

## 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.

Anthem *For the Music of Creation*

Text-Shirley Murray; Music-Austin Lovelance

Song for Centering #408 *There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit in This Place*

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,  
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;  
There are sweet expressions on each face,  
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

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.

Commissioning Members & Friends for Service

Veda Javaid Gill and Cheryl Burke, Executive Director Friends of PEB, as they continue their work with the PEB

Special Music – *Someone to Watch Over Me*

Gary Winder, clarinet

G. Gershwin, arr. Joseph Turrin

## 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 #69 *I, the Lord of Sea and Sky*

◆Charge and Benediction

◆Congregational Sung Benediction #306 *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.  
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

◆Postlude

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

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# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

January 14, 2024

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany



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 worship space, please be mindful of the silent prayers of those around you.*

*We are presently worshiping in Westminster Hall while our elevator is being replaced.*

*We invite you to share your contact info in the Friendship Pad when passed,*

*then to stay after the service for coffee and fellowship.*

*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 pads.*

### **Greeting & Announcements**

### **◆Call to Worship**

This is the day the LORD has made.

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

The LORD's name be praised.

**Hallelujah! Praise the LORD!**

### **◆Hymn of Praise #450 *Be Thou My Vision***

### **Call to Confession**

Because of such great mercy,

**God is ready to forgive all the ways we fail to live in faithfulness.**

Relying on that mercy,

**let us join in one voice as we confess our sin before God and one another.**

### **Prayer of Confession**

Almighty God, You have made of one blood all nations of women and men to dwell on the face of the earth;

**By your grace in Christ—though many—we are one body.**

Remind us in this hour that First Presbyterian Church is only one part of a vast fellowship.

**Blest be the tie that binds!**

Turn our thoughts outward and help us to build and foster a closer communion with the whole church—the church across the street and the church across the world.

**Help us, Lord.**

Thank you for your church.

**Thank you, Lord. Alleluia.**

Forgive us for taking your church for granted.

**Lord, have mercy.**

In Christ's name, hear our prayer!

**Amen and Amen!**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

**In Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven.**

Sung: Jesus knows our deepest fears/  
knows the pain of hidden tears.

By his words of love and peace/  
every heart can find release. (Pashto hymn/*Jesus Knows the Inmost Heart*/Tune: Loe De Isa)

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

### **Passing of the Peace**

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

**Offertory** – *Standchen*

Franz Schubert, arr. Julian Bliss

Gary Winder, clarinet

### **Response of Gratitude #300 *We Are One in the Spirit***

**We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;**

**We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,**

**And we pray that all unity may one day be restored:**

**And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;**

**Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

### **Prayer of Dedication & Thanksgiving**

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

*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 #314 *Longing for Light* (refrain)**

**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.**

**Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.**

### **Scripture** *Daniel 3:8-18; Luke 8:22-25*

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")

### **Sermon** *Invite God Into Your Difficulties*

Veda Javaid Gill, Executive Director

A Message from our Presbyterian Education Board in Pakistan

# This Week

## Sunday, January 14

- 9:00 AM Worship/Westminster Hall
- 10:00 AM Second Sunday Brunch/Centennial Hall
- 10:15 AM Worship/Windsor of Savoy

## Monday, January 15 Church office closed for MLK Holiday

- 5:30 PM Cuba Travel Group Meeting/Matthews' Home
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

## Tuesday, January 16

- 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Building
- 10:30 AM Church Staff/Parlor & Zoom
- 12:00 PM Classic Book Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 4:30 PM Community Mission Deacons/Parlor & Zoom
- 5:30 PM DREAAM Parent Titans/Cafe
- 5:30 PM DREAAM Tiny Titans/Gym
- 6:00 PM Outreach/Parlor
- 7:30 PM Together on Tuesdays/Zoom

## Wednesday, January 16

- 9:00 AM Cuba Partners/Zoom
- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Building

## Thursday, January 18

- 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 12:30 PM Bible Study/Windsor of Savoy
- 6:00 PM Bell Choir/Bell Room
- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir/Choir Room
- 7:00 PM Session/Parlor & Zoom

## Friday, January 19 Church Office close at noon

- 8:15 AM Men's Prayer/Zoom

## Saturday, January 20

- 5:00 PM Wedding/Sanctuary
- 6:00 PM French Worship Service/Chapel

# Announcements

- **We are glad you're here!** Questions about First Pres, contact **Pastor Matt Matthews** or call the church office. We are presently worshipping in Westminster Hall while our elevator is being replaced.
- Please wear your **nametag** to help our new **Associate Pastor Joe Lundy** get acquainted.
- We welcome to our pulpit this morning **Veda Gill**, Executive Director of the Presbyterian Education Board in Pakistan.
- **Linda Sandquist** is our liturgist this morning. If you would like to serve, contact **Carol Miles**.
- **Betty Hollister** will preach this morning's service at the Windsor of Savoy. **Judi Geistlinger** is preaching in Hoopeston this morning.
- You can sign up to donate flowers for the coming year on the **flower calendar** on the bulletin board just outside Westminster Hall. Donate flowers in honor, memory or for a celebration on a Sunday morning.
- Join us this morning for our **Second Sunday Brunch** in Centennial Hall. A variety of brunch items will be served. Brunch is free but donations are welcome.
- If you or a loved one is **in the hospital or in need of a pastoral visit**, contact the church office.
- Check out the **book cart** in Westminster Hall. Donate a book for others to enjoy and take some.
- The **January newsletter** is available in the kiosks or at [firstpres.church/newsletter](http://firstpres.church/newsletter).
- Please **do not park** in the spaces marked Reserved 24/7 behind the law office on Sundays.
- **If unable to attend church**, watch our 9 AM service live each Sunday at [firstpres.church/live](http://firstpres.church/live). The Sunday **sermon** is available on-line anytime or on WDWS 1400AM the next Sunday at 10:30 AM.
- **Year-end reports** from groups and committees are now due. You can see a copy of last year's Annual Report at <https://firstpres.church/newsletters-reports/>. Scroll to the bottom of the page on the website for the 2022 Annual Report. Reports should be emailed to [marcia@firstpres.church](mailto:marcia@firstpres.church) by January 22, 2024.
- In the next month the newly formed **CYF and Outreach committees** will be meeting, so if you have any input or questions for those groups let **Joe Lundy** know!
- Plans are coming together for Bible Club on Wednesdays from 3 to 5 PM with a tentative start date of January 24. DREAAM middle school youth and staff on our campus will join us. Will you join a list of people interested in serving? Can you help out on our kitchen team or serve as a table partner? Table partners greet guests and facilitate conversation while eating with DREAAM tweens and staff. Contact **Gary Peterson** ( [amer-swede@yahoo.com](mailto:amer-swede@yahoo.com) or 217-398-8504) or **Bob Kirby** ([rwk3213@gmail.com](mailto:rwk3213@gmail.com) or 217-621-5915) for more information or to sign up.