

SUMMER 2025

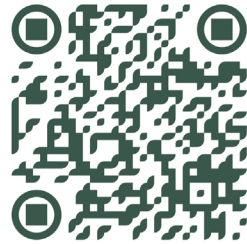
10am Services through September 7

FIRST PRES NORMAL



**Inspired by God's grace and love we seek
to be a community that follows Jesus.**

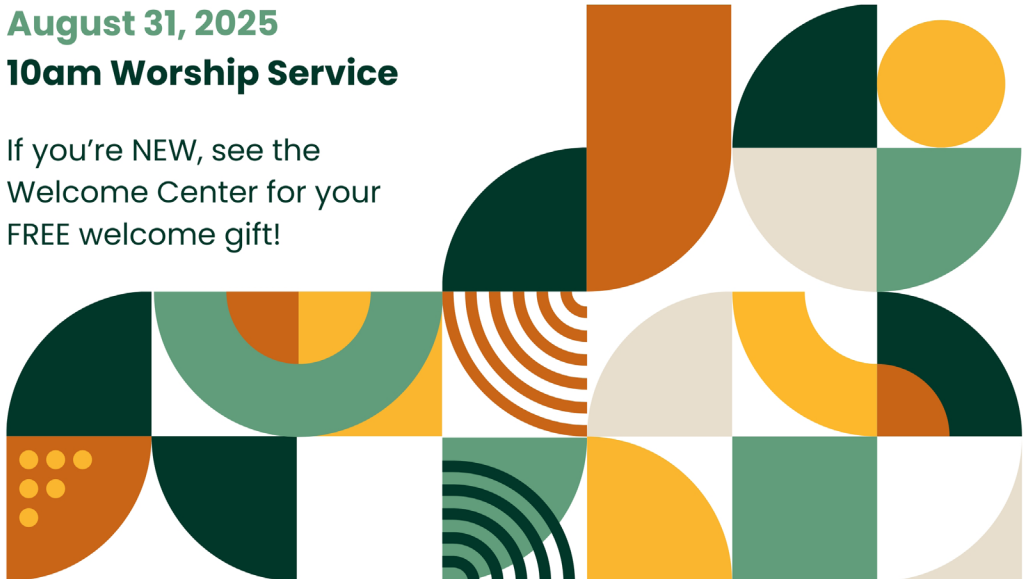
Scan the QR code to the right to find out
what's going on here at First Pres! -->



August 31, 2025

10am Worship Service

If you're NEW, see the
Welcome Center for your
FREE welcome gift!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mark your calendars and get plugged in!

TODAY | CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AFTER WORSHIP

Members are encouraged to attend our congregational meeting to elect new officers and to approve the revised Terms of Call for Rev. Karol Schilling.

SEPTEMBER | STORY STROLL

The Green Team has set up their fourth Story Stroll on the church grounds using the book, *Mrs. Spitzer's Garden*. We invite you to think and talk about the work and joys of growing, tending, and harvesting a garden!

SEPTEMBER 7 | FALL KICK-OFF SUNDAY

We will have a single service at 10am. After worship, we will gather in the Great Hall and outside for food, music, and fun. Our two-service schedule will resume on Sunday, September 14 with an 8:30am Traditional Service and an 11am Contemporary Service. The Fellowship Committee will provide pulled pork, buns, and drinks. Please bring a nut-free dish to share.

SEPTEMBER 10 | HOPE BAGS FOR CEDAR RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Join us at 11am in the Great Hall to unpack food and at 6pm to fill bags. Please sign up online. The snack bags are delivered to Cedar Ridge on Thursday morning.

SEPTEMBER 14 | FLOURISHING: GREEN TEAM-LED DISCUSSION SERIES

Join us on Sundays at 9:45am in the lounge for a 3-week discussion series on themes from the short book, *The Serviceberry: Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World* by Robin Wall Kimmerer. The serviceberry's relationship with the natural world is an embodiment of reciprocity, interconnectedness, and gratitude. Please sign up on the church website by Wed, Sept 10. Contact Sarah Jome for more information.

SEPTEMBER 15 | WOMEN'S BLESSINGS BIBLE STUDY

Join us on Mondays from 6-7pm in the Lounge as we study the New Testament book of Hebrews. This book teaches us that Jesus is better, Christianity is all we need, and Christ is sufficient for our salvation. Learn how to apply this powerful message to our lives. Sign up online by Sept 14. Contact Irene DenBesten for more information.

RUMMAGE SALE VOLUNTEERS

Many volunteers are needed for our October 3 and 4 Rummage Sale. Please sign up on our website: firstpresnormal.org>Resources>Sign-Ups. Our pre-sale event (\$5 entry) is Friday, Oct. 3, 4-6pm and our sale day (FREE entry) is Saturday, Oct. 4, 8am-12pm.

10AM ORDER OF WORSHIP
(When you see the * symbol, you may stand)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Matt Wilcox

CALL TO WORSHIP

Josh Hoffman

***HYMN #476** O Worship The King

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Josh Hoffman

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

***SONG** Amazing Love

SCRIPTURE 1 John 3:16-24

Josh Hoffman

TIME WITH CHILDREN Noisy Offering

Pastor Karol Schilling

SPECIAL MUSIC How Great Thou Art

Curtis Trout, baritone

SCRIPTURE Genesis 29:1-30

Pastor Karol Schilling

MESSAGE A Labor of Love

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Adapted from The Confession of 1967)

***HYMN #343** Called As Partners In Christ's Service

COMMUNITY PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Matt Wilcox

OFFERING MOMENT

Josh Hoffman

OFFERING

***SONG** They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love

***BLESSING**

Pastor Karol Schilling

476 O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!

LYONS 10.10.11.11

Robert Grant, 1833; alt.

Attr. Johann Michael Haydn (1737–1806); alt.

1. O wor - ship the King, all glo - rious a - bove!
 2. O tell of God's might, O sing of God's grace,
 3. The earth with its store of won - ders un - told,
 4. Thy boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite?

O grate - ful - ly sing God's power and God's love;
 Whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space.
 Al - might - y, Thy power hath found - ed of old;
 It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;

Our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days, Pa -
 The char - iots of heaven the deep thun - der - clouds form, And
 Hath stab - lished it fast by a change-less de - cree, And
 It streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain, And

vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.
 bright is God's path on the wings of the storm.
 round it hath cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
 sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.

5. Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
 In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail;
 Thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
 Our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend.

You Are My King (Amazing Love)

Words and Music by
Billy J. Foote

VERSE

♩ = 70

E/G# A2 Bsus B E/G# A2

I'm for - giv - en be - cause You were for - sak - en. I'm ac - cept - ed;

Bsus B E/G# A2 Bsus B

You were con - demned. I'm a - live and well, Your Spir - it is with - in me be -

CHORUS

A2 B E E A

cause You died and rose a - gain. A - maz - ing love, how can it be

E Bsus B A/B E A

that You, my King, would die for me? A - maz - ing love, I know it's true;

1 2, 3

E Bsus B A/B Bsus B A B

it's my joy to hon - or You. In all I do I hon - or You.

BRIDGE

E Fine E

You are my King, You are my King, Je - sus,

You Are My King (Amazing Love) - 2

D.C. al Fine

25

The musical notation is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The melody consists of the following notes: a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, an eighth note B4, an eighth note A4, a quarter note G4, a quarter rest, a quarter note F#4, a half note E4, a half note D4, followed by a quarter note G4, an eighth note A4, an eighth note B4, an eighth note A4, a quarter note G4, and a final whole rest. The lyrics are placed below the staff, aligned with the notes: 'You are my King. Je - sus, You are my King.' The piece concludes with a double bar line.

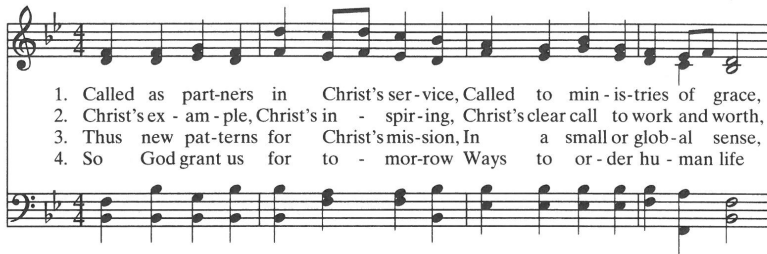
You are my King. Je - sus, You are my King.

Called as Partners in Christ's Service 343

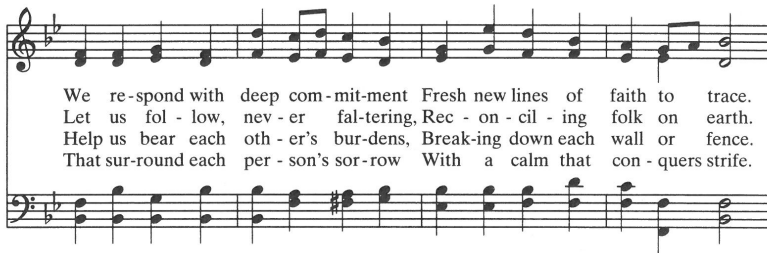
BEECHER 8.7.8.7 D

Jane Parker Huber, 1981

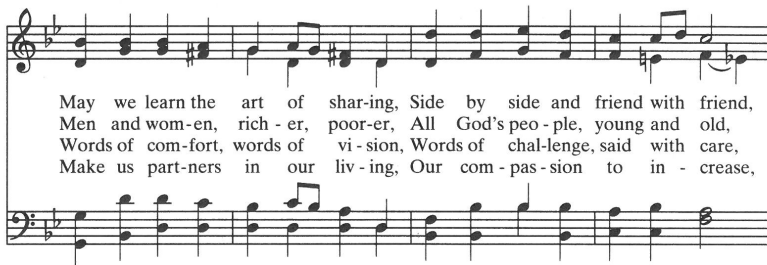
John Zundel, 1870



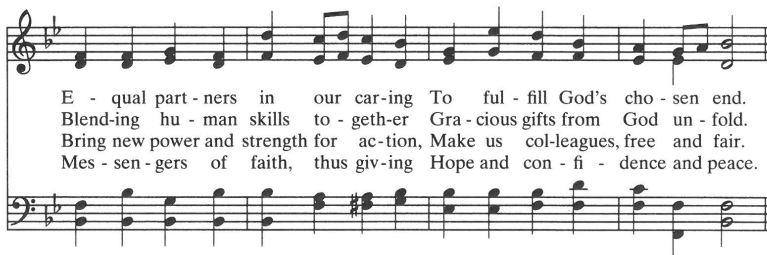
1. Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, Called to min-is-tries of grace,
 2. Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
 3. Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, In a small or glob-al sense,
 4. So God grant us for to-mor-row Ways to or-der hu-man life



We re-pond with deep com-mit-ment Fresh new lines of faith to trace.
 Let us fol-low, nev-er fal-tering, Rec-on-cil-ing folk on earth.
 Help us bear each oth-er's bur-dens, Break-ing down each wall or fence.
 That sur-round each per-son's sor-row With a calm that con-quests strife.



May we learn the art of shar-ing, Side by side and friend with friend,
 Men and wom-en, rich-er, poor-er, All God's peo-ple, young and old,
 Words of com-fort, words of vi-sion, Words of chal-lenge, said with care,
 Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, Our com-pas-sion to in-crease,



E-equal part-ners in our car-ing To ful-fill God's cho-sen end.
 Blend-ing hu-man skills to-gether Gra-cious gifts from God un-fold.
 Bring new power and strength for ac-tion, Make us col-leagues, free and fair.
 Mes-sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing Hope and con-fi-dence and peace.

Text: © 1981 Jane Parker Huber; from *A Singing Faith*. Used by permission.

They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love

Words and Music by
Peter Scholtes

VERSE



1. We are one in the Spir - it, we are one in the Lord; We are
2. We will walk with each oth - er, we will walk hand in hand; We will
3. We will work with each oth - er, we will work side by side; We will
4. All praise to the Fa - ther, from whom all things come; And all



one in the Spir - it, we are one in the Lord. And we pray that all
walk with each oth - er, we will walk hand in hand. And to - geth - er we'll
work with each oth - er, we will work side by side. And we'll guard each man's
praise to Christ Je - sus, His on - ly Son. And all praise to the

CHORUS



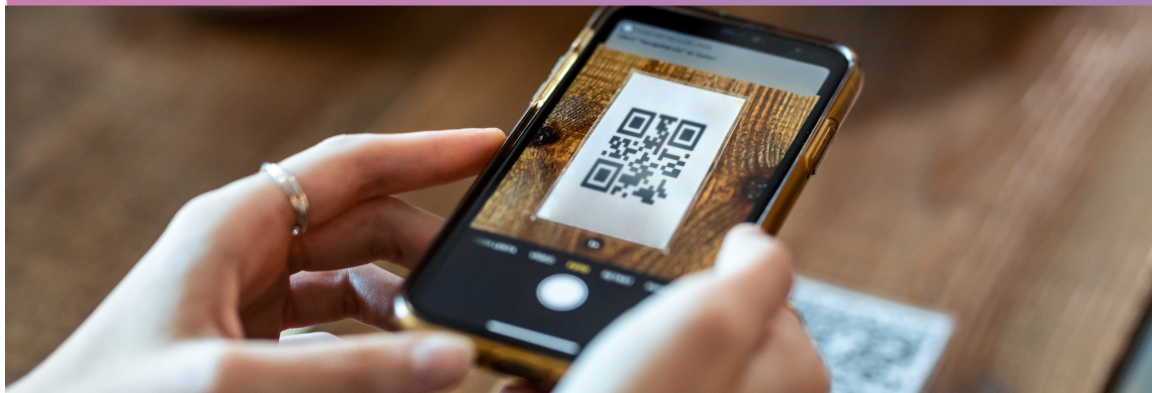
u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored. And they'll know we are Chris - tians by our
spread the news that God is in our land.
dig - ni - ty and save each man's pride.
Spir - it, who makes us one.



love, by our love, yes they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love. _____

CCLI Song # 26997

Get connected, sign up and volunteer today!



Quick Read (QR) Codes: Use your phone's camera and point it at the code you want. When a website link pops up, click on it to be redirected.



BE A LITURGIST



BE AN USHER



**WELCOME CENTER
GREETER**



**LEAD TIME
WITH CHILDREN**



**SEPT. 10
HOPE BAGS**



**SEPT. 14
FLOURISHING
STUDY**



**SEPT. 15
BLESSINGS
STUDY**



**SEPT. 26
BLOOD DRIVE**



**RUMMAGE SALE
VOLUNTEERS**



Dear Church Family,

October is traditionally Pastor Appreciation Month, but this year, due to Pastor Matt's sabbatical from October through December, we want to take a moment in September to honor his dedication, hard work, and leadership.

In addition, we would like to equally recognize Pastor Karol Schilling, who will be assuming greater responsibilities during Pastor Matt's absence. Our church is truly blessed to have two pastors who lead with integrity, intentionality, and wisdom. Their steadfast commitment greatly enriches our congregation and community.

Furthermore, we want to extend our appreciation beyond our pastoral staff. Our church family is supported and strengthened by many dedicated non-pastoral staff members—including our Director of Music (Phil Enge), our Director of Family Ministry (Kelli Owens), our Administrative Assistant (Anne Lunt), our Property Manager (John Anderson), our Finance Coordinator (Priscilla Montalvo), our A/V Tech Engineer (Tyler Gatto), and our Childcare Coordinator (Tristan Bishop). Their hard work and devotion are vital to the vibrancy of our church, and this is a wonderful time to acknowledge and thank them, too.

Please join us in expressing our gratitude and appreciation for our church staff. You can scan the QR code below for a list of staff's Favorite Things. While gifts of appreciation are lovely and warmly welcomed, a heartfelt handwritten note of thanks can be equally meaningful. Let's help them feel recognized and valued for all they do.

With gratitude,

The

Personnel

Angela Brant, Eric Jome, Rob Kelley (Chair), Julie Koh, Todd Smith





PLEASE DONATE BY SUN, SEPT. 28TH

help us feed our neighbors

Home Sweet Home Ministries, Midwest Food Bank, and Thrivent Financial are once again partnering for Big Give. The goal is to provide a Thanksgiving meal to approximately 2,200 families this Thanksgiving. Churches and other businesses throughout the community will be participating in this event. We ask that families shop for the non-perishable items that will be included in the meal boxes handed out this Thanksgiving.

See next page for shopping list >>>

SHOPPING LIST

- ☐ 1 Box of Stuffing Mix
- ☐ 2 Cans of corn
- ☐ 2 Cans of green beans
- ☐ 2 Cans of cream of mushroom
- ☐ 1 Box of mashed potatoes
- ☐ 1 Envelope of gravy (no jars, please)
- ☐ 1 Regular pouch of French-fried onions
- ☐ 1 Can of cranberry sauce
- ☐ 1 Box of pie crust mix
- ☐ 1 Can of pumpkin pie
- ☐ 1 Can of evaporated milk
- ☐ 1 Gift card for a frozen turkey

**Donations can be brought to the church
September 7th-28th. Thank you!**


MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sun. Aug. 31	11am	Congregational Meeting Sanctuary
Mon. Sept. 1	-----	Labor Day (church closed)
Wed. Sept. 3	1pm 6:30pm	Bible in a Year Library Chancel Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary
Thu. Sept. 4	9am 1pm	Book Group Library Yadahs Small Group Library
Fri. Sept. 5	11am	Worship Band Rehearsal Sanctuary

CONTACT OUR CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor-Matt Wilcox mwilcox@firstpresnormal.org
 Associate Pastor-Karol Schilling kschilling@firstpresnormal.org
 Director of Music-Phil Enge penge@firstpresnormal.org
 Director of Family Ministry-Kelli Owens kowens@firstpresnormal.org
 Director of Playmates Preschool-Robin Schaefer rschaefer@firstpresnormal.org
 Childcare Coordinator-Tristan Bishop tcb.bishop@gmail.com
 Financial Coordinator-Priscilla Montalvo pmontalvo@firstpresnormal.org
 Administrative Assistant-Anne Lunt alunt@firstpresnormal.org
 A/V Technician-Tyler Gatto tgatto@firstpresnormal.org
 Property Manager-John Anderson janderson@firstpresnormal.org

WEBSITE



 (309) 452-4459

FACEBOOK



 info@firstpresnormal.org

INSTAGRAM



 firstpresnormal.org



Scan the QR code with your phone's camera. When a link pops up, tap it with your finger.

We affirm that all people are children of God and are created in the image of God. Believing this, we welcome all individuals into the life, community, and ministry of First Pres. This includes people of every age, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, physical or mental ability, economic status, political belief, background, and past experience. No one is excluded, marginalized, or held outside the warm welcome of this congregation. You can find our full statement of affirmation & inclusion on our website.