

**Sermon** *Our Prayer of Confession (and Why We Pray It Each Week)*

Matt Matthews

**Anthem** *Live Unto God* (text adapted from *Romans 14:8-9*)

Zebulon M. Highben

### **We Respond to God's Word**

*As God invites us to be disciples of his Son, we prayerfully respond to God with affirmations of faith and acts of self-giving, commitment, and thanksgiving.*

#### **Prayers of Thanksgiving & Concern**

##### **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.

### **We Go Out In God's Name**

*Having gathered together in God's name and been fed by God's Holy Word,  
we go out in God's name bearing the peace of Christ to the world.*

❖ **Hymn for Commitment #441** *Hear the Good News of Salvation*

❖ **Charge and Benediction**

❖ **Congregational Sung Benediction #766** *The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound* (vs. 1)

The church of Christ cannot be bound by walls of wood or stone.  
Where charity and love are found, there can the church be known.

❖ **Postlude**

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❖ Please stand if able. Remain seated if need be.

Liturgy adapted from prayers by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org  
Cover art *You are Worthy* by Rev. Lauren Wright Plottman | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

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# **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN**

March 20, 2022     Third Sunday in Lent



Welcome to First Presbyterian Church  
Bienvenue à La Première Eglise Presbytérienne de Champaign  
Bienvenidos a La Primera Iglesia Presbiteriana

삼페인 제일 장로교회에 오신것을 환영합니다.

Si vous souhaitez que le service soit traduit en français,  
procurez-vous un récepteur et des écouteurs à l'arrière du sanctuaire.

## **Welcome to worship!**

*When you enter the sanctuary, please be mindful of the silent prayers of those around you.*

*We invite you to share your contact info in the Friendship Pad when passed, then to stop by our Welcome Center downstairs in Westminster Hall after the service. Mingle with other friends and guests and learn more about this congregation's ministry. **Welcome home!***

## **We Gather Together In God's Holy Name**

*God calls us together as "children." Wonderful it is to be so loved! Our natural response is worship.*

### **Prelude**

#### **Chiming on the Hour of Tower Bell**

#### **Act of Friendship & Sharing of Prayer Concerns**

*Please pass the Friendship Pad and list prayer concerns on the prayer request cards in the pen.*

### **Greeting & Announcements**

### **Minute for Missions**

#### **❖Call to Worship**

Come, all who are thirsty.

**Come, all who are seeking.**

Come, all who are waiting.

**Come, all who labor.**

Come, all who need rest.

**Come, all who dream dreams.**

Come—whether you're young or old, confident or curious, lonely or hopeful.

**This is God's house. All are welcome here. Let us worship holy God.**

#### **❖Hymn #435** *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

### **Call to Confession**

#### **Prayer of Confession**

**Holy God,**

**we treat our self-worth like something that can be bought at a store; but you know this even better than we do.**

**Instead of trusting that we are made good,**

**instead of trusting that we are loved exactly as we are, we stockpile our value in earthly things—in trophies and awards, in likes and follows, in wealth and power.**

**Forgive us for creating our own measuring stick.**

**Heal our open wounds and tell our hearts that we won't be forgotten if we slow down.**

**We won't be forgotten if we rest. Gratefully we pray, amen.**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

Friends, take a deep breath. Release the tension in your jaw. There is good news here.

For even when we stumble,

even when we take the easy way out, even when we forget our own self-worth,

even when we lose our way—we belong to God.

Say it with me:

**We are loved. We are forgiven. We are claimed. We are under God's wing.**

**We are worthy of grace. We belong to God. Amen.**

### **Passing of the Peace**

#### **Invitation to the Offering** *We are invited to return God's tithes and give our offering.*

**Offertory** *He Never Said a Word*

arr. Michael Ryan

Upper Room Ringers; Libby Sternhagen, director

#### **Sung Response #607** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;**

**Praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

### **Prayer of Dedication**

## **We Gather Around God's Holy Name**

*At the center of Christian life and worship is God's Word incarnate in Christ and God's Word as recorded in scripture. We hear the story of God's love in scripture and sacrament and we say, "Thanks be to God!"*

### **Word with Children**

### **Prayer for Illumination**

#### **Gospel** *Luke 13:1-9* (NT pg. 76)

<sup>1</sup>At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. <sup>2</sup>He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?" <sup>3</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. <sup>4</sup>Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them — do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem?" <sup>5</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

<sup>6</sup>Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup>So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' <sup>8</sup>He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. <sup>9</sup>If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

This is the Word of the Lord./**Thanks be to God!**

Ceci est la Parole du Seigneur./**Gloire à Dieu** (pronounced "glow-ah ah dew")

## This Week

### Sunday, March 20

- 9:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary
- 10:15 AM Sunday School/Gather in Westminster Hall
- 10:15 AM Adult Sunday School/Sanctuary
- 11:00 AM Easy English Fellowship/Zoom
- 11:15 AM The Gathering/Chapel
- 1:00 PM APNC/Parlor

### Monday, March 21

- 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study/Parlor
- 1:00 PM GROW/Family Library
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
- 4:30 PM Environmental Stewardship/Parlor & Zoom
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

### Tuesday, March 22

- 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast Study/Zoom
- 9:00 AM PW Coordinating Team/Chapel & Zoom
- 10:30 AM Staff Meeting/Parlor & Zoom
- 12:00 PM Classic Book Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
- 4:30 PM Community Mission Deacons/Parlor & Zoom
- 5:30 PM DREAAM Dance-Cheer Clinic/Gym

### Wednesday, March 23

- 9:00 AM Cuba Steering Committee/Parlor & Zoom
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
- 4:30 PM CYF Meeting/Zoom
- 5:30 PM DREAAM Dance-Cheer Clinic/Gym
- 6:00 PM Bell Choir/Bell Room
- 7:00 PM Adult Choir/Choir Room

### Thursday, March 24

- 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 10:30 AM Circle of Joy/Parlor & Zoom
- 12:30 PM Bible Study/Windsor of Savoy
- 1:00 PM Circle of Faith/Parlor & Zoom
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
- 4:30 PM DREAAM Brotherhood Dinner/Centennial Hall Kitchen & Dining
- 7:00 PM Circle of Peace/Parlor & Zoom

### Friday, March 25 Church Office closes at noon

- 8:30 AM Men's Prayer/Zoom
- 7:30 PM Friday Nite Lights Study/Zoom

### Saturday, March 26

- 6:00 PM French Prayer/Zoom

## Announcements

●**We are glad you're here!** Questions about First Pres, contact **Pastor Matt** or call the church office.

●**Sandy Carr** is our liturgist this morning. We would love to have you serve as a liturgist! If interested, please contact **Carol Miles**.

●**Sunday School is back meeting in person!** Children will gather in Westminster Hall to meet with their teachers and walk over to the CE building. Lessons begin at 10:15 AM. Pick up is at 11:05 AM in the alley by the CE door. Masks must be worn over the nose and mouth at all times while indoors.

●Today in worship you will notice **members of the Environmental Stewardship Committee** wearing orange Adopt-a-Highway vests. Our next Adopt-a-Highway is April 9 at 8 AM. There would be a table downstairs in Westminster Hall for you to sign up to join the Adopt-A-Highway group and talk to them about the ESC.

●Just 24 hours. From sundown to sundown. The world was changed. Our world is changed. This morning following worship in the sanctuary join us for **Adult Sunday School** as we visit the places where Jesus was tried by the Jewish council. He responded with clarity, and sent threads of love to Peter, weeping in the courtyard. At Passover, the Jews celebrated God's deliverance. They longed for another deliverance. They killed God's Deliverer. Throughout Lent, we will look at what Jesus did in his last 24 hours on earth and how those hours "changed the world."

●**If unable to attend church**, catch our 9 AM service live each Sunday morning at [firstpres.live](https://www.firstpres.live). The Sunday **sermon** is available on-line anytime or on WDWS 1400AM the next Sunday at 10:30 AM.

●Pick up a **Lenten Daily Devotional**, *Full to the Brim*, this morning from one of the kiosks or at the Welcome Center.

●**Bach Concerts** presented by the U of I Choral Department will be held Wednesdays at 12 noon in the Sanctuary. Join us March 30; and April 6 and 20. Concerts are free and open to the public. Masks required.

●If you or a loved one is **in the hospital or in need of a pastoral visit**, contact the church office.

●The **March newsletter** is available in the kiosks or at [firstpres.church/newsletter](https://www.firstpres.church/newsletter).

●Copies of the **2021 Annual Report** are available at the Welcome Center or in kiosks around the church.