

Like the shepherds,
we believe that God's presence in our life is something worth talking about.
Like generations before,
we believe that God is with us.
Like the generations to come,
we believe that God is with us.
God is here. God is love.
We believe. Thanks be to God!

Song for Centering and Call to Prayer #113 *Angels, We Have Heard on High* (refrain)
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

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 #119 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

❖ Charge and Benediction

❖ Congregational Sung Benediction #133 *O Come, All Ye Faithful* (vs. 4)

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him,
Christ, the Lord!

❖ Postlude

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

Office: 302 West Church, Champaign, IL 61820 ♦ 217.356.7238
info@firstpres.church ♦ Rev. Matt Matthews (matt@firstpres.church)
www.firstpres.church ♦ Facebook: fb.com/firstpreschampaign



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

December 25, 2022 Christmas Day



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 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 pen.

Greeting & Announcements

❖Call to Worship (based on *Isaiah 9:6, Revelation 12:10*)

Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come.

**For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and his name shall be called,
Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God,
Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace.**

❖Hymn of Praise #134 *Joy to the World*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Forgive us Lord, for paying our gifts so much attention that we paid your miraculous birth no heed. Forgive us Lord, for getting impatient with our "religious relative" who insisted that we pause to offer thanks for your birth. Forgive us Lord, for spending too much on gifts that yield temporary happiness. Forgive us Lord, for amassing so many Christmas memories that barely mentioned your name. Forgive us Lord, and remind us of the miracle of your birth, the significance of your life, the sacrifice of your death, all that we might live anew as beloved children of God. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Only a loving God would send a Savior to suffer for a sinful and forgetful people. Only a concerned God would put on human flesh and experience the same temptations that we face. Lord Jesus Christ you alone understand our frailties and offer us compassionate help when we are tempted.

Thank you for welcoming us into your holy family. Today we walk assured that you love us, forgive us, and trust us with the precious good news of the gospel.

❖Passing of the Peace

❖Hymn #147 *The First Nowell*

Word with Children

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

Response of Gratitude #133 *O Come, All Ye Faithful* (vs. 1)

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;
O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold him, born the King of angels!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!**

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!"

Prayer for Illumination #110 *Love Has Come* (vs. 3)

**Love has come and never will leave us! Love is the life everlasting and free.
Love is Jesus within and among us. Love is the peace of our hearts seeking.
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas.
Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!**

Scripture *John 1:1-14* (NT pg. 91)

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 *Christmas Presents*

Matt Matthews

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.

Litany for Christmas Morning

Like Mary,
we believe in cherishing good news.
Like the angels,
we believe in singing God's praise.

Announcements

- **We are glad you're here!** Questions about First Pres, contact **Pastor Matt** or call the church office.
- **Mary Jane Kelley** is our liturgist this morning. If you would like to serve, contact **Carol Miles**.
- There is **no Sunday School or childcare** for children on this morning or January 1. Sunday School and childcare will resume on January 8.
- **If unable to attend church**, catch our 9 AM service live each Sunday morning at firstpres.live. The Sunday **sermon** is available on-line anytime or on WDWS 1400AM the next Sunday at 10:30 AM.
- If you or a loved one is **in the hospital or in need of a pastoral visit**, contact the church office.
- The **December newsletter** is available in the kiosks or at firstpres.church/newsletter.
- The **Church Office will be closed** Monday, December 26; Wednesday, December 28; Thursday, December 29; and Monday, January 2. We will also continue to close at 12 noon on Fridays during the holidays.
- Please **do not park** in the spaces marked Reserved 24/7 behind the law office on Sunday mornings. The spaces behind the law office belong to Meyer/Capel. They generously let us use the unmarked spaces on Sundays but need to reserve spots marked 24/7 for staff that work weekends. Thanks for your cooperation!

Wishing you a joyous and blessed Christmas.

Poinsettias

Thank you to the following who donated poinsettias to decorate the Sanctuary during this Christmas season...

Coletta & Bill Ackermann in loving memory of Clemmie's parents, Anna and Albert Prorok; Bill's parents, Margaret and William Ackermann; and Clemmie and Bill's daughter, Margaret Ackermann Karayiannis;

Mary Beastall in memory of her parents and sister;

Jim Berger in memory of Thomas and Bertha Jean Berger; Frederick and Agnes Berger; and M. Louise Zilly;

Gary Bowen in memory of Jean A. Bowen;

Jean Brunson in memory of Bob and Connor Brunson;

Helen & Richard Coddington in loving memory of Norma and Richard C. Coddington and Marian and John Rodemer;

The Cullum family in memory of Jim Cullum;

Lauri & Jim Dey;

Sue Fischer in memory and honor of her beloved husband, Dr. Donald A. Fischer;

Judi & Jay Geistlinger in memory of Gene Miller;

Camille & Dan Harmon in memory of Harley, Vivian and Collin Harmon and Bill and Billie Smith

Beth & John Hutchens in honor of the Thursday Women's Bible Study;

Sabrina & Wen-mei Hwu in loving memory of her father K.C. Chen and in honor of Ginny and Dale Tutje;

Richard & Sue Jones in memory of Richard's parents, JA and Rosine Jones; and Sue's parents, Helen and Gratton Hill;

Nancy Martin in memory of Betty & Bob Eisner and in honor of Lisa & Vivian Schroeder;

Norma & John McDannald;

Judy Nicolette in memory of Beth and Hal Dawson, Bob Nicolette and Jill Nicolette Izzii;

Lola & Kurt Ruthmansdorfer in memory of Daniel Ruthmansdorfer and Edith Ruthmansdorfer;

In memory of Janny Quinn Travers from her husband, **Ken Travers**, and her daughters, **Stacey Travers Roux**, **Wendy Travers Chao** and **Kelly Travers Sansone**;

Kathy & Mark Schoeffmann;

Annilee Shaul in memory of loved ones.