



WORSHIP

Sanctuary



April 27, 2025 - Earth Care Sunday

PRELUDE

THE GATHERING

What a Wonderful World

Erin Duffy and Delaney Rybicki, duet; Kitty Snyder, piano

David Weiss & Bob Thiele

WELCOME

Rev. Amy Heinrich

INTROIT

*Thanks for Everything
All Around the World*

Cheryl Lavender
Don Collins

Cherub Choir—LeAnn Malecha & Isabelle Esquivel, directors; Kitty Snyder, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP

excerpts from *In Praise of Air*

John O'Donohue

PROCESSION OF THE GIFTS OF CREATION

Earth Care Team

HYMN #14

To Bless the Earth

DIX

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE GIFTS OF THE EARTH

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Stacey Friday

Leader: God of all life, you created the universe and called it good before we ever existed, and yet we act as if the rest of creation is useless without us.

People: **Forgive us for our arrogance and our ignorance about our interdependence with nature.**

Leader: You charged us with the care of your creation, but instead we use it up like a disposable commodity to be bought and sold.

People: **Forgive us for failing in our job as your caretakers.**

Leader: We pray for our daily bread and recite the instructions you gave our ancestors to take only what we need. Still, we waste resources every day and prioritize our own comfort above all else.

People: **Forgive us for our wastefulness, our overindulgence, and our costly luxuries.**

Leader: We proclaim a gospel of abundance in worship, then we leave this sanctuary and live lives full of fear and scarcity.

People: **Forgive us for seeing you as a God-of-not-enough.**

(silence)

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

❖ **GLORIA PATRI** (*Glory to God*)

Hymnal #581

❖ **PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST AND CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Rev. Amy Heinrich & The Frog Lady

Children are invited to gather in front of the font for a time of learning during our intergenerational worship.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Nancy Roach

THE FIRST READING OF SCRIPTURE

Leviticus 25:1-7, 19-22

ANTHEM

There Will Come Soft Rains Laura Farnell on a poem by Sara Teasdale
Trinity Choir—Kitty Snyder; director

THE SECOND READING OF SCRIPTURE

Matthew 6:25-34

Robert Shears

SERMON

God's Gift Economy

Rev. Amy Heinrich

THE RESPONSE

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

❖ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - Land Acknowledgement Statement

Sue Bogseth

The land that First Presbyterian Church of Libertyville stands on today was stewarded by hundreds of generations of Native Peoples dating back at least 10,000 years, including the Peoria, Myaamia (Miami), Očhéthi Šakówiŋ (Sioux), Hoocąk (Ho-Chunk), and Kiikaapoi (Kickapoo).

Most recently, Lake County was home to the Bodéwadmī, or Potawatomi Nation, a society centered around villages where people practiced agriculture, hunting, trapping, and artistic crafts. By the late 1700s, the Potawatomi people oversaw a vast network in present-day Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan, trading furs and using local waterways like the Des Plaines River and trails like the Milwaukee Trace (Milwaukee Road) for transportation. The Potawatomi are still known today for their intricate beadwork designs and sleek birchbark canoes.

As white colonizers entered the area in the early 1800s, the Potawatomi people were forced to cede the land on which they lived and move west of the Mississippi River after signing the 1833 Treaty of Chicago. This removal, which began when the U.S. Senate ratified the treaty in 1835, was brutally managed. As a result, the Nation was scattered, and many people died along the way. Thirty-four years later, our church was founded in Libertyville.

Today, the Potawatomi Nation has established bands in Oklahoma, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Kansas, and Ontario. In addition, the Chicago area is home to one of the largest urban Native populations in the country, representing over a hundred different tribes.

With this acknowledgment, we seek God's wisdom and guidance as we lament the sins of colonization and the generational harm done to Native Peoples, both in the past and in the present. We work to counteract Indigenous erasure, respect Native sovereignty, and be good stewards of the land. We strive through word and deed to build Beloved Community for all God's children.

We speak these words in short form regularly in worship and other activities at First Presbyterian Church of Libertyville as an expression of God's abundant love for all people. By adopting, repeating, and reconsidering these words, we also hope to foster justice and grow Beloved Community now and in the future.

TABLE TALK

MOMENT FOR MISSION— Mosaic Hub Garden Project Andrea McCrory, Beth Schrag, and Lesley Koehler

OFFERING OURSELVES TO CARE FOR GOD'S WEB OF LIFE

Earth Care Team

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: We give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Everything That Lives and Grows
Trinity Choir—Kitty Snyder; director

John Leavitt

❖ PRAISE GOD - HYMN #608 (*The Doxology*)

PRAISE GOD

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & AN ECOLOGICAL LORD'S PRAYER by Cláudio Carvalhaes

Elder Sally Kowal

Our God who are in pluriverses, the skies and the earth, Blessed be your name: life. May your pulsing life come to be seen, heard, touched and felt through the oceans, the forests, in the rocks, in the life of plants and in the sounds of animals and singing birds.

May the atmosphere of the sky that carries our ability to breathe continue balanced as fossil presences are kept under the earth.

Give us this day our daily bread through a variety of seeds and grains and leaves without pesticides, without monocultures, from local farms and agro-biodiverse-cultures.

Forgive our plundering of the earth, our total lack of relation and reciprocity with the earth and more than human beings; as cells, mycelium, fungi and infinite processes of symbiosis forgive us daily by giving life back when we destroy it.

And lead us not into consumerism and devouring the earth, but deliver us from the apathy that says nothing can be changed. For life is kinship, relationally and reciprocity. Now and forever. Amen.

THE SENDING

❖ **CLOSING HYMN #713**

Touch the Earth Lightly

TENDERNESS

CHARGE FROM THE LAND

POSTLUDE

Chorale Prelude
Rose Snyder, organ

Paul de Maleingreau

❖ *Please stand in body or in spirit.*

Earth Care Team: Lauren Benditzky, Sue Bogseth, Stacey Friday, Cole Kowal, Sally Kowal, Nancy Roach, Nolan Russert, Robert Shears, Rev. Amy Heinrich

Community Notes

Learn more in our online *Parish Life* newsletter at www.firstpreslibertyville.org

The flowers today are placed to the glory of God by Sally & Connie Kowal in thanksgiving for their grandson, Cole, on his 9th birthday – from “Honey and Umpah”; and by Myrna & Fred Ulanday in gratitude for our community of faith at First Pres.

Sunday, April 27—Earth Care Sunday

- 10:00 AM Combined Worship (Sanctuary)
- 11:00 AM Frog Lady Eco Fair (Social Hall)
- 11:15 AM Alpha Chimers
- 11:45 AM Confirmation with Mentors (Youth Lounge)
- 5:30 PM Youth Bells
- 6:30 PM Youth Leadership Meeting (Youth Lounge)

Monday, April 28

- 6:30 PM Vesper Bells
- 7:00 PM Rebecca Circle (Parlor)
- 7:00 PM Troop 71 Meeting (Social Hall)

Tuesday, April 29

- 7:00 AM Men’s Bible Study (Zoom)
- 7:00 PM Stephen Ministry Training (Dougherty Room)

Wednesday, April 30

- 7:30 AM Morning Bible Study (Zoom)
- 4:00 - 5:30 PM PADS Donation Drop Off
- 7:00 PM 24 Hours of Prayer begins

Thursday, May 1—24 Hours of Prayer

- 6:00 AM – 6:00 PM Community Labyrinth Walk (Narthex)
- 9:00 AM Bel Canto Ringers
- 9:00 AM Women’s Disciple Bible Study (Conference Room)
- 4:20 PM Faith Choir (Choir Room)
- 4:30 PM Cherub Choir (Chapel)
- 6:00 PM Chapel Music Team
- 6:30 PM Motet Choir (Sanctuary)
- 7:30 PM Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)

Saturday, May 3

- 8:30 AM Women’s Spring Retreat (Offsite)

Sunday, May 4

- 10:00 AM Worship Services (Chapel & Sanctuary)
- 10:15 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Social Hour (Social Hall)
- 11:15 AM Alpha Chimers & Trinity Choir
- 11:30 AM Confirmation Luncheon (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:00 PM Junior High & Senior High Fellowship (Youth Lounge)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Women's Spring Retreat at Prairie Crossing Farm (May 3)
iConfirm Service & Party (May 10)
Chancel Choir Major Work (May 11)
Confirmation & Baccalaureate (May 18)

Sunday School: Kids and youth in PreK through 8th Grade are invited to Sunday School today! Caregiving is provided for kids ages birth through age 2 in the nursery and for ages 3-4 in the PreK-K caregiving room (105/106) for those kids who don't feel quite ready to participate in a Sunday School setting or sit through worship.

Frog Lady Eco Fair: After worship, join us in Social Hall for our Eco-Fair featuring the Frog Lady and her friends.

#PrayerOnThe100th: United Methodist Church has invited us to a collaborative 24-hour prayer event uniting different faith communities to pray for unity, healing, and a better world. It will take place from Wednesday, April 30 at 7 PM through Thursday, May 1 at 7 PM, beginning on the 100th day of the administration and culminating on the National Day of Prayer. Visit www.firstpreslibertyville.org for more information.

As part of the event, we're inviting the entire community to participate in an interactive prayer experience by walking a labyrinth that will be set up in the Sanctuary narthex. The labyrinth will be available from 6 AM – 6 PM.

Women's Spring Retreat on Saturday, May 3: Next Saturday is our Women's Spring Retreat, led by Rev. Amy, Rev. Nicole and Alex. Learn more and register at www.firstpreslibertyville.org.

Graduate info needed: Please submit your student's high school or college graduation info using the link on our website or call the church office at 847-362-2174. Graduation info will be included in our bulletin on May 18 and we'll have a cake reception immediately following worship. Please submit by May 12.

iConfirm Service & Party on Saturday, May 10: Come meet our confirmation students at a special service where they share the scripture passages they've memorized and explain why the scripture is meaningful to them. Everyone in the congregation is invited! Please help spread the word—we'd love to see a big turnout this year!

PADS Food Collection: Drop off on Wednesdays between 4 - 5:30 PM in the Sanctuary Narthex. Please visit www.firstpreslibertyville.org for the items that are needed.