



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ST. LOUIS

*Christ is not outside us but dwells within us.
Not only does he cleave to us
by an indivisible bond of fellowship,
but with a wonderful communion, day by day,
he grows more and more into one body with us,
until he becomes completely one with us.*

-John Calvin

First Presbyterian Church of Saint Louis

May 25th, 2025

Sixth Sunday of Easter



WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Whatever your culture or race,
Whatever your religion or background,
Whatever your age, orientation, or differing abilities,
Whatever has happened to you until now,
May this be a place of joy, peace, and healing for you.

WE GATHER AROUND THE WORD

We light the Christ Candle as a reminder that Christ's light surrounds us and fills us. Please feel free to light a candle in prayer at the candle station.

Gathering Music

Welcome

Bill Perman

*Please rise in body or spirit.

*Hymn #475

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

*Opening Prayer (Unison)

Jeanne Foster

Spirit of Christ, we need your love today to shine in the dark corners of our hearts and of our world, where loneliness and fear, war and suffering, greed and lust destroy. Clothe us with your compassion. Fill us with your peace. Come to us and shine in our lives, that we may more perfectly love you and reflect your love on earth. Amen.

*Silent Prayer

*Assurance of Christ's Peace

One: Whatever life brings, nothing in life or death is able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

*Passing the Peace



***Response of Praise (#582)**

*Glory to God, Whose Goodness
Shines on me*

*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.
World without end - without end, Amen.
World without end - without end, Amen.
World without end - without end, Amen.
As it was in the beginning,
Is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

WE LISTEN TO THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Noisy Coin Offering and Time with Children

After our time on the chancel steps, children Pre-K through 3rd grade are welcome to attend Sunday School. The nursery is open for younger children. Children are always welcome to stay in worship with their family. The Noisy Coin Offering supports the work of Heifer International.

First Lesson


Galatians 3:23-29

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

Second Lesson

John 21:1-17

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No."



He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some" So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you" Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep."

Sermon

Bill Perman

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

Musical Meditation

Reception and Baptism* of New Members

Adam Click, Erin Click, Zo Click, Anna Click, Martin Myers, Laura McAllister, Hannah Mihulka*, Katie Legrand, Joe Legrand, Herndon (Don) Snider, Ruth Snider

Introduction

Questions to New Members

Questions of Congregation

Profession of Faith

Apostle's Creed
GTG Hymnal pg 35

Blessing of the Water

Baptism

Laying on of Hands and Blessing



Presentation of Baptismal Candle

Placing of the White Shawl

Welcome

One: Adam, Erin, Zo, Anna, Martin, Laura, Hannah, Katie, Joe, Don, and Ruth have been received into the membership of the First Presbyterian Church of St. Louis. They are our sisters, and brothers, and siblings. They are our family. They are all members of the household of God, to share with us in the priesthood of Christ; the priesthood of all believers. Let us welcome these new members.

All: With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into Christ's Church to share with us in Christ ministry, for we are all one in Christ. Welcome to our beloved family!

WE OFFER THE WORD TO THE WORLD

News of the Church

***Hymn #803**

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

***Benediction**

Postlude

Please join us after church for a cake reception for our newest members.



WELCOME TO CHURCH

Connect with First Pres!

Please use these QR codes to connect with our church staff, to sign up for our weekly Enews letter, sign up to lead worship as a liturgist and/or welcome people as a greeter. You can also find connection cards in the pews and on the table in the back of the sanctuary.

Donate to First Pres

To make an electronic donation, please visit our website at <http://www.firstpresbyterianstl.com/give/> or scan the QR code on the right with the camera on your smart phone. There is a PayPal fee of about 3% that will be deducted from your donation. Thank you for your generosity!

Check out our Enews!

Use this QR Code to keep up on all that is happening at First Pres. You will find many opportunities for fellowship, education, and service to the church and our community.

Sign-up today to enrich our life together at First Pres.

Use this QR Codes to sign up to Lead Worship as a Liturgist, and or welcome people as a greeter.



Greeter



Liturgist



NEWS OF THE CHURCH

Join Us in Celebrating Em & Tommy's Vow Exchange

On Saturday, May 31st at 3:00 pm, Em and Tommy would like to welcome the congregation to witness them exchange vows and commit their lives to each other before God and their loved ones. They are grateful for the prayers and love of everyone celebrating this meaningful moment with them and wish to open the doors to anyone else who may want to join. Refreshments, including delicious cupcakes, will be provided after the ceremony. The ceremony will be here at First Pres.

Lemonade Stand Fundraiser Success!

Big cheers to our Confirmation Class for raising \$485 at their lemonade stand fundraiser! Their hard work, teamwork, and enthusiasm were truly inspiring. A huge thank you to the congregation for your generosity and support—you helped make this a sweet success!

Calling all Summer Preachers!

At First Pres, we have a wonderful tradition of members preaching when Bill Perman is away—and nearly 30 people have shared over the years! This summer, Bill will be out most of July and August, and we're looking for new voices. If you feel called to reflect on scripture or share how you've seen Christ at work, you might be our next preacher. We'll meet as a group to discuss themes, prep tips, and offer support. Interested? Talk to Bill!

Community Yoga Class

Join our Community Yoga every Tuesday at 12 p.m. in the sanctuary! This open-level Vinyasa Flow, led by wellness coach Katie LeGrand, welcomes all levels. Donation-based. Bring a mat (extras available) and enter through the red sanctuary doors on Overhill Dr. Arrive by 11:45 a.m. to settle in. Questions? Email Katie at [kopareceipt@gmail.com] (mailto:kopareceipt@gmail.com).

Friday Film—Will & Harper – May 30, 6:30pm

Join us for a screening of Will & Harper, a heartfelt and powerful documentary that follows longtime friends Will Ferrell and Harper Steele on a cross-country journey of friendship, self-discovery, and affirmation after Harper comes out as transgender. After the film, stay for pizza and discussion. This is a safe and welcoming space for learning, listening, and growing together as a community committed to equity and acceptance. Everyone is welcome! Please sign up in the back of the sanctuary so we have a count for pizza.

Blessing Bags

One aspect of the Confirmation Class's Service Project to help the unhoused was to plan and supervise the assembly of Blessing Bags. They were assembled at this year's Easter Egg Hunt by children and families before hunting for eggs. Feel free to take a bag to give to someone you encounter in the community who is unhoused or in need.

Year at a Glance:

May 30, 6:30pm
Friday Film, Will & Harper

May 31, 3:00pm
Em & Tommy's Wedding

June 4, 7:00pm
Spirited Conversations

June 8
Pentecost/Confirmation
Sunday

September 19–21
Mound Ridge Retreat

January 31, 2026, 5:30pm
Welcome Home Dinner



WELCOME!

First Presbyterian Church of St. Louis, a community of faith since 1817, is a More Light congregation - dedicated to our community of faith, welcoming people of every race; ethnicity; age; sex; physical, mental, or emotional condition; sexual or gender orientation; and economic, cultural, or religious background.

Church Staff

Rev. Bill Perman, Pastor
Marge Meier, Early Years Center Director
Sarah Butler, Church Office Administrator
Clay Butler, Audio Visual Technician
Hedy Rothfuss, Interim Music Director

7200 Delmar Blvd, University City MO 63130
www.firstpresbyterianstl.com
Church Office: 314-726-6677
Bill Perman email: bill@firstpres-stl.org
Church email: office@firstpres-stl.org
Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday 9:00am - 1:00pm

Board of Deacons

Class of 2025: Katherine Chamberlain, Roger Chamberlain, Jill Schantz
Class of 2026: Rob Dodson, Nancy Kidd, Ruth Reese
Class of 2027: Mary Bryant, Jill Butler, Julie Griffin

Session

Class of 2025: Glenna Hughes, Sue Salvati, Genny Watkins
Class of 2026: Bruce Butler, Jeanne Foster, B. Terrell
Class of 2027: Jodie Burditt, Sarah Butler, Brad Schnell

Treasurer, Nancy Patten - treasurer@firstpres-stl.org
Clerk of Session, Andrew Loth - clerk@firstpres-stl.org

Music Resources reprinted for congregational worship in agreement with
OneLicense#A-708807