10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Signs

October 11, 2026

PRELUDE *Heart of My Own Heart* J.B. Taylor
Dr. LeeArron Klosterman, organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPOTLIGHT ON MISSION Rev. Dr. Marcia Freeman
Director of Grants and Development
Habitat for Humanity

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

CHORAL INTROIT *This Is the Day*

***CALL TO WORSHIP** based on John 15:1-5
LEADER: Jesus said: "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower.
PEOPLE: Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit.
LEADER: Abide in me as I abide in you.
PEOPLE: Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine,
LEADER: Neither can you unless you abide in me.
PEOPLE: I am the vine; you are the branches."

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN**
(No. 436) *God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us* O QUANTA QUALIA

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**
Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen. (Silent Confession)

***SUNG RESPONSE** *Change My Heart, O God* Eddie Espinosa
(No. 695)

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**
Hear the Good News: ***In Christ, we are forgiven. Let us live into our forgiveness and find peace.***

***RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS**
(No. 581) *Glory Be to the Father* GLORIA PATRI
***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

CHILDREN SERMON *The Lord's prayer*

ANTHEM – CHANCEL CHOIR
Let the Whole Creation Cry Robert Leaf
Dr. Robert Kvam, conductor

SERMON **The Absence of Presence**
John 6:16-21
Jason Powell

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING OF GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY *God of the Deep* Dan Forrest
Maggie Smith, soprano

***DOXOLOGY** *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* OLD 100TH
(No. 606)

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

SENDING FORTH

***CLOSING HYMN** *Eternal Father, Strong to Save* MELITA
(No. 8)

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL RESPONSE** *Go Rejoicing!*

POSTLUDE *Fanfare on "Mit Freuden zart"* Brenda Portman

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*Please stand as you are able.

MUSIC NOTES

Thank you to LeeArron Klosterman and Bob Kvam for filling in this morning as organist and choir director, respectively, and to Maggie Smith, a regular member of our choir, for singing the offertory solo.

Let the Whole Creation Cry
Let the whole creation cry: "Glory to the Lord on high!"
Heav'n and earth awake and sing, "God is good" and therefore King!
Praise him, all ye hosts above, ever bright and fair in love;
Sun and moon uplift your voice, night and stars, in God rejoice!

Men and women, young and old, raise the anthem manifold,
And let children's happy hearts in this worship bear their parts.
Praise him, all ye hosts above…

God of the Deep
Each time I stand and wonder at the vastness of the sea,
I know that there are mysteries too great and deep for me.
The wide expanse of water reaches far beyond my sight,
And yet I know the One to whom its depths are full of light.

The mighty waves roll in to shore and break upon the sand,
Compelled by unseen forces that I cannot understand.
The currents run beneath the waves in perfect, charted paths;
A skillful hand directs their courses, as it ever has.

The ocean teems with living things who never see the sun,
And yet there is an eye who sees and knows them, ev'ry one;
And that same eye has fathomed all the myst'ries of my days,
When tears have dimmed my sight, a heart of Love sill charts my ways.

When simple explanations lie too deep for me to find,
I rest in God, who holds the whole creation in His mind.
I hope in Him whose skill and wisdom far exceed my own.
The secrets of the hidden depths belong to God alone.

This morning's closing hymn, **Eternal Father, Strong to Save**, was originally written for a student sailing to America, and the hymn tune MELITA is named for the island of Malta, where the apostle Paul was shipwrecked. Despite its strong seafaring references and association as the "Navy hymn," it nevertheless speaks to God's strong presence and protection in our lives in all circumstances.

mission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from
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THIS WEEK:

Sunday, October 11
10:00 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary)
11:00 a.m. International Congregation Worship Service (Chapel)
12:30 p.m. Koreon Language School (Fellowship Hall)

Monday, October 12
1:00 p.m. Pastors' Meeting (Youth Hall)
4:00 p.m. Generosity Meeting (Conference Room)
5:30 p.m. Bell Choir (Choir Room)
7:00 p.m. Session (Youth Hall)

Tuesday, October 13
7:00 p.m. Deacon's Meeting (Zoom)
7:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, October 14
6:00 p.m. Dinner (Fellowship Hall)
6:45 p.m. Video/Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)

Thursday, October 15
2:30 p.m. FPC Men's Group (Fellowship Hall)
5:30 p.m. Ross Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
7:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous (Fellowship Hall)
7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Friday, October 16
4:30 p.m. Ross Wedding (Sanctuary)
10:00 a.m. International Women Bible Study (Zoom)

Saturday, October 17
No events scheduled

Today's flowers are given by
Janice & Dennis Wagner
in celebration of their
35th wedding anniversary!

Large print bulletins and hearing devices are available upon request.

The Mission of First Presbyterian Church is...
To be transformed by Christ, to share God's Word and love through...
Worship Discipleship Mission Fellowship
...within our congregation, community, and the world.

A special greeting to our visitors...
Welcome **to our spiritual home.** ***First Presbyterian Church*** **fulfills its mission through Spirit—filled worship, essential and exciting mission projects that reach from Muncie to the third world, warm fellowship, and educational opportunities that encourage young and old to grow in love and understanding of Jesus our Savior. Thanks for joining us and investing in this life with us.**

STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Daren Hofmann
Senior Pastor

The Rev. Jae Wang No
Associate Pastor, Int'l Congregation

Dr. Kerry Glann
Director of Music/Chancel Choir

Dr. Cara Chowning
Organist

Dr. Jason Powell
Ministry Assistant

Lisa Ulrich
Business Administrator

April Murray
Administrative Assistant

Jami Jones
Director of Pre-Kindergarten

Nathaniel Barber
Building Superintendent

PASTOR EMERITUS
The Rev. Dr. Ron Naylor

SESSION
Clerk of Session: Aileen Howard
Treasurer: Bill McCune

CLASS OF 2026	CLASS OF 2027	CLASS OF 2028
Erick Bretz	Patrick Galliher	Jason Arnold
Sue Desmond	Karen Hayden	Rick Bosworth
Tim Koontz	Chris Hostetler	Aaron Burton
Jan McCune	Ed Humphrey	Mary House
Julia Wadsworth	Nancy Swickard	Tom Schwartz
*Jan Stratton	**Don Whitaker	Laura Smith

* 1—yr term **2—yr term

DEACONS
Co-Moderators: Missy Arnold and Annie King

CLASS OF 2026	CLASS OF 2027	CLASS OF 2028
Missy Arnold	Annie King	Stacy Bilby
Cathy Jones	Carol Nauman	Doug Gehrke
Nancee Kinghorn	*Don Fields	Pam Gehrke
Rachel Williams	*Jeanne Fields	Amy Gregg
Ted Williams	*Debbie Foster	Connie Humphrey
*James Hofmann	*P.J. Froenicke	Cheryl Kellogg
		Rachel Platts
		Christy Reilly

* 1—yr term

COMMITTEE MODERATORS

BUILDING: Ed Humphrey
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Laura Smith
FELLOWSHIP: Jacqueline Burton
FINANCE: Bill McCune
GENEROSITY: Sue Whitaker
GROUNDS: Erick Bretz
MINISTRY GUILD: Joyce Carmichael
MISSIONAL OUTREACH: Jan McCune
PERSONNEL: Sue Desmond
PRE-K BOARD: Karen Hayden
WORSHIP & RELIGIOUS ARTS: Nancy Swickard

TODAY'S SERVANTS

LITURGIST: Jack Burton
USHERS: Nancy Kinghorn and Carol Nauman
GREETERS: Jan McCune and Jan Stratton

PLEASE REMEMBER TO SIGN THE FRENDSHIP PADS, LOCATED AT THE BACK OF THE PEWS, SO THAT ALL OF US HERE MAY KNOW ONE ANOTHER.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Established 1838

1400 West Riverside Avenue, Muncie, IN 47303
(765)289-4431 – www.firstpresmuncie.org

October 11, 2026
SIGNS

Welcome **to our spiritual home.**
Thank you for investing this time with us.