

The Meal is Set (*Let us hold the elements and partake together*)

The Meal is Shared

We close in Prayer

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.

Ordination and Installation of Officers

There are varieties of gifts,

But it is the same Spirit who gives them.

There are different ways of serving God,

But it is the same Lord who is served.

God works through each person in a unique way,

But it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

To each is given a gift of the Spirit,

To use it for the common good.

Together we are the body of Christ,

And individually members of it.

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 #634** *To God Be the Glory*

◆ **Charge and Benediction** (adapt. *Stages on the Way*/Wild Goose Worship Group)

Lord Jesus Christ, you called your disciples to go forward with you into the world.

Since you first walked that road countless millions have followed you.

In all that we do as your disciples, save us from false familiarity with your journey.

May we never presume to step into your shoes, but make us small enough to fit our own, and to walk in love and wonder behind you.

Guide our steps.

Hear our praise and thanks as we worship you in holiness and truth.

◆ **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 7, 2024

Baptism of the Lord/Communion



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 (from the *Belbar Confession*)

We gather as the Church of Jesus Christ to worship God in the power of God's Holy Spirit.

We rejoice that we share one faith,

have one calling,

are of one soul and one mind;

we have one God and Father,

are filled with one Spirit,

are baptized with one baptism,

eat of one bread and drink of one cup,

We confess one name,

are obedient to one Lord,

work for one cause,

and share one hope.

With one, strong voice, let us worship God.

The Lord's name be praised.

♦Hymn of Praise #482 *Baptized in Water*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (adapt. from the *Belbar Confession*)

While You, O God, have entrusted Your church with Your message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ, we confess we sometimes align with systems of sin and death. Forgive us when our words and attitudes espouse hatred, bitterness, and enmity instead of Your life-giving Word and Spirit. Enable us, Holy God, to live with renewed obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world. Help us always to fix our sights on your son, Jesus, who knows the way and, by your Holy Spirit, guides our steps. AMEN.

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven

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 – *I Wonder as I Wander*

arr. John Jacob Niles

Joe Grant, soloist

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 *Mark 1:1-11*

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 *Who Gets to Sit in God's Seat?*

Matt Matthews

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

We are Invited

We give Thanks (sung to "Day Is Done" Ar Hyd Y Nos)

For the fruit of all creation, Thanks be to God.

For the gifts to every nation, Thanks be to God.

For the wonders that astound us, For the truths that still confound us.

Most of all that love has found us, Thanks be to God...

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.

This Week

Sunday, January 7

- 9:00 AM Worship/Westminster Hall
- 10:00 AM Easy English Fellowship/Rooms 204 & 207
- 10:10 AM Sunday School/Education Building
- 10:10 AM Advent Study/Parlor
- 10:15 AM Worship/Windsor of Savoy

Monday, January 8

- 9:00 AM Compassion, Peace & Justice/Zoom
- 1:00 PM Knifty Knitters/Parlor & Zoom
- 1:00 PM Prayer Ministry/Library
- 1:00 PM Grow/Family Library
- 4:00 PM HR Meeting/Parlor & Zoom
- 5:30 PM Cuba Travel Group Meeting/Matthew's Home
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

Tuesday, January 9

- 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 10:30 AM Church Staff/Parlor & Zoom
- 12:00 PM Classic Book Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 12:30 PM DREAAM Board Meeting/Chapel & Zoom
- 4:30 PM Mission Committee/Parlor & Zoom
- 5:30 PM DREAAM Parent Titans/Cafe
- 5:30 PM DREAAM Tiny Titans/Gym
- 7:00 PM Worship Committee/Parlor & Zoom
- 7:30 PM Together on Tuesdays/Zoom

Wednesday, January 10

Thursday, January 11

- 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 12:30 PM Bible Study/Windsor of Savoy
- 4:30 PM Finance/Parlor & Zoom
- 6:00 PM Bell Choir/Bell Room
- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir/Choir Room
- 6:30 PM Nurture/Parlor & Zoom

Friday, January 12 Church Office close at noon

- 8:15 AM Men's Prayer/Zoom

Saturday, January 13

- 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 worshiping in Westminster Hall while our elevator is being replaced.
- Please wear your **nametag** to help our new **Associate Pastor Joe Lundy** get acquainted.
- Thank you to **Rick Murphy** for serving as our pianist this morning.
- **Judi Geistlinger** is our liturgist this morning. If you would like to serve, contact **Carol Miles**.
- Officers ordained and/or installed this morning include: Elders – **Carol Ann Green, Mary Gritten, Carol Miles, John Muirhead, Tom Ulen**. Deacons – **Sallie Hutton, Pam Knox, Marge Olson, Skip Pickering, Kathy Schoeffmann**.
- **Gary Peterson** will preach this morning's service at the Windsor of Savoy.
- 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.
- We have sung, "Oh come, oh come Emmanuel..." Well, Emmanuel has come. God is with us. When God seems absent, sometimes it's up to us to show his presence. Often the world only knows the truth of Emmanuel, 'God with us,' because of his followers. How shall we live our lives in ways that reflect the truth that God with us is an ongoing reality? Join us this morning in the Parlor immediately following worship as we conclude our **Advent Study *Holy Disruption*** of the incarnation in Mark.
- 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.
- 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. 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 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 or 217-398-8504) or **Bob Kirby** (rwk3213@gmail.com or 217-621-5915) for more information or to sign up.