
First Presbyterian Church of Palestine, IL

September 13, 2026

Order of Service

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

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!



Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship and Prayer of the Day

People of God, bless the Lord,

Bless God's holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

and do not forget all God's benefits—

Who forgives all your iniquity,

who heals all your diseases,

Who redeems your life from the Pit,

who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

Who satisfies you with good

as long as you live.

Let us pray...

Generous God, a day of worship, a day of rest, a day in community, a day to be Blessed, a day for offering, a day for welcoming, a day of remembering, a day of reckoning— this is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Amen.

***Opening Hymn “When Morning Gilds the Skies” Blue Hymnal 487**
When morning gilds the skies, My heart awaking cries: May Jesus Christ be praised! Alike at work and prayer To Jesus I repair: May Jesus Christ be praised!
Does sadness fill my mind? A solace here I find: May Jesus Christ be praised! Or fades my earthly bliss? My comfort still is this: May Jesus Christ be praised!
Let earth's wide circle round In joyful notes resound: May Jesus Christ be praised! Let air and sea and sky From depth to height reply: May Jesus Christ be praised!
Be this, while life is mine, My canticle divine: May Jesus Christ be praised! Be this the eternal song Through all the ages long: May Jesus Christ be praised!

Time with the Younger Church

Call to Confession

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of Confession

Gracious and loving God, you lived for us— we have not lived for you. You have forgiven us—we have not forgiven others. You have loved us—we have not loved ourselves nor have we loved one another. Forgive us, God. Help us to forgive. Help us to live for you. Help us to love the way you have shown us to love—abundantly.

Personal Silent Confession

...in the name of Christ, we pray. **Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

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

***Grateful Response**

*****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 Romans 14:1-12 Mathew 18:21-35
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Message Freeing Forgiveness

Hymn of Reflection “Lord, I Want to be a Christian” Blue Hymnal 372
*Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart, in-a my heart, Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart.
In-a my heart, in-a my heart, Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart.*

Lord, I want to be more loving in-a my heart, in-a my heart, Lord, I want to be more loving in-a my heart, In-a my heart, in-a my heart, Lord, I want to be more loving in-a my heart.

Lord, I want to be more holy in-a my heart, in-a my heart, Lord, I want to be more holy in-a my heart. In-a my heart, in-a my heart, Lord, I want to be more holy in-a my heart.

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in-a my heart, in-a my heart, Lord, I want to be like Jesus in-a my heart. In-a my heart, in-a my heart, Lord, I want to be like Jesus in-a my heart

Call for the Offering



September – World Communion Offering

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 (POBox 132, Palestine, IL 62451), or you can drop your tithes and offerings at the church office, Mon., Tues., or 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

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

...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.

***Hymn of Sending**

"God of Grace, God of Glory"

Blue Hymnal 420

God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power; crown thine ancient Church's story; bring her bud to glorious flower. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise: grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days.

Cure thy children's warring madness, bend our pride to thy control; shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Set our feet on lofty places; Gird our lives that they maybe Armored with all Christ-like graces, Pledged to set all captives free. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, that we fail not them nor thee! That we fail not them nor thee!

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

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THEOLOGY ON TAP'S FIRST GATHERING AT GATTER BREWERY

109 S Main Street, Palestine

Wednesday, September 30, 2026 ✕ 6:00 pm

Featuring Monical's Pizza

Join us for an evening of discussion, fellowship and a light supper of Monical's Pizza. The facility is normally closed on Wednesday nights, so we have the place to ourselves and children are welcome! The pizza and non-alcoholic beverages are free and you may purchase alcoholic beverages that they carry. At our first meeting, we will discuss things YOU want to talk about – questions about the nature of God, Jesus, evil, and hell, just to name a few. Maybe you've got a question about faith that's always puzzled you – bring it on! We are relaxing our environment and increasing our presence in the community so feel free to bring a friend.



There is a sign-up sheet with your chance to declare your pizza preference.

PRAYER REQUEST

Newly Added or Updated

Our Continuing Care Concerns

Riley Cox – Recovering from surgery

Aiden Robbins – (Senior Airman) is stationed in the Middle East and is the grandson of Greg and Pam Robbins

Jim Higgins – leg issues

Phyllis LeFever – prayers to accept the needed procedures

Kathy Klauss

John Edgington- had heat exhaustion last week and now home with a heart monitor

Jamie Alexander – 4 month old son of Josh and Jessica Alexander needs a liver transplant

Pam Hill – (**Sandy Ellis Sister**) is having a lot of pain and could use prayers as she is still recovering from neck surgery, she also is now in physical therapy twice a week

Chester Greene – prayers to continue to improve with his eating.

Dick McCarty

Hob Murphy – continued prayers

Kendra Jones – cancer diagnosis and also please pray for

Encourage Puerto Rico – a children's ministry that she helped start

Paul Postlewaite

Jocelyne Ramsey & Family

Andrew Knoblet – is having additional/reoccurring problems please pray for him and his family. Also continued prayers for the other two Knoblett Children with their ongoing Behavior Challenges.

Rita Garrard – Breast Cancer

All of God's People

Knox Pritchard – diving accident

Prayers for Blake Padgett – 16 year old that was involved with a hit and run in Terre Haute.

Nancy Bex

Debbie Skidmore – starts cancer treatments

Anne Wiseman – had surgery

Meredith Gentry – continued prayers her lung biopsy tested positive for cancer.

Lynn Brower (Sandy Ellis sister)- is recovering well and will have her five radiation treatments later this month.

Kathy Lutes – is home now and doing well her address is: 8832 Trumpeter Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46234

Frank Draper- continued prayers currently in Jasonville, IN Rehab

Lee Waldroup

Judy Kincaid – Back injury and broken wrist

Paul and Nancy Gray – car accident with still a long road ahead of them for healing

Jim Bush – continued medical needs

Luke Hayes – Brain disorders

Krue Williams – Leukemia

Victims of Weather Disasters

Remember those in our church family who are in assisted living or care homes

BridgePointe Health Campus

Cheryl Mefford

Bus Reynolds

1900 College Ave, Vincennes, IN 47591

Arbor Rose of Robinson

Marilyn Henderson and Sharon Biggs

500 S Reed Street, Robinson, IL 62454

StoneBridge of Olney

Joan Summers

1304 N East Street, Olney, IL 62450

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION GIVING – September

MISSION GIVING – October

World Communion Offering

Please Note: Each month the Session designates a specific mission on which to focus our giving. Funds from the annual church budget are allocated and sent during that month, but you are able to give specifically to that mission (or any other mission!) by writing in the memo line of your check or making note on our online giving site what you would like to add to the church's level of giving. If there is no specific notation of a mission, your giving will go to the general fund. Thanks always for your generosity.

Meeting Dates

- September 15th Session Meeting 6p.m.
- October 19th at 6p.m. Investment Committee Meeting/Budget Meeting

Important Dates & Events

- September 30th Theology on Tap at Gatter Brewery in Palestine, 6p.m.

Volunteers Needed

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

Located at the Back of the Sanctuary

- 2025 Annual Report
- The Upper Room – May/June
- The Upper Room – July/August

New Addresses:

Chester & Karen Greene (Home Address) 45A Marker Street, Highland, IL, 62249

Jerry and Linda Russell (Indiana Address) 156 Dogwood Drive, Warren, IN, 46792

Diane Nickum (New Home Address) 63594 East Harmony Drive, Saddlebrooke, AZ, 85739

Get the latest information on worship services, church activities, prayer requests, etc. by signing up to be on our email list. Go to our website, www.firstprespalestine.com and scroll to the bottom to fill out the subscription form or email the church office at 1stpresby.palestine@gmail.com.

Office Hours: Rev. Nan Adams

Tuesdays and Thursdays 9AM-1PM

Phone or Text anytime (850) 218-9252

Email: nanadams@outlook.com

Welcome! We are delighted that you are worshipping with us today. Please know that we do not pass an offering plate during worship but offering plates are located near both entrances to the Sanctuary. You can also give online by going to link firstprespalestine.com and on the upper right side of page there is a button that says give now.

Communion (also called the Lord's Supper) is offered once a month and on special liturgical days. Everyone is welcome to take communion, no matter your age or if you've been baptized. The Lord welcomes all to receive this gift of God's hospitality. We receive the bread and the cup at the same time as it is passed to you. Eat the bread as you receive it; save the cup until we all drink it together. This reminds us that we are individual persons receiving God's love and a community of faith led by God's love.

Information About Our Church Building – We have a Balcony, a Sanctuary Floor and a Basement Floor. Three bathrooms are located in the basement – one at the foot of the West side stairs, and two at the back of the basement (on the South side of the building next to the kitchen.) All are for anyone to use. The basement houses our fellowship/dining space and adult Sunday School meeting space. There is also a nursery room on the North side of the basement.

In the back of the sanctuary on our table is a paper to fill out if you would like to be added to our prayer chains by text or by email. Please note due to the way our email program is set up for the prayer chain you will also get our weekly email about the bulletin for Sunday and any other group email that is sent. If you fill out the paper please leave in offering tray. Thank you.