

Please pray for:

At Parkway Center - Bill Griswold

At Resthave - Ann Musgrove

In the Service - Brad Gericke, Brandon Shultz, Payton Lowe

Prayers for - Phil Sinroll, Jessie Witt, Lucy Ettinger, Pat Conklen, Barb Stern, Mickey Gage, Debbie Musgrove, Ross & Marlene Jennings, Mary-Terrie Snavelly, Ron & Jackie Williams, Elijah Flint, Hart DuBois, Yvonne Van Wyhe, David & Beth Wright & baby Lucy



Men's Prayer Breakfast

October 21, 8:00 AM Benny's Red Apple

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Wednesdays on Zoom at 10AM



PADS Volunteers Needed

PADS is the local agency that provides temporary housing for the homeless of the Sauk Valley. They are open year-round. The guests are provided with a dinner and breakfast meal. There are bathroom facilities where they can clean up. Laundry facilities to clean clothes and a sleeping area. The shelters hours are from 7 pm to 7 am.

First Presbyterian Church staffs the shelter on the 1st Saturday of the month. The volunteers hours are 6pm to 11pm. There also is a volunteer that prepares the dinner meal and delivers it before 7 pm. Volunteers serve the meal and do the dishes.

There is a sign-up sheet for volunteers in the Church narthex.

First Presbyterian PADS Coordinator—Bryan Etter

Choir Rehearsal

Join us after church on
October 24!



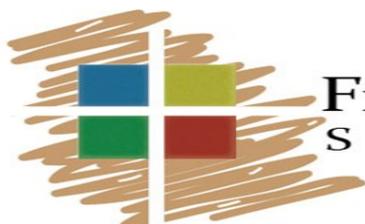
Flowers are given by Rod & Nancy Weber in loving memory of Nancy's parents, Tip & Woody Lahman.



Just a reminder that you can still access our services online! The church Facebook page will feature a link as soon as the service is posted, and the church website will also have the link. You can keep up with us by following us on Facebook and you can always find the current church newsletter and calendar on the website. If you need more information or you'd like to get the sermons via snail mail, just call the church office and leave a message: 815-631-1056

www.firstpresbyteriansterling.org

<https://www.facebook.com/First-Presbyterian-Church-Sterling-IL-105190307925/>



First Presbyterian Church
STERLING ILLINOIS

Order of Worship - October 17, 2021

Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: From the corners of fear, from the shadows of our doubts, God calls us to this place of sanctuary where we can draw from Love's deep wells.

People: When we look for strength to continue; when we wonder if faith is worth it, Jesus calls us to come, to receive, to welcome the love that is offered.

Leader: In every person who embraces us with acceptance, in every touch that offers healing and hope, the Spirit calls us

People: to see those around us as God's beloved, our neighborhood of grace.

Leader: So we have come to receive, and we have come to believe,

People: so that we may go out to give and to love.

All: Let us worship God!

Opening Song Come Just As You Are

Prayer of Confession

Giving and loving God, you know that we are hungry for many things: acceptance and recognition; meaning and purpose; a sign that we are valuable. We are hungry for love. But we try to fill ourselves with other things: money, material things, food, the admiration of others. We become consumed with consuming! – with what we can get, and keep, and use, and show to others! We are so preoccupied with ourselves that we don't even see our neighbors in need. Forgive us, God, and teach us to be content with what we have. Teach us that our true hunger is for love, for you, for community in you. You have made us in your image, and given us such worth: now fill us with your love, and let it overflow to our neighbors near and far, so that all may know the contentment and joy of knowing you, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Silence is kept

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, believe the good news: [...] know that you are forgiven and loved!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God! Amen.

Response Glory to God

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Response Peace Song

Children's Time

Scripture Reading John 21: 15-17

Sermon

Statement of Belief

I believe in the hidden God of love: the spirit of love and compassion found at the breadth and depth of every human life. I believe in the vision of Jesus: the reigning of God on earth, found where people and societies are governed by the rule of love. I believe in the way of Jesus: a love for God and neighbor, a love for stranger and enemy, a love for outcast and alien. I believe in the abundant life of Jesus: a life of acceptance, inclusion, and forgiveness, a life of equality, generosity, and sharing, a life of compassion, service, and nonviolence. I believe that though he died, the spirit of Jesus lives on among those who strive for peace and justice and who work to create a better world. In the name of Jesus, and in the name of love, I commit myself to care for others, to break down the barriers that separate us, and to seek justice and peace in the world.

Offertory

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Closing Song Just As I Am

Benediction

Response Jesus Loves Me