

◆Prayer of Dedication & Thanksgiving

Call to Prayer #115 *Away In a Manger* (vs. 3)

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay  
close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

Prayers of the People

*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.*

Connecting with our Community

◆Hymn of Commitment #144 *In the Bleak Midwinter*

◆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 Trena Thomas, flute

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



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN**

December 29, 2024

I<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas



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 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**

### **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**

### **We Open the Door/Threshold Moment**

#### **◆Call to Worship**

**Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise God in the heights!**

Praise God, all God's angels; praise God, all God's host!

**Praise God, sun and moon; praise God, all you shining stars!**

Praise God, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

#### **◆Hymn of Praise #147 *The First Nowell***

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

### **Prayer of Confession** (from *When We Gather* by James G. Kirk)

**God of compassion, have mercy upon us as we make our confession. The year is soon spent. What we ought to have done still awaits action, while we commit acts not in accord with your will. We think of ourselves before others; we serve our own needs. We keep for ourselves the gifts of your graciousness. The new life you offer is not yet proclaimed in the land. Forgive us our sins and make us more faithful. Help us to use our time wisely as we follow Christ's way. *Silence is kept.***

### **Assurance of Pardon**

Do not fear, says the Lord, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name; you are mine. God is doing a new thing; now it springs forth! By the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!  
**Amen.**

### **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.**

### **First Reading *Colossians 3:12-17***

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!**

### **Second Reading *Luke 2:41-52***

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

### **Message**

Joe Lundy

## **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 Apostle's Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

#### **◆Hymn for Reflection #152 *What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright***

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

### **Offertory *Patapan***

Trenna Thomas, flute

Lloyd Larson

#### **◆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!**

## This Week

### Sunday, December 29

- 9:00 AM Worship/Westminster Hall
- 10:10 AM Easy English Fellowship/Rooms 204, 206, 207
- 1:30 PM DREAAM/Centennial Hall

### Monday, December 30

- 1:00 PM Grow/Family Library
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

### Tuesday, December 31

- 10:30 AM Church Staff Meeting/Parlor & Zoom
- 11:00 PM French Watchnight Service/Chapel

### Wednesday, January 1 Church Office closed

### Thursday, January 2

- 9:00 AM Compassion, Peace, Justice/Zoom
- 12:30 PM Windsor of Savoy Bible Study/Windsor of Savoy
- 2:30 PM Congregational Care Deacons/Parlor & Zoom
- 4:00 PM Spiritual Formation/Zoom

### Friday, January 3 Church Office closes at noon

- 8:15 AM Men's Prayer/Zoom

### Saturday, January 4

- 6:00 PM French Worship Service/Chapel

**Church office hours will vary December 24 through January 1.**

**Please call before making a trip to the office.**

**Contributions for 2024 need to be postmarked before January 1, 2025 or placed in the offering plate today.**

*We wish you peace and love  
this holiday season!*

## 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.
- **Trenna Thomas** is our liturgist this morning. If you would like to serve, contact **Carol Miles**.
- **NO Adult Education** today. Join us on Sunday, January 5, immediately following worship when we host special guest speaker, **Charlene Murray**, from Strides Low Barrier Shelter.
- **Please feel free to take a poinsettia after this morning's service.**
- **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!
- The **Christmas Joy** offering will be received today, December 29.
- **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.
- **Church office hours will vary December 24 through January 1.** Please call before making a trip to the office. (We will be closed December 25, 26 and January 1.)
- 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](http://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](http://firstpres.church/live). The Sunday **sermon** is available on-line anytime or on WDWS 1400AM the next Sunday at 10:30 AM.