

First Presbyterian Church

Ninth at Washington, Michigan City, Indiana

September 27, 2026

10:00 A.M. (Sanctuary)

18th Sunday after Pentecost



THE WORSHIP OF OUR LORD

† † †

** Indicates those who are able, please stand*

† † †

WE GATHER BEFORE GOD

† WELCOME – WORSHIP – CELEBRATE – SERVE †

PRELUDE: “Simple Gifts”

Harris/Iderstine

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP: (Please join in unison)

One: Why do you come to this place?

All: *We seek the path of righteousness and truth.*

One: Do you come ready to hear and learn, giving attention to God’s Word?

All: *We come with open hearts and minds seeking to learn from the one whose authority is founded on God’s love.*

One: Friends, lend your ears and open your hearts because this is God’s house, built by love and sustained by hope, where God seeks to align our work and witness.

*HYMN #138 “Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!” (pew hymnal)

WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD’S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION: (Spoken by liturgist)

What burdens your spirit? What regret or hurt do you carry today? Together, let us confess that which does not give us life and take up, instead, the love and grace of God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (Please join in unison)

Eternal God, we come before you aware that you know the truth of our hearts before we can utter a word. You know when our good intentions exceed our capacity for gospel living. You know when we embrace the good news of liberation with our lips but don’t change our actions. We imprison ourselves with the assumption that you will judge us as mercilessly as we often judge ourselves and one another. Forgive our shortcomings and the times we have failed to live the words we say. Restore us in the confidence of people who have heard good news and remind us that even when we arrive late, there is still work to be done. Amen.

SILENCE IS KEPT

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

PASTOR: Friends, believe this good news, in Christ we are new creations. We are forgiven; we are set free; and we are made ready to live the living Word.

*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

Pastor: 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.

All: *And also with you!*

(Worshippers are invited to turn to their neighbors, offer the greeting “The peace of Christ be with you”, and one may respond with the words, “And also with you.” Worshippers may also share a handshake, hug or other expression of Christ’s peace.)

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON – NOISY OFFERING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION: (please join in unison)

God of life and light, illumine our hearts and spirits and attune us to the reading and hearing of your word. May our hearing be discerning and may this proclamation be faithful and, in all things, may we approach your word with joy and humility. Amen.

FIRST LESSON:

Psalms 25: 1-9

SPECIAL MUSIC; "Close Every Door"

Andrew Lloyd Weber
Soloist: Natt Kilbourne

SECOND LESSON:

Philippians 2:1-13

SERMON "Make My Joy Complete"

Rev. Ericka Kilbourne

Children (K-5) are excused for Sunday school. Please join Ms. Michele and Ms. Peggy in the lobby to walk up together as a group. Youth (grades 6-12) please join Ms. Jennifer.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: (adapted from A Declaration of Faith) please join in unison

Jesus' involvement in the human condition is God's involvement. His compassion for all kinds of people is God's compassion. His demand for justice, truth, and faithfulness is God's demand. His willingness to suffer rejection is God's willingness. Jesus' love for the very people who reject him is God's love. We acknowledge that Christ chooses to be known in the world through this community of ordinary people; therefore we dare not despise or abandon the church. Christ is the head of the church; therefore we are responsible to Christ when we make policy and decisions in the church. Christ is the foundation of the church, therefore it will not fall despite our weakness. We are confident that the Lord of the church will judge and defeat our sinful intentions and actions, help us in our weakness and blindness, and use the church to accomplish his purposes. Throughout its history the church has struggled to be faithful to God in political situations: under persecution, or as an established arm of the state, or in separation from it. God rules over both political and religious institutions. We must confuse neither with the kingdom of God. We must not equate the Christian faith with any nation's way of life or with opposition to the ideologies of other nations. The church must be free to speak to civil authorities, neither claiming expert knowledge it does not have, nor remaining silent when God's Word is clear. We testify God is at work here and now when people obey Christ's commission to witness to him and make disciples of all nations, when they spread the good news by their words and embody it in their lives.

EXPRESSING OUR GRATITUDE IN OUR OFFERING

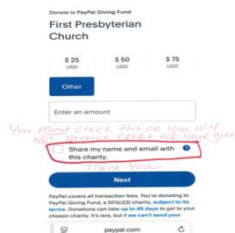
OFFERTORY: "Children of the Heavenly Father"

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:



When giving on PayPal, please be sure to **SHARE** your name and email address so we can give proper credit for the gift!!

*Doxology Song #592

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Minute for Mission

Sue Ransom, Mission Committee

PASTORAL PRAYER

Lord's Prayer (together, using "debts")

*HYMN: #467 "How Great Thou Art" (pew Hymnal)

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

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE: "Celebration"

J. Mansfield

SHARE OUR PRAYERS WITH:

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

- Gerald Anderson, Sandy Dougherty, Stan Holdcraft, Johanna Miller, Barb Reichert, Margo Shank, Mary Steider and Jerry Yacullo 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 in memory of Jim Williams for his heavenly birthday from his children, Kash and KC.

SERVING TODAY

Ministers

Preacher

Organist

Liturgist

Greeter(s)

Ushers

Video and Sound Team

All Members of the Congregation

Rev. Ericka Kilbourne

Carol Garrett

Kash Williams

Michele Bartels

Deb Langley

Dave Hack and Antoinette Jackson

Wishing you Very Happy Day!

Sept 01 Alice Yacullo
Sept 02 Elizabeth Choate
Sept 08 Rev. Bud Ogle
Sept 10 Michael Hoffman
Sept 13 David Wilson
Sept 14 Jeffrey Thorne
Sept 15 Sandy Dougherty
Sept 16 Grant Durnell
Sept 16 David Miller
Sept 17 Annabelle Kilbourne
Sept 17 Jerry Kilbourne
Sept 17 Maxine Schwartz
Sept 21 Nora Mosher



Sept 24 Jacob Luncsford
Sept 26 F. Scott Winfield
Sept 28 Marilyn Cook
Oct 02 Adeline Russell
Oct 04 Jenilee Haynes Peterson
Oct 07 Elizabeth Kelly
Oct 10 Carolyn Kelly
Oct 17 Michele McGuire
Oct 18 Darold Gieser, Jr
Oct 22 Skyler Steele
Oct 30 Beth Vaughn
Oct 30 Donna Williams

MEMORIALS/DONATION

No donations were received this week.
Thank you for your kindness.



**EVENTS, DATES AND/OR TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. THIS LIST WILL BE UPDATED WEEKLY
AS OF TODAY, THIS IS THE MOST RECENT INFORMATION AVAILABLE**

- ❖ Sept 27 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed Class with Pastor Ericka
- ❖ Sept 27 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service with Pastor Ericka NOISY OFFERING
- ❖ Sept 27 Sunday after the sermon, Sunday school
- ❖ Sept 28 Monday Pastor Off
- ❖ Sept 29 Tuesday 10 a.m. 3B



- ❖ Oct 01 Thursday 10 a.m. 3B
- ❖ Oct 01 Thursday 12:30 – 3:00 p.m. PEO meeting in the Edith Boyd Lounge
- ❖ Oct 01 Thursday 5:30 p.m. PFLAG meeting
- ❖ Oct 02 Friday Office closed Pastor by appointment
- ❖ Oct 03 Saturday 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
- ❖ Oct 03 Saturday 1-3 p.m. Centerstage in the undercroft
- ❖ Oct 04 Sunday World Communion Sunday
- ❖ Oct 04 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed Class with Pastor Ericka
- ❖ Oct 04 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service with Pastor Ericka Communion Sunday
- ❖ Oct 04 Sunday after the sermon, Sunday school
- ❖ Oct 05 Monday Pastor Off
- ❖ Oct 06 Tuesday 10 a.m. 3B
- ❖ Oct 06 Tuesday 6:30 p.m. Finance zoom meeting
- ❖ Oct 07 Wednesday 4:30 p.m. Building & Grounds meeting
- ❖ Oct 08 Thursday 10 a.m. 3B
- ❖ Oct 09 Friday Office closed Pastor by appointment
- ❖ Oct 10 Saturday 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
- ❖ Oct 11 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed Class with Pastor Ericka
- ❖ Oct 11 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service with Pastor Ericka Communion Sunday
- ❖ Oct 11 Sunday Pastor Appreciation Sunday
- ❖ Oct 11 Sunday after the sermon, Sunday school
- ❖ Oct 12 Monday Pastor Off
- ❖ Oct 12 Monday Columbus Day, Indigenous People's day and Canadian Thanksgiving
- ❖ Oct 13 Tuesday 10 a.m. 3B
- ❖ Oct 14 Wednesday Outreach moved to October 21
- ❖ Oct 15 Thursday 10 a.m. 3B
- ❖ Oct 16 Friday Office closed Pastor by appointment
- ❖ Oct 17 Saturday 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
- ❖ Oct 18 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed Class
- ❖ Oct 18 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service with guest preacher
- ❖ Oct 18 Sunday after the sermon, Sunday school
- ❖ Oct 19 Monday Pastor Off
- ❖ Oct 20 Tuesday 10 a.m. 3B
- ❖ Oct 21 Wednesday 10 a.m. Outreach meeting

- ❖ Oct 21 Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Session meeting
- ❖ Oct 22 Thursday 10 a.m. 3B
- ❖ Oct 23 Friday Office closed Pastor by appointment
- ❖ Oct 24 Saturday 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
- ❖ Oct 25 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed Class with Pastor Ericka
- ❖ Oct 25 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service with Pastor Ericka - Noisy Offering
- ❖ Oct 25 Sunday Reformation Sunday
- ❖ Oct 25 Sunday after the sermon, Sunday school
- ❖ Oct 26 Monday Pastor Off
- ❖ Oct 27 Tuesday NO 3B
- ❖ Oct 29 Thursday NO 3B
- ❖ Oct 30 Friday Office closed Pastor by appointment
- ❖ Oct 31 Saturday 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
- ❖ Oct 31 Reformation Day
- ❖ Oct 31 **HAPPY HALLOWEEN**

CHURCH CHAT

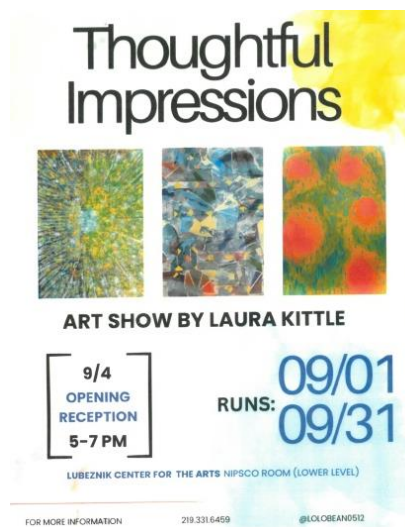
“Any or all information is subject to change without notification”

DOORS

There seems to be issues with the elevator and garden doors. Both are **not** latching when the doors close. PLEASE take the time to wait for the doors to close and then pull on the handle to confirm the doors latched and are truly locked. Twice this week the elevator door was locked but it did not latch. With that door you have to let it close on its own, pull on the handle and if it did NOT latch, push on the door which it should latch. Please make sure the doors are latched before walking away. When this happens our building is not secured. Thank you

ART SHOW BY LAURA KITTLE

Lubeznik Center for the Arts Sept 01-Sept 30
Show ends soon. Let's show Laura support of her work.



**ARE YOU A VETERAN
IN NEED?**



"It is time to take care of those who have taken care of us." ~ Dr. Fridh

October 24, 2026

1200 Andrew Avenue LaPorte, Indiana 46350

**FREE VETERAN DENTAL PROGRAM for
Veterans of La Porte County.**

What: Free dental screening includes an exam and x-rays. Veterans will be referred to a local dentist who will perform the necessary general dental procedures at no cost.

When: Saturday, October 24, 2026 From 8:00AM-1:00PM

Please call 219-326-7446 to schedule your appointment before October 14, 2026.

Where: Dr. Daniel Fridh's office located at
1200 Andrew Avenue LaPorte, Indiana 46350

Documents Needed: Veterans need to bring their discharge papers (DD214) and a current ID.



CHANCEL FLOWERS

If you would like to sponsor the Chancel Flowers, which goes to the Children in Need fund, we currently have the following date available October 4. If you have an "annual" date, that is reserved for you. The cost is \$35. Please contact the office to check if a date you are interested in is available.

Thank you. Diane Yettaw, Administrative Assistant

PW SUMMER PROJECT

We are collecting powder drink mix and powder coffee creamer for the shelter on 8th Street.

Place them on the table near the coat racks.

Thank you, Carol G and Debbie L

FEATURED ARTIST

A reminder that Teresina Pavel's art work is still on display in our Edith Boyd Lounge. Take a moment to check out her work.

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For prayer requests
Contact Jeanette Tyrrell at
219tyrrell@gmail.com

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WiFi password: 1 holyGod!

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