in February) Saturday of each month.

If you have questions feel free to contact Jennifer Casper at 219-575-0135

## **ART DISPLAY IN THE EDITH BOYD LOUNGE – ARTIST KRISTINA KNOWSKI**

Kristina Knowski is a watercolorist depicting primarily avifauna. The natural world is her inspiration, drawing from the existing beauty of our environment. As an avid birder, Kristina prefers to work from life and spends most of her time sketching and researching species in the field. She enjoys using observation, anatomical references, and specimens to examine these species with an acute attention to detail.

All works are watercolor on paper. A planned composition is drawn first, followed carefully by several layers of transparent paint. The extant, or existing, bird paintings are usually more illustrational, creating an optimum version of the species similar to that of a field guide. These are made as a formal study of the bird and keeping the background minimal.

Since graduating Valedictorian from the American Academy of Art in Chicago in 2012, Kristina has participated in numerous shows in Chicago, NW Indiana, and surrounding states.

### **Giving Back**

Kristina Knowski Arts is dedicated to her mission to use her work as a positive change for avifauna. Continuously, Kristina gives back her time and multiple donations to the Indiana Audubon Society and their annual Indiana Dunes Birding Festival. She will also be donating 10% of all sales during this show to the Church's Elevator Fund.

Thank you,  
Kristina Knowski

## **MESSAGE FROM CLERK OF SESSION**

Dear Congregation members,

Our Session Elders met last week on Wednesday, February 21st. Here are a few highlights of the meeting to keep you in the loop!

\*Pastor Ericka submitted a picture of some of our congregation members that she took 2 Sundays ago when we wore blue for the Disaster Assistance program. The picture appeared on their Facebook page.

\*We continue to show a shortfall in our accounts. If you have pledged or are on the verge of pledging, please do so. No amount is too small to contribute to keep our church running!

\*Session approved the following dates for communion to be served: March 3 & 28th; April 7; May 5; June 2; July 7; August 4; September 1; October 6; November 3; December 1 and 24th; and January 5, 2025.

\*Session approved the following pulpit supply list: Rev. Doreen Dezur, Rev. Kevin Patterson, Rev. Jennifer Burns Lewis, Elder Alice Yacullo, Elder Barb Vinson, Elder Jose Soto, Elder Rylie Thornton, and Elder Anne Lute. Also those who are approved by the Presbytery of the Wabash Valley pulpit supply list. Also, video sermons provided by the Synod of Mid-America Pastors.

\*Session approved the following collection dedications: Maundy Thursday = Youth Campership Fund; Easter Sunday = Help Fund and PC (USA) Co-workers (Rev. Cathy Chang).

\*Elder Michele Bartels announced that the proposed 'Green Clean Day' for our congregation will be on April 17, 2024.

\*Elder Mark Smith reported that elevator work will resume after Easter Sunday (TBD).

\*Elder Rob McFarland announced that the brick paver fundraiser will be coming up soon. KP Nfr will be able to print the bricks which will keep our costs down. Please help spread the word to past, present and future congregants, or those with special ties to the church.

Thank you for your support and prayers for our session and our Pastor.

Many blessings to you all,

Laura Kittle

Clerk of Session

## **HELP NEEDED TO FEED THE CONFIRMATION CLASS**

The confirmation class is meeting after church the 4th Sunday of every month beginning September 24<sup>th</sup>. We are looking for people to provide lunch for the class. A few pizzas and a dessert would be great! If you are willing to support the students in this way please contact Jennifer Casper at 219-575-0135 or [mrsghost628@yahoo.com](mailto:mrsghost628@yahoo.com).

## **The Play's the Thing**

Are you looking for something to do with your family and friends over the next few weekends? A number of our very talented Presbys are acting in plays and musicals in up and coming weeks and they would love to see you in their audiences.

The full schedule is available by the usher's table.

Easter Egg  
Candy  
Donations



### CANDY DONATIONS FOR EASTER EGG HUNT

Please put individually wrapped & small enough to fit into plastic eggs candy into the “Bunny Box” by the garden door entrance by Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>. Any questions, contact Amy McDaniel.

Easter Egg  
Candy  
Donations



### COFFEE HOUR-2024

The Coffee Hour sign up calendar for 2024 is displayed on the Edith Boyd Lounge door ready for sign-ups. There are 24 Sundays left for volunteers (you, your family, friends, or church committee) to host. Hosting duties include fixing a pot or 2 of coffee and a drink for the kids. A sweet treat would be great, too. Please sign up now to make sure you get your special date.



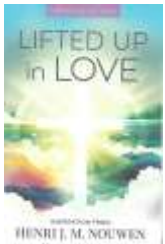
### EASTER MORNING BREAKFAST

March 31<sup>st</sup> in the Edith Boyd Lounge at 8:30 a.m. Hope to see you there.

### PW PROJECT

Between February 11<sup>th</sup> and March 3<sup>rd</sup> Presbyterian Women will be collecting toilet paper for “The Nest”, the overnight shelter on 8<sup>th</sup> Street. Please place the toilet paper on the table next to the coat racks.

Thank you,  
Carol Garrett, PW Coordinating Moderator



### LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

The Outreach committee has a few extra Lenten Devotionals remaining from the bags we prepare for our senior at-home members. If you would like to purchase this little booklet for your own season of Lent, please see Michele Bartels or Peggy McAnally at church with \$2.00 in hand. First come, first served.

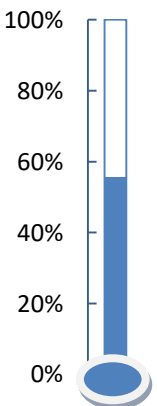


### ELEVATE OUR WELCOME

#### CURRENT STATUS OF OUR ELEVATOR FUND CAMPAIGN

**TARGET:** \$150,000.00 (100%)  
**CONGREGATION GIFTS ACHIEVED** \$38,647.00 (25.7%)  
**GRANT** \$50,000.00 (33.3%)  
**ACHIEVED WITH GRANT** \$88,647.00 (59%)

If you still want to give towards the elevator project, or have an unfulfilled pledge, please make payment before June 2024. Thank you so much!



### REMINDER CHOIR SCHEDULE

Spring ~ 2024

- March 13th, Wednesday - Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.
- March 17th, Sunday - Choir Rehearsal 9:00 a.m. and sing at service
- April 17th, Wednesday - Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.
- April 21st, Sunday - Choir Rehearsal 9:00 a.m. and sing at service
- May 15th - Wednesday - Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.
- May 19th - Choir Rehearsal 9:00 a.m. and sing at service

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For prayer requests  
Contact Brian Spiece at  
[jspiece@hotmail.com](mailto:jspiece@hotmail.com)

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