

Leader: As we proclaim the mystery of faith:



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.

Communion of the People (*We will hold the elements and partake together.*)

Prayer after Communion

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.*

Connecting with our Community

◆ Hymn of Commitment #159 *O Sing a Song of Bethlehem*

◆ Charge and Benediction

◆ Congregational Sung Benediction #136 *Go Tell It On the Mountain*

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!
While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

◆ Postlude

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

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

January 5, 2025

2nd Sunday of Christmas

F O L L O W H I S
S T A R

Welcome to worship!

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

We are presently worshipping 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." How wonderful it is to be so loved! Our natural response is worship.

Prelude Gary Winder, Clarinet

Act of Friendship/Sharing of Prayer Concerns

Please pass the Friendship Pad, noting with whom you are sitting, and list prayer concerns on the prayer request cards in the pads.

Greetings/Welcome

Minute for Mission – Strides Low Barrier Shelter

Charlene Murray

Threshold Moment

◆ Call to Worship

Arise; shine, for your light has come!

We are called out of our darkness into light.

Lift up your eyes and look around.

We rejoice in the gift of light.

Come let us worship the God of light and joy and peace.

We come to kneel at the cradle of the babe, the light incarnate.

◆Hymn of Praise #150 *As With Gladness*

Call to Confession (*Congregation may be seated.*)

Prayer of Confession

Ever-patient God, we are a people who live in thick darkness. We stumble around bombarded by news of war and poverty, famine and genocide, injustice and oppression. The maelstrom of things and issues and people of the dark, can overwhelm and paralyze us.

Help us be people of the light, shining your light of righteousness, peace, and joy into all the dark places of our lives and world. Unlock the mystery and glory of the babe born in Bethlehem.

Turn our aimless wanderings into a journey of purpose guided by your star. Let the light break into our lives and our world, and transform us into people of the light.

Silence is kept.

Assurance of Pardon

Passing of the Peace

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 #92 *While We Are Waiting, Come*

Come Savior, quickly come; come Savior, quickly come.

Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, come Savior, quickly come.

Scripture *John 1:1-9*

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

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

Message

Beth Wagner

Hymn of Reflection #151 *We Three Kings*

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.

◆An Affirmation of Faith *The Nicene Creed*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for

our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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

Offertory Gary Winder, clarinet

◆Response of Gratitude

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him.

The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

◆Prayer of Dedication & Thanksgiving

Communion & Star Word Blessing

Invitation to the Table

The Great Thanksgiving

The Holy One be with you.

And also with you.

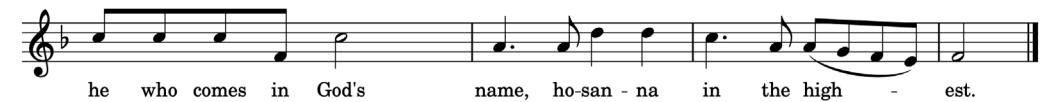
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to our God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: ...and so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their unending hymn:



This Week

Sunday, January 5

- 9:00 AM Worship/Westminster Hall
- 10:10 AM Adult Education/Parlor
- 10:10 AM Easy English Fellowship/Rooms 204, 206, 207

Monday, January 6

- 1:00 PM Grow/Family Library
- 1:30 PM Bible Study/Library
- 4:00 PM HR Meeting/Parlor & Library
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

Tuesday, January 7

- 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 9:00 AM Small Group Leaders/Parlor & Zoom
- 10:30 AM Church Staff Meeting/Parlor & Zoom
- 12:00 PM Classic Book Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 5:00 PM DREAAM Mentoring/Cafe

Wednesday, January 8

- 9:30 AM Nurture/Parlor & Zoom
- 7:30 PM Together on Tuesday/Zoom

Thursday, January 9

- 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 12:30 PM Windsor of Savoy Bible Study/Windsor of Savoy
- 2:30 PM Congregational Care Deacons/Parlor & Zoom
- 4:30 PM Finance Team/Parlor & Zoom

Friday, January 10 Church Office closes at noon

- 8:15 AM Men's Prayer/Zoom

Saturday, January 11

- 6:00 PM French Worship Service/Chapel

Announcements

●**We are glad you're here!** Questions about First Pres, see **either pastor** after the service or contact the church office (info@firstpres.church). We are presently worshipping in Westminster Hall while the elevator to our historic Sanctuary is being replaced.

●Please wear your **nametag** to help our **staff** get acquainted.

●**Tanya Deckert** is our liturgist this morning. If you would like to serve, contact **Carol Miles**.

●We welcome **Gary Winder on clarinet** as our special musical guest this morning.

●Join us this morning immediately following worship for **Adult Education** when we host special guest speaker, **Charlene Murray**, from Strides Low Barrier Shelter.

●During January join **Paster Beth** for coffee on Mondays from 10-12 at **Good Judy's**, 2740 S. Philo Road, Suite D, Urbana. It has plenty of parking and Bagels!

●There will be a **Congregational Meeting** Sunday, January 19, immediately following the worship service for the purpose of allowing the congregation to approve or disapprove the sale of the farm land in southwest Champaign.

●Do you have **2025 paper advertising calendars** you do not need? We can use them in our English classes. You can drop off in the mission closet or the office.

●**Ginny Waaler** has some copies of *Shades of Life* the second book written by former pastor **Malcolm Nygren**. If you are interested in a copy, contact Ginny.

●Help us stock our **Free Little Pantry**. Donations are appreciated. This time of year stocking hats and gloves are great. Drop off contributions in the church office or in Westminster Hall on Sundays.

●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 **December newsletter** is available in the kiosks or at firstpres.church/newsletter.

●Please **do not park** in the spaces marked Reserved 24/7 behind Meyer/Capel Law office on Sundays.

●**If unable to attend church**, watch our 9 AM service live each Sunday at firstpres.church/live. The Sunday **sermon** is available on-line anytime or on WDWS 1400AM the next Sunday at 10:30 AM.