

Welcome

We are an inclusive, Christ-centered community of faith, passionately committed to sharing the love of Jesus Christ in practical ways. Please let us know of your interests and concerns.

Pastors:

Chuck Carlson
Eric Corbin

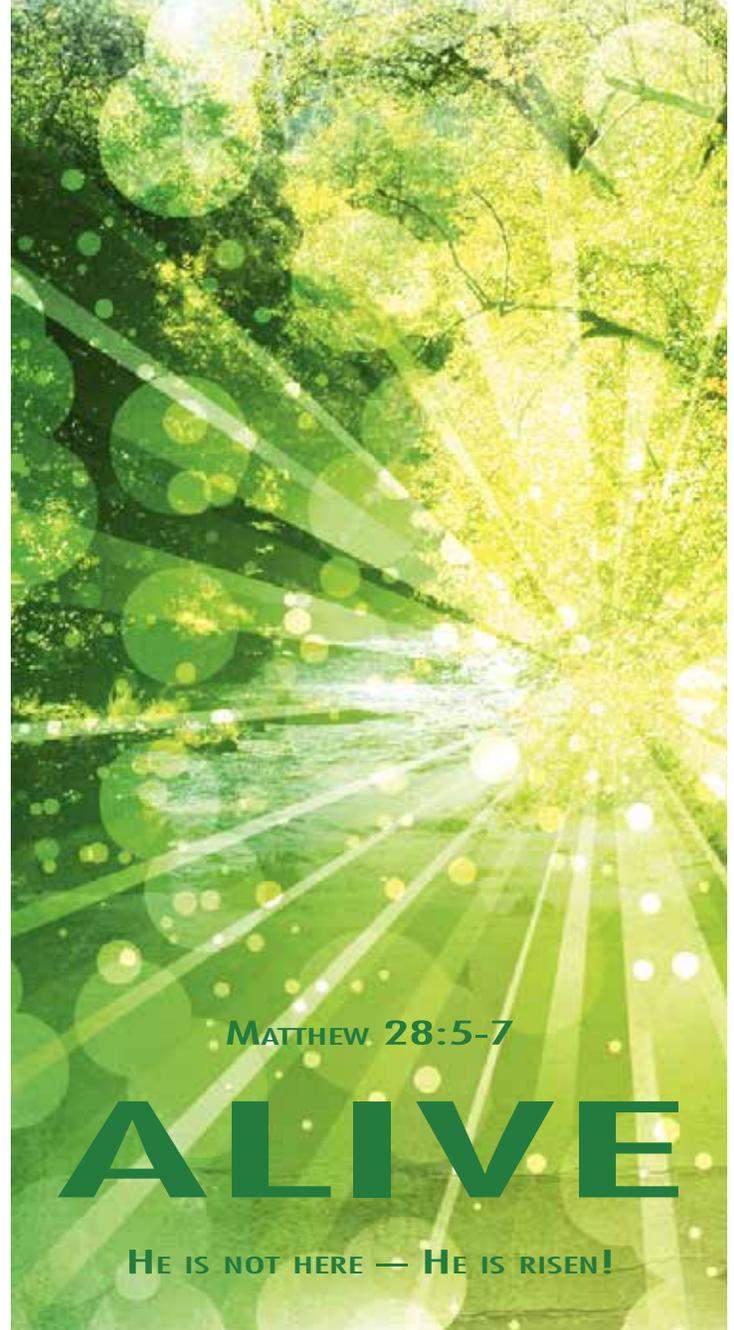
chuck@firstpres.church
eric@firstpres.church

We want to get to know you!

- Fill in the Friendship Pads; please use a name tag.
- Introduce yourself to one of the pastors.
- Join us for coffee and conversation in Westminster Hall.
- Trouble hearing? Try a hearing device at the back of the Sanctuary.
- Large-print hymnals are on the back table.
- Wheelchairs are available for in-church use.
- Printed sermons are available; audio can be found early the following week on the church website.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN



Easter Sunday
April 16, 2017
8 and 9:30 AM

Service for the Lord's Day

This Easter Sunday is indeed the day the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice as we celebrate Christ's resurrection.
We welcome all!

Prelude Richard Rossi

The Greeting and Announcements

Preparation for Worship – Tower Bell

Introit *Hosanna to the Son of David* Tomas Vittoria

Call to Worship

Leader Darkened skies and tear-stained faces, hunched over bodies and grief filled spirits.

People **Yet we come,**

Leader Drawn by some chord of duty, some invisible thread of hope.

People **We come uncertain and skeptical, yet hopeful and brave.**

Leader Drawn again and again to witness to the truth for our time.

People **Hope is alive! Christ is Risen!**

Leader Hope is alive!

People **Christ is Risen!**

Leader New life is possible.

People **Christ is Risen!**

Leader Love is stronger than hate and death.

People **Christ is Risen!**

Leader Sorrow shall come to an end.

People **Christ is Risen!**

Leader Light overcomes darkness.

People **Christ is Risen!**

All **Christ is Risen indeed!**

† **Processional Hymn #123** *Jesus Christ is Risen Today*

†Prayer of Confession

Lord, you consistently surprise us. On this day the world is different. Easter opens our eyes to appreciate the beauty of nature and see your presence in the unfolding of a flower. We can see the world and others around us in a new light. We can be touched by the ordinary and hurled into mystery. Because Christ is Risen the whole world is full of wonder.

Lord, you surprise us by the possibility of making of us new creations. Hurtful memories can be bathed in your healing light. Life's dead-ends may bring forth new options for living. Those frustrations causing despair can be turned joy-side up. Hardened hearts and mind-sets may yield to new insights and ways of seeing and understanding. Forgive our reticence to allow the resurrection light of Christ to make us alive with hope and joy.

We know that we will not find him among the dead. Nor will we find him in the dead ends of worry and fear. We will not find him in rote, lifeless religion. He will not be found in the tombs of hypocrisy and lies. We will look for him among the poor and suffering. We will seek him in the vulnerable and the lonely. We will find him wherever justice and mercy are practiced.

Every day you make possible your surprises. May we embrace this Easter as a new beginning for how we live our lives and where we look to find your Resurrected presence in our world. Fill our hearts with joy, our minds with hope, and set us upon your Easter path...(Continue to pray in silence)

†Assurance of Pardon

Leader "Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead?"

People **For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised.**

Leader If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.

People **For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being;**

All **For as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ." (1 Corinthians 15:12-21)**

†Passing of the Peace

Leader The peace of Christ be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Leader Please greet one another in the peace of Christ.
Response #576 *Gloria, Gloria*

Act of Friendship

9:30The Children's Message

Offering of Gifts and Tithes Please complete Prayer Request Card
Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing

arr. Robert Benson

Doxology; Prayer of Dedication

Scripture *Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24* (OT pg 565)

Anthem *The Day of Resurrection* arr. Paul Wright

Scripture *Matthew 28:1-10; Colossians 3:1-4*(NT pg 33; 201)

Message *What Difference Does It Make?*
Pastor Chuck Carlson

† **Hymn #109** *Christ Is Risen*

Call to Prayer *Hear Our Prayer* Harold Flammer

The Prayers for Ourselves and Others *The Lord's Prayer*

† **Hymn #108** *Christ Is Alive!*

†Benediction

Hallelujah Chorus

G.F. Handel

†Postlude

Richard Rossi

†Please stand if able.

Thank you for joining us for our Easter Celebration
here at First Presbyterian Church!

Our sincere prayer is that the hope of Easter touches your heart
today and fills you with courage and strength.

This Week

Sunday, April 16 Easter

- 8:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary
- 9:30 AM Worship/Sanctuary

Monday, April 17

- 9:00 AM ESL Class/Room 204 & 207
- 11:00 AM GROW/Chapel
- 3:30 PM Environmental Stewardship/Parlor
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

Tuesday, April 18

- 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study/Centennial Hall
- 9:00 AM ESL Class/Room 204 & 207
- 10:30 AM Staff Meeting/Parlor
- 12:00 PM Classic Book Study/2nd Floor Atkins Bldg.
- 1:30 PM SAFE House Class/Westminster Hall
- 5:45 PM Contemporary Worship Team/Parlor
- 7:00 PM Worship Team/Parlor

Wednesday, April 19

- 9:00 AM ESL Class/Room 204 & 207
- 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study/Library at Windsor Court
- 6:00 PM Bell Choir/Bell Room
- 7:00 PM Contemporary Rehearsal/Centennial Hall
- 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir/Choir Room

Thursday, April 20

- 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast/Hardees on South Neil
- 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study/Parlor
- 9:00 AM ESL Class/Room 204 & 207
- 12:00 PM Presbytery Book Study/Library
- 6:00 PM YoungLives/Centennial Hall
- 6:30 PM Session/Westminster Hall

Friday, April 21

- 8:30 AM Men's Prayer/Chapel

Saturday, April 22

- 3:00 PM Worship Prep/Centennial Hall
- 6:00 PM Praise & Prayer/Centennial Hall

Worship

•Liturgist this morning is **Lori Schaap** at the 8 AM service and **Rob Vermillion** at the 9:30 AM service.

•Musicians this morning are...

Trumpets: Keven Lewis, Robert Sears
Trombones: Sean Durkin, Reid Lasley

•**Spring Music Sunday** will be May 7, at both the 8 and 9:30 services (note time change). *Songs of Prayer and Praise* will feature a selection of sacred music from a wide variety of periods and styles. Included will be works by Handel, Fauré, and two movements from Mozart's *Missa Brevis* in D. The Sanctuary Choir will be accompanied by a string ensemble.

Connect

•**Peter Yau** has chosen for his next book study *Pilgrims Regress* by C. S. Lewis. This class will meet Sunday mornings at 10:30 AM for 10 weeks beginning April 23 in the Parlor. The first week will be an overview of the book and the first chapter. If you cannot make all of them please come when you can as each week will be a chapter discussion. Books are available for \$10 in Westminster Hall and also during class.

Serve

•Many of us enjoy the abundance of God's blessings, but by living an open-handed life and sharing these blessings with others, we can offer an outward sign of thanksgiving for the presence of Christ in our lives while bringing joy to God and to our sisters and brothers. PCUSA programs, such as Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program and Self-Development of People, benefit from your gifts to **One Great Hour of Sharing** and share this abundance. Envelopes for your contribution to OGHS are available in the pews.

•We are looking for a **part-time CYF Assistant Director**. A complete job description can be found on our website.

•**DREAAAM House** needs snacks for the after-school programs currently operating Monday-Friday at Booker T. Washington STEM Academy and Franklin Middle School. Individually packaged snacks are preferred or gift cards to purchase fruit on a weekly basis. Any amount will help provide nutrition for a bunch of high-energy boys. A donation box is located in Westminster Hall or leave in the church office. Thanks in advance!

•**Stephen Ministers** want to be of service. They train for over 50 hours in basic counseling and ministry as well as actively participate in their own Christian growth and effective sharing with others. If you would like to meet with a Stephen Minister, call Linda Sandquist or Chuck Carlson at 356-7238. If you are interested in training to be a Stephen Minister, we have a training class beginning May 3 to be held successive Wednesdays from 10-12 through September of 2017.