



First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, April 28, 2024



Seeking the Faith – Sharing the Spirit – Serving God's People

You are invited to join us on our journey of faith! We seek to serve God, to minister to our community, and to love one another. Help us in our quest to become an ever more inclusive church that welcomes all people from all backgrounds, abilities, and identities. Come and experience the love of God, the grace of Christ, and the communion of the Holy Spirit.



Order of Worship

Prayer in Preparation

Wonderous God, you make all things new in water and Word, feeding your people with love, joy, and peace. Lead us today and every day to the font of new beginnings. Teach us to love what you have commanded and to prune what does not nourish your creation, in the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Prelude

Fairest Lord Jesus

arr. Elmo Mercer

Gathering for Worship

Leader: In the Word of God, the good news gives light.

All: Let us worship God.

***Hymn #24**

God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens

***Call to Confession**

Leader: Trusting in the mercy of God,
let us confess to God and to one another our failure to love our neighbor.

***Prayer of Confession**

Leader: Let us pray...

All: God of mercy, we confess that we have not borne the fruit of the Spirit.

We have not loved others as you have loved us.

Forgive us, restore us that we may abide in your love and live out your mercy for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

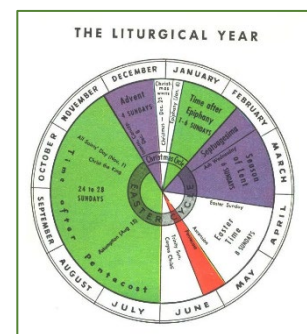
**Please stand as you are able*

*Giving of the Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you all!

All: And also with you!

***Response** #582 *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*



Children's Sermon

It's Calendar Time!

Prayer for Illumination

Reader: Come, Holy Spirit, that through your word we may be guided into the love of God for all the world. **Amen.**

Old Testament Lesson

Psalm 22:25-31 (OT p. 501)

From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him. The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD. May your hearts live forever! All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him. For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations. To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him. Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord, and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

Anthem

Make a Joyful Noise unto God

Colin Mawby

New Testament Lesson

2 Timothy 1:1-14 (NT p. 211)

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. For this reason, I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline. Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Proclamation of the Word

Guard the Good Treasure

*Affirmation of Faith

Brief Statement of Faith

Leader: Let us confess of faith together...

**All: We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.**

*Hymn #630

Fairest Lord Jesus

v. 1-2

Covenant Box

Invitation to the Offering

Leader: Let us be generous in our ministries of giving. We need not fear; we are forever held in God's hand. Let us give.

Offertory

Consolation

F. Burgmuller

*#606 Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

Leader: Through our offerings, O God, give your loving Spirit to a world in need of comfort. Make our many gifts one offering for the world; in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

Pastoral Prayer and Congregational Prayer

Joys and Concerns *(In the bulletin, on cards, or via Zoom Chat)*

Minister: We give thanks to God for these blessings.

All: Thanks be to God!

Minister: For all these people and all who are in need

All: Please hold your people near, O God!

Minister: God inspires us to pray, hears our prayers, and answers our prayers.

All: Alleluia! Amen!

Minister: Let us pray...

Silent Prayer

Minister: Let us pray together...

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.**

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

*Hymn #630

Fairest Lord Jesus

v. 3-4

Announcements

Blessing

Minister: As Jesus entered into human life, his life is still alive in you. The blessing of Almighty God be upon you today and always.

Postlude

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

arr. Melody Bober

Moment for Reflection:



Worship Assistants

Pam Holt- Greeter
Jane Swanson- Worship Assistant
Jiyeon Lee- Accompanist
Elwood Prest- AV Tech

Sarah Merideth- Head Usher
Cindy Buys- Scripture Reader
Choir- Anthem
Lily Vucinic- Zoom Greeter

APRIL 28, 2024

9:30 am Worship in the Sanctuary and via Zoom.
Coffee Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall (Hosts: Phyllis Beck and Brenda Myers)
2:00 pm Radio Show Rehearsal

MAY 1, 2024

10:00 am Bible Study with Bill and J. P.
3:30 pm Bible Study with Pastor Kerry via Zoom

MAY 5, 2024

9:30 am Worship in the Sanctuary and via Zoom.
Coffee Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall (Hosts: TBD)
6:15 pm Desserts and Fellowship
7:00 pm Radio Show *Brief Case of the Missing Briefcase*
in the Sanctuary and via Zoom

Pastor Kerry's Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 10:00 am-1:30 pm

If you would like a visit—or if you know someone who needs a visit—
please let Pastor Kerry or one of the Deacons know.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please fill out **Joys and Concerns** cards at the back of the sanctuary prior to the beginning of worship. The cards are on the table as you enter, and there is a basket to put the completed cards in. If you are participating via Zoom, use the Chat feature to let the Zoom Greeter know what your Joys and Concerns are (please complete asap during the service.)

Anyone interested in learning more about the **adult literacy** mission of the church should meet with Ann Warner after worship this morning in Fellowship Hall.

Rehearsal for *The Brief Case of the Missing Briefcase* is at 2:00 pm in the Sanctuary. The production takes place May 5 at 7:00 pm. Desserts and beverages will be served starting at 6:15 in the Fellowship Hall. Donations will support the Laundry Project.

Fellowship Hosts – we appreciate you! If you haven't already done so, please sign up.

Tru-Earth laundry sheets are available at the Fair-Trade kiosk.
Each package is \$15 and supports the **Laundry Project**.

New start time: Beginning May 19 (Pentecost) our summer start time for Sunday morning service will be 10:00 am. See you then!

Please, as you are able, continue to contribute financially to the life and ministry of the church through Sunday offerings, direct deposit, by sending checks in the mail, online at <http://www.firstprescdale.org> or by scanning this QR code with your smartphone camera.



Joys and Concerns

Remember to Pray for:

- Areas of the world at war, peace in the Middle East
- Covid concerns
- Our Democracy in the face of social unrest and political polarization
- Those struggling with addictions and the consequences
- Transgender community under attack legislatively
- Those in the destructive path of natural disasters
- Those affected by threats of terrorism, mass shootings, and hate crimes
- Our National, State, Regional, and Community Leaders
- Those who are homeless, hungry, and in harm's way
- Those in shelters on the southern border
- Those who continue to be marginalized and underrepresented
- Military Service Members: Matthew Baumann

Each week we pray for one of the Carbondale Interfaith Council faith communities.

This week, please pray for: **Southern Illinois Pagan Alliance**

The Mission/Ministry we are praying for this month: **Mission**

Household Prayer: Morning

God of all beginnings, you bring a new day, and you promise to journey with me through the hours. I thank you for the breath and strength I have, and I beg your help that I may use my powers wisely and with compassion to everyone I meet. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Good Shepherd, I thank you for the safety of my home and pray for those who have no bed tonight. Make me grateful, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, Mother of us all. Amen.

#24 *God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens*

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God, who stretched the spangled heavens, infinite in time and place,
flung the suns in burning radiance through the silent fields of space,
we, your children, in your likeness, share inventive powers with you.
Great Creator, still creating, show us what we yet may do.

Proudly rise our modern cities, stately buildings row on row;
yet their windows, blank, unfeeling, stare on canyoned streets below,
where the lonely drift unnoticed in the city's ebb and flow,
lost to purpose and to meaning, scarcely caring where they go.

We have conquered worlds undreamed of since the childhood of our race;
known the ecstasy of winging through uncharted realms of space;
probed the secrets of the atom, yielding unimagined power,
facing us with life's destruction or our most triumphant hour.

As each far horizon beckons, may it challenge us anew,
children of creative purpose, serving others, honoring you.
May our dreams prove rich with promise, each endeavor well begun.
Great Creator, give us guidance till our goals and yours are one.

#582 *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me* (sing twice)

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Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned
me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and
ever shall be. Amen

Psalm 22:25-31 (OT p. 501)

From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those
who fear him. The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the
Lord. May your hearts live forever! All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to
the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him. For dominion belongs
to the Lord, and he rules over the nations. To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth
bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.
Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord, and proclaim his
deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

2 Timothy 1:1-14 (NT p. 211)

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that
is in Christ Jesus, to Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the
Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear
conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night
and day. Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. I am
reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your
mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. For this reason I remind you to rekindle
the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not
give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-

discipline. Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Saviour Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

#630 (v 1-2)

Fairest Lord Jesus

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1 Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature, O thou of God to earth come down,
thee will I cherish, thee will I honor, thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

2 Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, robed in the blooming garb of spring.
Jesus is fairer; Jesus is purer, who makes the woeful heart to sing.

#606

Praise God from Who All Blessings Flow (Doxology)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

630 (v 3-4)

Fairest Lord Jesus

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3 Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, and all the twinkling, starry host.
Jesus shines brighter; Jesus shines purer, than all the angels heaven can boast.

4 Beautiful Savior, Ruler of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!