

teaching by word and deed  
and blessing the children,  
healing the sick  
and binding up the brokenhearted,  
eating with outcasts,  
forgiving sinners,  
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.  
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,  
Jesus was crucified,  
suffering the depths of human pain  
and giving his life for the sins of the world.  
God raised this Jesus from the dead,  
vindicating his sinless life,  
breaking the power of sin and evil,  
delivering us from death to life eternal.

Song for Centering #92 *While We Are Waiting, Come*

While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.  
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

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.*

◆Hymn for Commitment #136 *Go, Tell It On the Mountain*

◆Charge and Benediction

◆Congregational Sung Benediction #105 *People Look East*

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able; trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look east: Love, the Guest, is on the way.

◆Postlude

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

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# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

December 31, 2023

1<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 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 Psalm 148)**

Praise the Lord!

**Praise the Lord from the heavens!**

Praise the Lord sun and moon!

**Praise the Lord all you shining stars!**

Praise the Lord all of creation,

**For everything was made by the Lord!**

### **♦Hymn of Praise #147 *The First Noel***

### **Call to Confession**

### **Prayer of Confession (by Phillip Gladden from *The Presbyterian Outlook*)**

**Gracious and loving God, as we stand on the threshold of a new year, we look back and recognize the many ways we have fallen short of your glory: missed opportunities to share your love; times when we were silent when we could have spoken up for what was right; indifference to your claim on our whole lives through Jesus Christ; and a lack of gratitude for your amazing grace by which you save us and call us to be your people. Lord, forgive us.**

**As we look ahead to a new year, free us from thinking we can save ourselves. Help us to follow where you lead. Show us how to be your children and your heirs, forgiven and freed to live for our God and for one another in love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **Assurance of Pardon (by Phillip Gladden from *The Presbyterian Outlook*)**

**The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Believe the good news: In Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven.**

**Thanks be to God!**

### **Passing of the Peace**

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

**Offertory – Sora Shepard**

### **Response of Gratitude #648 *Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise***

**Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell everyone what God has done.**

**Let everyone who seeks the Lord rejoice and bear the name of Christ.**

**Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy**

**With shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

### **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 #83 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus***

**Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;**

**From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.**

### **Scripture *Luke 22:22-40***

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**

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.*

### **Hymn Sing**

### **Affirmation of Faith (from a *Brief Statement of Faith*)**

**We trust in Jesus Christ,**

**Fully human, fully God.**

**Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:**

**preaching good news to the poor**

**and release to the captives,**

## This Week

### Sunday, December 31

- 9:00 AM Worship/Westminster Hall
- 10:00 AM Easy English Fellowship/Rooms 104 & 105
- 10:15 AM Worship/Windsor of Savoy
- 6:00 PM McDonald-McLaughlin Wedding/Sanctuary
- 11:00 PM French Watch Service/Chapel

### Monday, January 1 Church Office Closed

- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

### Tuesday, January 2

- 9:00 AM Small Group Leaders/Parlor & Zoom
- 10:30 AM Church Staff/Parlor & Zoom
- 12:00 PM Classic Book Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 5:30 PM DREAAM Parent Titans/Cafe
- 5:30 PM DREAAM Tiny Titans/Gym
- 7:30 PM Together on Tuesdays/Zoom

### Wednesday, January 3

- 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch/Parlor

### Thursday, January 4

- 11:00 AM Sign Language Review/Church Library
- 12:30 PM Bible Study/Windsor of Savoy
- 2:30 PM Congregational Care Deacons/Parlor & Zoom
- 4:00 PM Spiritual Formation/Zoom
- 6:00 PM Bell Choir/Bell Room
- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir/Choir Room

### Friday, January 5 Church Office close at noon

- 8:15 AM Men's Prayer/Zoom

### Saturday, January 6

- 6:00 PM French Worship Service/Chapel

*We wish you a happy  
and healthy new year!*

## 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.

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

●**Joe Lundy** will preach this morning's service at the Windsor of Savoy.

●The **Christmas Joy Offering** will be received TODAY.

●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.

●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 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 Giving...**We encourage everyone to contribute to our end-of-year giving to finish the 2023 year strong! Members, visitors, pledgers, non-pledgers, and new members all make the difference here in our operating budget. For credit as 2023 contributions, donations must be received in the church office by December 31, 2023 at noon or postmarked by December 31, 2023. Any contributions received or postmarked on or after January 1, 2024 will be considered as 2024 contributions. Please keep in mind that December 31, 2023 is a Sunday if you plan to mail in any end-of-year contributions. If you make a prepayment in 2023 toward your 2024 giving, please make certain to note your contribution as 2024. By giving appreciated stock to the church for your pledge, you can receive a tax advantage. Please allow 2 weeks for completion of any stock transactions. Notify **Marcia Franks** (217.356.7238 or [marcia@firstpres.church](mailto:marcia@firstpres.church)) in the church office at the time you notify your broker. Thank you all for your generous gifts of time, talent, and treasure! Best wishes from your Finance Team