

First Presbyterian Church of Alton

Fourth & Alby Streets, Alton, Illinois (618)465-3592 firstpres1831@gmail.com

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

10 AM Sunday, November 16, 2025

GATHERING

PRELUDE:

Welcome and Announcements

CALL TO WORSHIP

I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; be glad and rejoice forever

O Sing to the Lord a new song, for God has done marvelous things.

I will rejoice and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard.

O Sing to the Lord a new song, for God has done marvelous things.

They shall not labor in vain or bear children for calamity; for they and their descendants shall be offspring blessed by the Lord. Before they call I will answer.

O Sing to the Lord a new song, for God has done marvelous things. Let us Worship God

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God, source of our salvation, marvelous and mighty, Nation rises against nation, kingdom against kingdom. The peoples of the earth suffer earthquakes, famines and plagues, and we feel betrayed by those we had trusted. So show yourself to us in these troubled times. Grant us wisdom to speak words of peace and comfort. Make us instruments of the new heaven and new earth you have promised. **Amen**

✦ **Hymn:** *"O Day of Peace"*No. 450

CALL TO CONFESSION

We seek the will of God, but still find ourselves conformed to this world, instead of being transformed into God's image. Let us seek forgiveness for the ways we have turned away from justice and mercy: Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

CONFESSION OF SIN

God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Christ our Savior gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from our sin and claim us as his own people. **Amen**

THE PEACE

Peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you.**

★ **Gloria Patri**.....No. 579

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pour out your Holy Spirit, O God, and prepare our hearts to accept your word. Silence in us any voice but your own, that, hearing, we may also obey your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Malachi 4:1-2a
(Pg 890)

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

PSALM

Psalms 98

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
(Pg 207)

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke
Glory to you, O Lord

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 21: 5-19
(Pg 85)

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Message.....Pastor Ian Edward Caveny

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord's Prayer (*DEBTS, DEBTORS*)

✦ **Hymn:** *"Lord of All Hopefulness"*No. 2197 in Sing the Faith Hymnal

✦ **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** **The Apostles' Creed (Traditional)**

(Pg 14)

SENDING

OFFERING

Offertory Anthem: *"Keep your Lamps Trimmed and Burning"*

✦ **DOXOLOGY**No. 592 (*Lyrics only*)

✦ **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered in feeding the world with your love; through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

✦ **Hymn:** *"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"*No. 464

✦ **CHARGE and BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE:

~~~~~

### PARTICIPATING IN OUR SERVICE TODAY:

Message.....Pastor Ian Edward Caveny  
Liturgist.....Jane Cerbie  
Music Director.....Mark Brooks  
Audio/Streaming Technician.....Claudia Droste  
Ushers this Sunday will be.....Greg Gates & Debbie Gates

**NOTE:** Where you see the " ✦ " symbol, please stand if you are able.

*Permission to stream the music in this service obtained from*

*ONE LICENSE, License #A-738514. All rights reserved*

## Announcements:

Our next ecumenical children's ministry night is coming up on Saturday, November 29th. We will be encouraging members of the local community to contribute to a can drive for Crisis Food Center while families and children are invited to build a craft in preparation for Advent. More details forthcoming. Save the date!

We will be having the Hanging of the Greens on Saturday November 22nd at 2pm in the sanctuary. We will be decorating the Christmas tree as well as the church for the holiday season and we will even have a hot meal served afterwards. Please join us for this festive event!

First Presbyterian Church is proud to begin our Music on the Riverbend Concert Series. The first concert is An Autumn Serenade and will occur on Sunday, November 23rd at 3:00 PM. It will include performances by musicians from the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra as well as the First Presbyterian Church Choir. For more information about future concerts in the series, please reach out to Mark Brooks or contact the church office.

Once again this Holiday Season, we would like to participate in a Christmas Adopt-A-Family program by helping with our school's initiative. Contributions can include monetary donations, gift cards, or sponsorship of an entire family. Contact person is Klaudia Taul at Region III - email address is : [ktaul@region3sec.org](mailto:ktaul@region3sec.org) and flyers are available in the narthex.

The First Presbyterian Bell Choir continues to extend an invitation to the congregation to individuals of varying skill levels and experience to join their ranks. If you are interested, please reach out to Mark after service.

Pastor Ian hosts Bible Study on Sundays at 9a in the Library and Wednesdays at 10a in the Flota Conference Room. All are welcomed to join!

November Birthdays: Greg Gates (08), Ruth Wimp (10), Rik Stabell (16), Nancy Matis (30)

November 30 : Deacons Meeting

December 7: Session Meeting

Every 3rd Sunday cash in the offering plate goes to the Simpson fund that supports the Good Neighbor bags at Saturday Café.

**Outreach:** Saturday Café and Tuesday's Soup's On; Lunch served at 11:30, Fellowship Hall. Volunteers are welcome.

**Prayer List:** Friends and family of Jim Wigger, Tom Fields, friends and family of Ann Wangelin, friends and family of Christina Perez, Pearl Kantar, Jennifer Allman, Tony Grillo, Barb Harner, Forrest Bayer, John Thompson, Denny & Trebe Bradfish, World Peace. All are invited to share prayer requests during the Prayers of the People, to drop a Prayer Card in the plate during the Offering, or to request prayers by calling the church.

Members (and spouses) at home or living elsewhere: Donna McCoy, Linda and Gary Smith, Judy and Lyndal Colburn, Gladys Butler, Kathleen Stice, Jim Wigger