

First Presbyterian Church

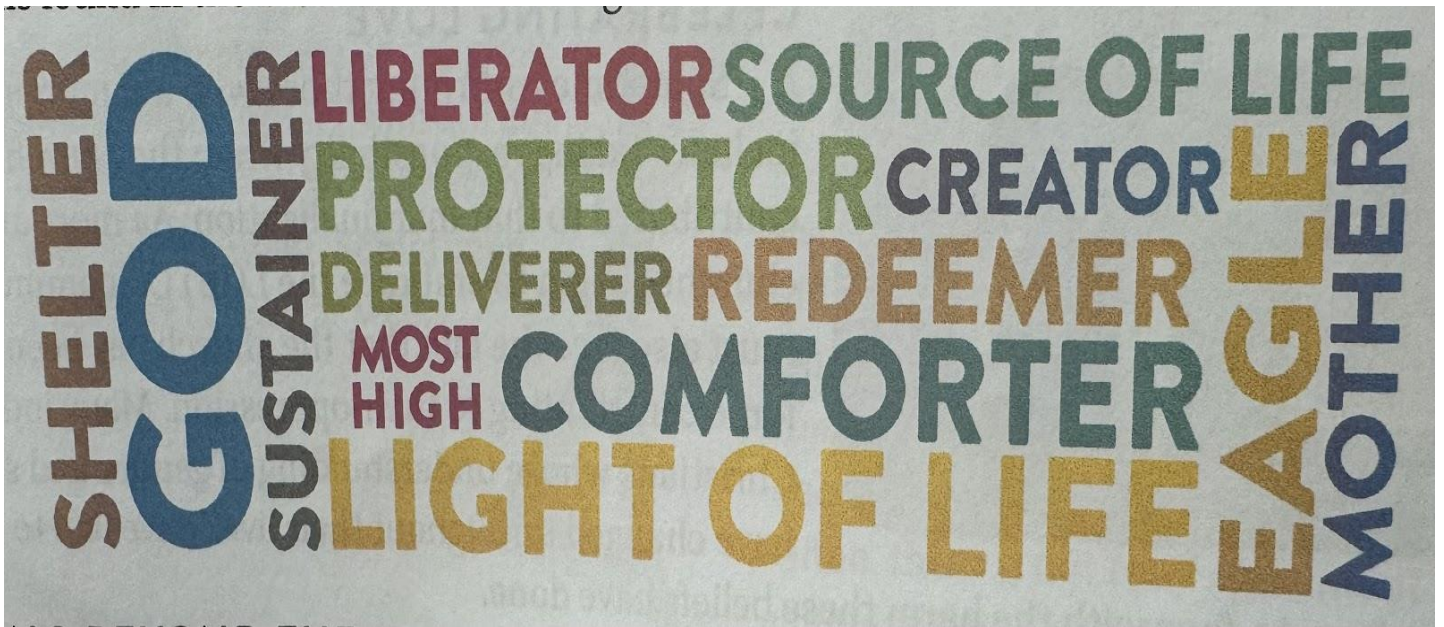
Ninth at Washington, Michigan City, Indiana

May 4, 2025

10:00 A.M.

Communion Sunday

3rd Sunday of Easter



THE WORSHIP OF OUR LORD

† † †

** Indicates those who are able, please stand*

† † †

WE GATHER BEFORE GOD

† WELCOME – WORSHIP – CELEBRATE – SERVE †

PRELUDE: “Prelude on ‘Llanfair’”

L. Smith

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP: (from Psalm 55, as presented by the Presbyterian Women Horizons Magazine)

One: Come into the land of God.

All: *We come seeking a land of love*

One: Live as the people of Christ.

All: *We gather to grow as a community of love.*

One: Follow in the ways of our Lord.

All: *We move forward on the path of love.*

One: Come, young and old, friend and stranger, for all are welcome here.

All: *We come to live and grow in the love of Christ Jesus. Praise God for this wonderful gift!!*

*HYMN #2236 “Gather Us In” (Sing the Faith Hymnal)

WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD’S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION (Spoken by liturgist)

We live fractured lives, and God seeks not to punish us for those fault and fault lines, but to reconcile and restore us. Trusting in God’s grace and mercy let us then make our confession together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Please join in unison)

God, our Deliverer, we confess that we are too reluctant to speak and to live according to your truth. We grow comfortable with the way things are, passively condoning injustice. We see ourselves as “insiders,” excluding those we consider “outsiders.” We find it easier to pluck up and pull down, to destroy and overthrow, than to build and to plant. Forgive us, O God, for being timid disciples. Empty us of fear and shame, and fill us with love that is humble and patient and kind. We pray this in the name of the One who humbled himself, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

SILENCE IS KEPT

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Pastor: Since we were buried with Christ in these waters, we are raised to new life with him. The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting! I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: *Thanks be to God!*

PRESENTATION OF WOMAN OF THE YEAR

*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

One: Beneath the mantle of peace, Jesus, the bread of life, provides a bounty of fellowship, care, and connection. May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

One: Take a moment to greet others with the peace of Christ, which inspires us to care for the needs of our community.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Children's Sermon - Children collected \$74.58 for last week's Noisy Offering. 😊

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (Please join in unison)

Almighty God, in you are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Open our eyes that we may see the wonders of your Word; and give us grace that we may clearly understand and freely choose the way of your wisdom; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

John 1:1-5, 14

SECOND LESSON

Genesis 1, selected verses

SERMON: "Honor God's Diversity"

Rev. Ericka Kilbourne

Children (K-5) are excused for Sunday school. Please join Ms. Melanie and Miss. Lauren in the lobby to walk up together as a group. Ages 6-12, please remain in the Sanctuary for Communion.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: Apostles' Creed (Please join in unison)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the everlasting life. Amen.

EXPRESSING OUR GRATITUDE IN OUR OFFERING

OFFERTORY: "Easter Carol"

S. Brandon

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

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Siblings in Christ, the table is set for you. God so loved the whole world that God sent Jesus to feed us all. God freely gives us love and life so we might freely give love and life to others. If you are hungry, tired, weary, or worn, there is space for you here. Come, the bread of life and the cup of blessing await you.

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: "The Bread and the Wine Are Here"

D. Damn

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.

*HYMN: #514 "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ" (pew hymnal)

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

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION:

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

*POSTLUDE: "Festive March"

G. Blake

SHARE OUR PRAYERS WITH:

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

- Michele Bartels, Don Bowman, Dave Dougherty, Sandy Dougherty, Levon McEwan, Johanna Miller, Barb Reichert, 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 Sue Ransom in honor of all May birthdays.

SERVING TODAY

Ministers
Preacher
Organist
Liturgist
Greeter(s)
Usher
Video and Sound Team

All Members of the Congregation
Reverend Dr. Ericka Parkinson Kilbourne
Carol Garrett
Jeanette Tyrrell
Janice Casper
Ree Labaj
Stan Holdcraft, Rylie Thornton
and Antoinette Jackson



MEMORIALS/DONATION

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



2025 PER CAPITA

The per capita for 2025 is **\$44.66 per person**
The breakdown is as follows: Synod of Lincoln Trails: \$3.81 General Assembly: \$10.84
Wabash Valley: \$30.01



Wishing you Very Happy Day!

May 01	Elizabeth Towle
May 01	Jennifer Casper
May 02	Deborah Teets
May 06	Lois Miley
May 06	Susan Wiseman
May 07	Janiece Barbknecht
May 09	Dina Gasaway
May 11	Doug Baunach

May Birthdays



May 15	Sue Ransom
May 16	Brian Spiece
May 18	Cindy Gesse
May 22	Margo Shank
May 23	Sarah Blank
May 31	Damon Gasaway
May 31	Leonard Griswold

SAVE THE DATE





- ❖ May 04 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed
- ❖ May 04 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service Communion Sunday
- ❖ May 04 Sunday Woman of the Year Presentation
- ❖ May 05 Monday **PASTOR OFF** (Cinco de Mayo)
- ❖ May 06 Tuesday 2 p.m. Personnel meeting
- ❖ May 06 Tuesday 6 p.m. Finance meeting
- ❖ May 07 Wednesday 10:30 a.m. Bible study
- ❖ May 07 Wednesday 4:30 a.m. B&G meeting
- ❖ May 07 Wednesday 7:30 p.m. Faith Formation meeting
- ❖ May 09 Friday Office Closed **Pastor appointment only**
- ❖ May 10 Saturday 9:30 a.m. Formation Bible Study in the library
- ❖ May 10 Saturday 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
- ❖ May 11 Sunday Mother's Day
- ❖ May 11 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed
- ❖ May 11 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service
- ❖ May 12 Monday **PASTOR OFF**
- ❖ May 14 Wednesday 10 a.m. Outreach meeting
- ❖ May 14 Wednesday 10:30 a.m. Bible study
- ❖ May 14 Wednesday 12 p.m. Wednesday Circle meeting
- ❖ May 15 Thursday 4:30 p.m. Mission meeting (check with Jose Soto)
- ❖ May 15 Thursday 5:30 p.m. Girl Scouts meeting
- ❖ May 16 Friday Office Closed **Pastor appointment only**
- ❖ May 17 Saturday 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
- ❖ May 17 Saturday United Methodist Church Memorial Service
- ❖ May 18 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed
- ❖ May 18 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service Communion Sunday
- ❖ May 18 Sunday after worship Elevator Brick Dedication
- ❖ May 18 Sunday 3rd Sunday program postponed until further notice
- ❖ May 19 Monday **PASTOR OFF**
- ❖ May 20 Tuesday 10 a.m. 3B (resumes)
- ❖ May 20 Tuesday 6:30 p.m. Elizabeth Circle meeting
- ❖ May 21 Wednesday 10:30 a.m. Bible study
- ❖ May 21 Wednesday 4 p.m. Deacons meeting
- ❖ May 21 Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Session meeting
- ❖ May 22 Thursday 10 a.m. 3B
- ❖ May 23 Friday Office Closed **Pastor appointment only**
- ❖ May 24 Saturday 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
- ❖ May 25 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed
- ❖ May 25 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service NOISY OFFERING
- ❖ May 25 Sunday After Worship 50 Year Membership Celebration
- ❖ May 25 Sunday After Worship Goodbye Pastor Ericka
- ❖ May 26 Monday **MEMORIAL DAY OFFICE CLOSED PASTOR OFF**
- ❖ May 27 Tuesday 10 a.m. 3B
- ❖ May 28 Wednesday 10:30 a.m. Bible study
- ❖ May 29 Thursday 10 a.m. 3B
- ❖ May 29 Thursday 5:30 p.m. Girl Scouts meeting
- ❖ May 30 Friday Office Closed **Pastor appointment only LAST day until after Sabbatical**
- ❖ May 31 Saturday 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen

CHURCH CHAT

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

COFFEE HOUR SIGN-UP

Our 2025 Coffee Hour sign-up chart is posted on the Edith Boyd Lounge door, ready for you along with your family, friends, or committee to pick a date to sponsor coffee hour. Remember, it doesn't have to be extravagant. Coffee, a drink for the kids, and a treat is all that's needed. Most of the year is covered by the

Women's Circles, Deacons, and the Mission Committee but every other third Sunday and the fifth Sundays need volunteers. It would be really great if one group would volunteer for all the 5th Sundays, there are 4. If you are willing to do this, see Jeanette Tyrrell. In the meantime please consider serving your fellow congregants by signing up for a coffee hour Sunday.

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS

If you are interested, as of now, we have open dates on June 8, June 15, June 29, July 6, July 20, July 27, August 3, August 17, August 24, August 31, October 5, October 19, October 26, November 9 and November 30. If you are interested in any of these dates, please contact the office. The cost is \$35.00. Thank you.

GRIEF GROUP

“For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven: A time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill and a time to heal; a time to break down and a time to build up; a time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance,” (Ecclesiastes 3:1-4)

This spring, Pastor Ericka is hosting a Grief Group, which will meet twice a month on Sundays, after worship. Whether your grief is new or has been for many years; whether you are grieving a loved one or a situation, our God offers compassion through scripture, prayer, and through conversation with others. Copies of the “Grieving Change Loss” Lenten devotional are available in the Narthex for your personal use or for use in a group. If you would like to join and attend, please speak with Janice Casper, Brock Vinson, or Pastor Ericka.



ELEVATOR FUND CAMPAIGN

As of April 28th the numbers are:

- ✚ We anticipate the final cost of the project is going to come in around \$142,000 (about 8K under the original budget).
 - ✚ We have raised \$136,809 (includes a \$50K grant).
- In order to avoid dipping into our savings, we are still looking to raise an additional \$5,191.

Please continue to donate to the elevator fund, and/or buy a brick or two for our heritage garden. Bricks are \$100.00 each and can be purchased via this link. You can also pick up a paper form at the display by the garden door or contact Diane for one. Thank you for your generosity!

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



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

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

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