

First Presbyterian Church

Ninth at Washington, Michigan City, Indiana

November 17, 2024

10:00 A.M.



THE WORSHIP OF OUR LORD

† † †

** Indicates those who are able, please stand*

† † †

WE GATHER BEFORE GOD
† WELCOME – WORSHIP – CELEBRATE – SERVE †

PRELUDE: “Festival Toccata”

R. Barnett

WELCOME

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP: “Give Thanks”

H. Smith

*CALL TO WORSHIP: (Please join in unison)

One: Sometimes we hear the story.

All: *Sometimes we tell it. Sometimes we ignore it altogether.*

One: Sometimes we’re the ones who offer the welcome.

All: *Sometimes we’re the ones who return.*

One: Sometimes we’re somewhere in between.

All: *Sometimes we’re lost, Sometimes we’re found.*

One: Sometimes we’re a little bit of both.

All: *But all the time, God is writing the story.*

One: All the time, God is calling us home. All the time, God waits for us, ready to celebrate.

All: *Come, let us worship God!*

*HYMN #473 “For the Beauty of the Earth” (The Presbyterian Hymnal)

WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD’S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION (Spoken by liturgist) (Hebrews 4:15-16)

The Scriptures tell us, “For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.” Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Please join in unison)

Almighty God, we acknowledge and confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; we have not loved you with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. Deepen within us our sorrow for the wrong we have done, and the good we have left undone.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Pastor: The psalmist assures us, “As far as the east is from the west, so far God removes our transgressions from us.” In the name of Jesus Christ, I declare to you, our sins are forgiven.

All: *Thanks be to God!*

*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).

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Children's Sermon

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (Please join in unison)

We wait for you, Lord, our souls wait for you, and in your Word we hope. Open our hearts and minds to hear your Word read and proclaimed, that we may have hope and believe in the good news. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 103

ANTHEM: "We Gather Together"

E. Kremser

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 15:11-24

SERMON: "Where's the Party?"

Jennifer Casper, Guest Speaker

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

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Phil. 2:5-11) (Please join in unison)

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

*Hymn #267 "All Things Bright and Beautiful" (The Presbyterian Hymnal)

EXPRESSING OUR GRATITUDE IN OUR OFFERING

OFFERTORY: "Offertory on 'Dundee'"

F. Ritter

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

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

OR [Scan here:](#)



First time visitors-we would love to connect with you.

Please text "welcome" to 219-300-9867 and share your contact information with us.

*Doxology Song #592

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH (Announcements)

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

Pastor: God saw you afar off this morning and *ran* to greet you. Go, then, in peace, and bring God's extravagant, joyful love to a weary world - putting grace into action! And may God the Creator, God the Redeemer, and God the Sustainer be with you as you go. Amen.

*POSTLUDE: "The Exultant Trumpet"

L. Smith

SHARE OUR PRAYERS WITH:

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

- Dave Dougherty, Johanna Miller, Barb Reichert, Mary Steider and Donna Wiseman for health needs.
- Brock Vinson and family as they grieve the loss of Barb.
- Mark Smith and family as they grieve the loss of Mark's Aunt Linda.
- 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 **WHITE FLOWER** is in memory of Barbara Ellen Vinson (Shipley) who passed away on November 13, 2024

The CHANCEL FLOWERS are given to the glory of God by Mary Barr in memory of her husband, Jim and grandson, Zander Barr.

SERVING TODAY

Ministers
Guest Speaker
Organist
Liturgist
Youth Liturgist
Greeter(s)
Usher
Video & Sound Crew

All Members of the Congregation
Jennifer Casper
Carol Garrett
Walt Barbknecht
Jerry Kilbourne
Andy and Janice Casper
Anne Lute
Stan Holdcraft, Rylie Thornton
and Antoinette Jackson

Have a Very Happy Day!

Nov 02 Elizabeth Sullivan
Nov 07 Shirley Bowman
Nov 10 Robert McGuire
Nov 10 Donna Ogle
Nov 10 Kirk Rogers
Nov 11 Dave Dougherty
Nov 12 Brock Vinson



Nov 13 Natt Kilbourne
Nov 20 Elizabeth Gesse
Nov 20 Haley Gesse
Nov 20 Laura Kittle
Nov 20 Ryan Towle
Nov 21 MacKinley Mosher
Nov 27 Erin McGuire



MEMORIALS/DONATION

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



CHURCH CHAT

(Any or all information is subject to change without notification)



ELEVATOR OUT OF SERVICE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

- Nov 17 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed - Christian Nationalism **CANCELLED**
- Nov 17 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service (Guest Preacher)
- Nov 17 Sunday Third Sunday after worship
- Nov 18 Monday **PASTOR OFF Until November 24th**
- Nov 19 6:30 p.m. Elizabeth Circle meeting
- Nov 12 Tuesday 6 p.m. Finance meeting in the library
- Nov 20 Wednesday 4 p.m. Deacon's meeting in the library
- Nov 20 Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Session meeting **CANCELLED UNTIL DEC 4TH**
- Nov 21 Thursday 5:30 p.m. PEO BR chapter in the Edith Boyd Lounge
- Nov 21 Thursday 5:30 p.m. Girl Scouts in the undercroft
- Nov 22 Friday **OFFICE CLOSED PASTOR OFF**
- Nov 23 Saturday 9:30 a.m. Faith Formation Bible Study
- Nov 23 Saturday 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
- Nov 23 Saturday 12:30-2:30 p.m. Gift basket distribution
- Nov 24 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed - Christian Nationalism
- Nov 24 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service - Noisy Offering
- Nov 25 Monday **PASTOR OFF**
- Nov 25 Monday 25th Tuesday 26th and Wednesday 27th volunteer in the office from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. (Diane is on vacation)
- Nov 28 Thursday Office Closed Thanksgiving Day
- Nov 29 Friday Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday Pastor Off
- Nov 30 Saturday 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
- Dec 02 Monday **PASTOR OFF and OFFICE CLOSED**
- Dec 03 Tuesday Office open regular hours

ELEVATOR UPDATE

Unfortunately, we still cannot use the elevator until further notice. We are sorry for any inconvenience.
Thank you. Mark Smith, Building & Grounds Chair.

OFFICE HOURS

Diane, Administrative Assistant, will be on vacation November 25th, 26th and 27th. There will be a volunteer in the office on those days answering phones and helping walk-ins from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.
The office will be closed on November 28th, 29th and December 2nd for Thanksgiving holiday. Normal hours will begin again on December 3rd.

The bulletins through December 1st will all be finished and printed prior to my vacation. If you would like something in any of the bulletins, the deadline to furnish that information is as follows:

November 24th and December 1st will be November 20th
Deadline for December's calendar will be November 20th.
Thank you and have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving.



SAVE THE DATE

Stewardship Sunday, November 24

ELEVATOR BRICK FUNDRAISER

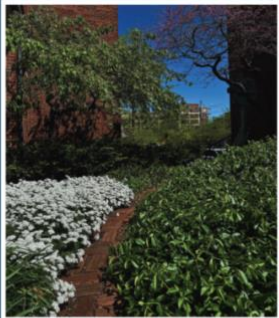
For over fifty years, our heritage garden has been a resurrection symbol of new life and of welcome, as each spring its buds peek up from the ground, even after the harshest of winters. In all seasons, it is the place where our visitors enter our building for the first time.

The garden's brick path will soon represent the confident hope that, with a refurbished elevator, we will continue to tell the resurrection story to ALL. Each contribution to the brick fundraiser will be directed to our elevator fund. The cost is \$100.00 per brick. With this link, you are invited to enter the words you would like to be written on your brick. You may choose to make your payment online, or you can bring or send your check to 121 W 9th Street Michigan City, IN 46360 .

<https://form.jotform.com/241926284623157>

The First Presbyterian Church
of Michigan City is raising funds to pay for the update and repair of our elevator. Not only is the elevator essential to our church but also essential for many community programs. By purchasing a \$100 brick on the Gratitude Pathway in the Heritage Garden you will not only have a permanent memory of a loved one or event you will be helping fund a necessary element to our church

Some ideas for your commemorative brick inscription are:



- Your family name.
- An inspirational message.
- Honoring a special family member or fellow church member.
- Honoring a relative that is with God.
- Your favorite Bible passage.
- A special event in your life.

Be one of the first to show your commitment and create a lasting memory by filling out the form below or contacting us at (219)879-4501 | dyettaw@fpcmicity.org



ELEVATE OUR WELCOME

CURRENT STATUS OF OUR ELEVATOR FUND CAMPAIGN

TARGET: \$150,000.00 (100%)

CONGREGATION GIFTS ACHIEVED \$59,752.00 (39.7%)

GRANT \$50,000.00 (33.3%)

ACHIEVED WITH GRANT \$109,752.00 (73%)

The elevator work is coming to an end and payments will need to be made.

Remember, this project will come in around \$150,000. So if you haven't fulfilled your pledge, or would like to give to this project, please turn in your gifts to the office soon and note that they are for the elevator project.

Thank you so much!



Dear Members and Friends,

Under the leadership of Deb Langley, our congregation will be distributing food boxes to families in Michigan City this holiday season. We aim to serve up to 30 households on Saturday, November 23.

On distribution day, the event will run from 12:30 PM to around 2:30 PM in the Undercroft. We have volunteer opportunities available, including staffing the check-in/out table, coordinating the food boxes, and providing curbside assistance. If you are interested in participating in this annual mission project, please contact Deb for more details and instructions. Additionally, monetary donations to the "Thanksgiving Baskets Fund" are always welcomed.

In Christ,

Jose Soto | Mission Committee chair



FOOD SUPPLY ITEM OF THE MONTH

+++ Plastic Spoons +++

Plastic spoon donations are collected on the small table near the choir robe and coat racks in the Narthex area. Monetary donations are always welcome to the Soup Kitchen Fund. *Thank you for your generous support and prayers.*



THIRD SUNDAY PROGRAM

Our next community speaker is Katrina Langford. She is executive director of NewDay Foundation in LaPorte County. NewDay is an organization that provides assistance to local patients living with cancer. We invite you to join us as we hear and learn more on Sunday, November 17 following worship. Coffee hour will be provided

MESSIAH CONCERT

This year all activities will be at St. Mary, Immaculate Conception located at 10th & Buffalo Streets, Michigan City, Indiana on December 14th and December 15th. There is a flyer on the bulletin board with more information. You can also visit their website at MCMessiah.org



RECYCLING INITIATIVE

As part of our Earth Care Congregation certification standards, we will have recycling bins by the Edith Boyd Lounge. You can bring items from home—such as medication containers or batteries—to recycle.

CHANCEL FLOWERS

Currently we have the following dates open:

, December 1 and December 8.

If you are interested, please contact the office. The cost is \$35.00 per date

2024 Per Capita

As we all know time is flying by and 2024 is nearing the end. If you have not paid your 2024 Per Capita, there is still time. The amount is \$43.62 per person. If you have any questions, please contact the office. Thank you.

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

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WiFi password: 1holyGod!

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