

First Presbyterian Church

Ninth at Washington, Michigan City, Indiana

April 21, 2024

10:00 A.M. (Sanctuary)

4th Sunday of Easter



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 “Christ 1St Erstanden”

Pethel/Smith

WELCOME

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP: “Glorify Thy Name”

by Donna Adkins

*CALL TO WORSHIP: (Please join in unison)

One: Come, children of God; know that God has blessed you today.

All: *We are blessed by work and rest, by word and silence.*

One: Come, all who follow the Christ, who has not led you astray.

All: *We have traveled his path, and know glory and sacrifice.*

One: Come, saints and sinners all, receive God’s love and bounty.

All: *We offer our sacrifice of praise; we offer our very selves.*

One: Let us worship God.

*HYMN #439 “In Christ There Is No East or West” (The Presbyterian hymnal-Blue)

WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD’S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION (Spoken by liturgist)

To open our hearts to God is to risk vulnerability, judgment, and condemnation. But throughout the scriptures, we learn that God is merciful and just, slow to anger, and eager to forgive. Let us then together risk our confession.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Please join in unison)

Gracious and loving God, open our hearts so that we are able to admit to you the fullness of our lives—that which is beautiful and good, and that which is hurtful and hateful. We confess that we do not follow Jesus in all that we do. We love with condition. We judge and condemn. We cast the first stone, and keep the logs in our own eyes. We do not turn to you as the source of our healing. Forgive us, we pray. Forgive our sin, and empower us to be imitators of Christ in love and service. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

Pastor: Friends, sisters, brothers, hear this good news and see the grace of God:
You are forgiven. You are free to go and live in the light of love.

All: *Thanks be to God. 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

*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!

Passing of the Peace of Christ

(Worshippers are invited to turn to others and safely show signs of peace by giving a nod, a smile, or a hand gesture of peace).

CHILDREN’S SERMON

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (Please join in unison)

Gracious God, as we turn to your Word for us, may the Spirit of God rest upon us. Help us to be steadfast in our hearing, in our speaking, in our believing, and in our living. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 8:26-40

CHORAL ANTHEM: "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"

by R. Founds

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 14:3-9

SERMON: "WHAT are you doing?!"

Reverend Dr. Ericka Parkinson Kilbourne

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

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from the Scots Confession) (Please join in unison)

We confess and acknowledge one only God, to whom only we must cleave, whom only we must serve, whom only we must worship, and in whom only we must put our trust; who is eternal, infinite, unmeasurable, incomprehensible, omnipotent, invisible: one in substance, and yet distinct in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

*HYMN #376 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" (The Presbyterian hymnal-Blue)

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns - please see usher for green pew cards

EXPRESSING OUR GRATITUDE IN OUR OFFERING

OFFERTORY: "There is a Balm in Gilead"

Spiritual, arr. by Victor Labenske

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 & DEDICATION

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH (Announcements)

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Alice Yacullo

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, ending with Our Lord's Prayer (together, using "debts")

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

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE: "The Strife Is O'er"

E. Broughton

SHARE OUR PRAYERS WITH:

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

- Dave Dougherty, Johanna Miller, Jonathan Patterson, Barb Reichert, Shirley Ryan, Mary Steider 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 the Cooke family.

SERVING TODAY

Ministers	All Members of the Congregation
Preacher	Reverend Dr. Ericka Parkinson Kilbourne
Organist	Carol Garrett
Choir Director	Jennifer Keeley
Liturgist	Laura Kittle
Youth Liturgist	TBA
Greeter(s)	Margo Shank
Usher	Marilyn Cook
Video & Sound Crew	Rick Blank and Antoinette Jackson

MEMORIALS/DONATION

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

2024 Per Capita

The 2024 Per Capita amount is \$43.62 per member.
If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

April Birthdays Have a Very Happy Day

April 02 John Gesse
April 04 Laura Meyer
April 08 Judy Spiece
April 09 Christian McDaniel
April 10 Renee Jackson
April 12 Mark Smith
April 13 James Willis
April 15 Kaity Mosher
April 16 Brock Kohler
April 18 Sophia Ortiz-Burgos



April 19 Brandon DeLeon
April 20 Robert Angelo
April 22 Connie McKeague
April 24 Frank Labaj
April 24 Susan Seibert
April 25 Vernon Towle, Jr
April 26 Regan Russel
May 01 Beth Towle
May 03 Nancy Arnold

CHURCH CHAT

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



- ✚ April 21 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed (Cross Borders 3)
- ✚ April 21 Sunday 9 a.m. Choir rehearsal
- ✚ April 21 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship – Choir
- ✚ April 21 Sunday 1:00 p.m. MCCMF
- ✚ April 22 Monday Pastor off
- ✚ April 23 Tuesday Office will be close about 10 a.m. for about an hour
- ✚ April 24 Wednesday 10 a.m. MOPS in Edith Boyd Lounge
- ✚ April 24 Wednesday 11 a.m. office will close for an Administrative Professionals Day luncheon
- ✚ April 25 Thursday 11 a.m. Urban Monks
- ✚ April 26 Friday Office closed Pastor available by appointment
- ✚ April 27 Saturday 9:30 a.m. Book study in the library
- ✚ April 27 Saturday 10 a.m. Green Clean
- ✚ April 27 Saturday 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
- ✚ April 28 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed (Cross Borders 4)
- ✚ April 28 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship-Noisy Offering
- ✚ April 29 Monday Pastor Off
- ✚ May 1 Wednesday 4:30 pm Building & Grounds meeting
- ✚ May 2 Thursday 11 am Urban Monks
- ✚ May 2 Thursday 12:30 pm PEO in Edith Boyd Lounge
- ✚ May 2 Thursday 530 pm Girl Scouts
- ✚ May 3 Friday Office closed Pastor available by appointment
- ✚ May 3 Friday 12pm WAM meeting
- ✚ May 3 Friday 6 pm PFLAG Silent Auction
- ✚ May 4 Saturday 9:30 am Mission Meeting in the library
- ✚ May 4 Saturday 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
- ✚ May 5 Sunday 9 am Adult Ed (Worship God 1)
- ✚ May 5 Sunday 10 am Worship – Communion Sunday
- ✚ May 5 Sunday Cinco de Mayo

REMINDER CHOIR SCHEDULE Spring ~ 2024

- 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

Michigan City/First Presbyterian Church Green Clean



The Outreach Committee is once again going to participate in the Michigan City Green Clean (organized several years ago by Nora Ryska and our own Mike Kilbourne.) We will target our church's neighborhood in this great spring-cleaning project.

So put on your blue Presbyterian shirt and meet us in the Church parking lot on Saturday morning, April 27 at 10. We'll work for an hour. Bring your work gloves, grabber, and big bucket. We have some grabbers and garbage bags along with a fortification of coffee, juice, and donut holes to get everyone off to a good start.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CLERK OF SESSION

Dear Congregation Members,

Our elders met on 3/17/24 for our regular stated session meeting.

Here are some of the highlights of the meeting:

* The Deacons reported that Mary Jo McDonald will be resigning her position as Moderator of the Deacons as she intends to move out of state. She will continue to participate in the Deacon's activities until she moves. We will all miss Mary Jo as she has been a key figure in the Deacon's and our church community.

*Session approved the application for a mission grant to secure a collaborative workshop with LaPorte Presbyterian church which will provide education and instruction for clergy, leaders, and families in our community and congregation.

*Session approved a motion made to pledge our congregation to an Earth Care program. We will be notifying the congregation in the near future what this entails.

*Outreach made a motion and it was approved to hang the 'You are Loved' flag during the months of June through August.

*Outreach announced the Green Clean Day will be April 27th.

*Building and Grounds received approval from the session to allow the PFLAG organization to use the Edith Boyd Lounge on May 3 for a silent auction. (6-9pm)

*Building and Grounds will hold our yearly clean up on May 11th.

Thank you as always for your prayers and support for our session elders.

Blessings,

Laura Kittle

Clerk of Session

Outreach Needs

Shepherding birthday cards: Our shepherding group is in need of birthday cards for men and children. If you have extras to donate please give them to Peggy McAnally or the Sunday usher.

Tissue: We are almost out of individual tissue packets. If you would like to contribute a package please give them to the Sunday usher or any member of the Outreach committee-Michele, Judy, Marilyn, or Peggy.

Thank you for your help.

PW BIRTHDAY OFFERING

PW needs your support to fund projects. We ask that you give as you have been blessed, generously, and as led by the Holy Spirit. Please place your offering in the yellow envelope at church during the month of April, 2024.

Another of this year's Birthday Offering recipients is the Shawnee Presbyterian Church in Louisville, Kentucky for \$150,000. The church is reopening and renovating their kitchen, called Cafe Gingko, to provide free dine-in meals for single mothers and children.

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.

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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 Saturday of each month. If you have questions feel free to contact Jennifer Casper at 219-575-0135.

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.



ELEVATE OUR WELCOME

CURRENT STATUS OF OUR ELEVATOR FUND CAMPAIGN

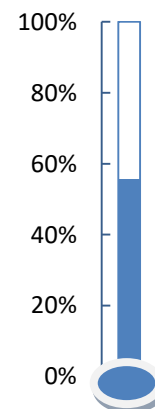
TARGET: \$150,000.00 (100%)

CONGREGATION GIFTS ACHIEVED \$39,177.00 (25.7%)

GRANT \$50,000.00 (33.3%)

ACHIEVED WITH GRANT \$89,177.00 (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!



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For prayer requests
Contact Brian Spiece at
jspiece@hotmail.com

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YouTube - First Presbyterian Church Michigan City
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WiFi password: 1holyGod!

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