
Order of Service

Second Sunday of Easter

April 27, 2025

Welcome to worship service at the First Presbyterian Church in Palestine, IL. Whether you are here in person, or watching us online, we are honored that you have chosen to worship with us!

****INDICATES TO PLEASE STAND IF ABLE TO DO SO.**

Gathering

Gathering Music

Welcome And Announcements

Prelude

As our prelude is played, let us quiet our soul with meditation and prayer.

Call To Worship (based on Psalm 118:14-29)

God of peace, we enter this holy room knowing the gospel's cornerstones of grace and mercy are often rejected in our world.

Yet we understand that rejection is not the end of the story.

word.

The Gospel of Grace is the Lord's doing.

Despite powers and principalities, despite the clamoring of meanness and cruelty,

this is the day that the Lord has made.

Grace is the ground upon which we walk.

Let us rejoice and be glad.

****Opening Hymn**

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

Blue Hymnal #446 All Verses

Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God; God, whose word cannot be broken, Formed thee for a blest abode. On the rock of ages founded, What can shake thy sure repose? With salvation's walls surrounded, Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters, Springing from eternal love, Well supply thy sons and daughters And all fear of want remove. Who can faint while such a river Ever flows their thirst to assuage? Grace, which like the Lord, the Giver, Never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hovering, See the cloud and fire appear For a glory and a covering, Showing that the Lord is near. Thus deriving from their banner Light by night and shade by day, Safe they feed upon the manna Which God gives them when they pray.

Children's Moment

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (based on John 20:19-31)

Holy God, we have found ourselves in fear, locked in rooms of inaction and indecision, unclear where we are called or what we could offer. We have lost ourselves in anxiety so loud we have not heard your voice. We have not recognized you on the move in the world, wounds in your side and life in your lungs. We have believed in the finality of your death and assumed all is left to our own meager efforts. We have refused to see, so we might not have to believe the gospel and live our lives accordingly.

God of new life, restore hope throughout our bodies. Help us to breathe again. Strengthen us for the joy that is before us. Grant us eyes to see your beloved people all around us and ears to hear your good news through all the noise. Even as we have looked away, come to see us, call us forth from our locked rooms and bring us out to walk with you in the world you so love.

Declaration of Forgiveness

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God!**

****Gloria Patri**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.*

THE WORD

Scripture Psalm 27:1-5; II Corinthians 4:5-10

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Message *"We Persevere Only Because God Is With Us"*

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RESPONSE TO THE WORD

****Choir Anthem** *"The Love Behind the Cross"*

Call for the Offering



April-One Great Hour of Sharing

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Presentation of Offerings and Song of Dedication

****Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (Doxology) (#606)**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
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Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Hear us now as we pray the prayer Christ taught us, **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

SENDING

****Hymn of Sending *Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones* Blue Hymnal #451 Verses 1, 3-4**

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Cheryl Mefford	Guileen Manual
1900 College Ave, Vincennes, IN 47591	1 Providence Pl, St Mary-Of-The-Woods, IN 47876
Arbor Rose of Robinson	Carle Richland Memorial Hospital
Marilyn Henderson and Sharon Biggs	Mary Laughead
500 S Reed Street, Robinson, IL 62454	800 E Locust Street, Suite 304, Olney, IL 62450

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION GIVING - APRIL

One Great Hour of Sharing

MEETING DATES

- May 20, 6:00 p.m. - Session Meeting

IMPORTANT DATES & EVENTS

- Wednesdays, 6:45 p.m. –Choir Practice

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- Food pantry needs volunteers! Monday 1-3 and Wednesday 5-6. They could use any able-bodied workers!

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- 2024 Annual Report
- The Upper Room – May and June

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Order of Service

Second Sunday of Easter

April 27, 2025

Welcome to worship service at the First Presbyterian Church in Palestine, IL. Whether you are here in person, or watching us online, we are honored that you have chosen to worship with us!

****INDICATES TO PLEASE STAND IF ABLE TO DO SO.**

Gathering

Gathering Music

Welcome And Announcements

Prelude

As our prelude is played, let us quiet our soul with meditation and prayer.

Call To Worship (based on Psalm 118:14-29)

God of peace, we enter this holy room knowing the gospel's cornerstones of grace and mercy are often rejected in our world.

Yet we understand that rejection is not the end of the story.

word.

The Gospel of Grace is the Lord's doing.

Despite powers and principalities, despite the clamoring of meanness and cruelty,

this is the day that the Lord has made.

Grace is the ground upon which we walk.

Let us rejoice and be glad.

****Opening Hymn**

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

Blue Hymnal #446 All Verses

Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God; God, whose word cannot be broken, Formed thee for a blest abode. On the rock of ages founded, What can shake thy sure repose? With salvation's walls surrounded, Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters, Springing from eternal love, Well supply thy sons and daughters And all fear of want remove. Who can faint while such a river Ever flows their thirst to assuage? Grace, which like the Lord, the Giver, Never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hovering, See the cloud and fire appear For a glory and a covering, Showing that the Lord is near. Thus deriving from their banner Light by night and shade by day, Safe they feed upon the manna Which God gives them when they pray.

Children's Moment

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (based on John 20:19-31)

Holy God, we have found ourselves in fear, locked in rooms of inaction and indecision, unclear where we are called or what we could offer. We have lost ourselves in anxiety so loud we have not heard your voice. We have not recognized you on the move in the world, wounds in your side and life in your lungs. We have believed in the finality of your death and assumed all is left to our own meager efforts. We have refused to see, so we might not have to believe the gospel and live our lives accordingly.

God of new life, restore hope throughout our bodies. Help us to breathe again. Strengthen us for the joy that is before us. Grant us eyes to see your beloved people all around us and ears to hear your good news through all the noise. Even as we have looked away, come to see us, call us forth from our locked rooms and bring us out to walk with you in the world you so love.

Declaration of Forgiveness

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God!**

****Gloria Patri**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.*

THE WORD

Scripture Psalm 27:1-5; II Corinthians 4:5-10

This is the Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Message *"We Persevere Only Because God Is With Us"*

Rev. Mick Laflin

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

****Choir Anthem** *"The Love Behind the Cross"*

Call for the Offering



April-One Great Hour of Sharing

How to Give: you can go directly to our website and use our online giving platform to set up a one-time or recurring gift; you can mail your offering directly to the church (POB 132, Palestine, IL 62451), or you can drop your tithes and offerings at the church office, Mon – Thurs, 10 am – 2 pm.

Presentation of Offerings and Song of Dedication

****Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (Doxology) (#606)**

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

Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Hear us now as we pray the prayer Christ taught us, **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

SENDING

****Hymn of Sending** *Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones* **Blue Hymnal #451 Verses 1, 3-4**

Ye watchers and ye holy ones, Bright seraphs, cherubim, and thrones, Raise the glad strain, Alleluia! Cry out, dominions, principedoms, powers, Virtues, archangels, angels' choirs, Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Respond, ye souls in endless rest, Ye patriarchs and prophets blest, Alleluia, Alleluia! Ye holy twelve, ye martyrs strong, All saints triumphant, raise the song, Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O friends, in gladness let us sing, Supernal anthems echoing, Alleluia, Alleluia! To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three in One, Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Benediction

Postlude

© Presbyterian Outlook, 2025. Liturgy adapted from liturgy written by Karen Rohrer and provided for free distribution. For more resources, visit pres-outlook.org

PRAYER REQUEST

Newly Added or Updated

Our Continuing Care Concerns

Pastor Akers	Shawn Bennett-Samantha Knoblett's Brother-Had Surgery and in Hospice
Stephanie Fulling Jacobs-Husband Phillip passed away	Walter and Sandy Tarran-In long-term care
Kathy Lutes	Margo Riker - Leukemia
Brody Keesling – head injury	Auggie Martin – Pulmonary Edema
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