

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

We Are Invited

We Give Thanks #515 *I Come With Joy* (vs. 1)

I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved, and free.

The life of Jesus to recall, in love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.

Prayers continue...

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.

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

The Meal is Shared

We Close in Prayer

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 #82 *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*

❖ Charge and Benediction

❖ Congregational Sung Benediction #106 *Prepare the Way, O Zion* (vs. 1)

Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!

Let every hill and valley a level way appear.

Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.

❖ Postlude

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



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

December 4, 2022

2nd Sunday in Advent



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.

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www.firstpres.church ♦ Facebook: fb.com/firstpreschampaign

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

Wake up, my friends, and hear the words of the messenger:

"Do not be afraid. A baby will be born, and you will call him Jesus."

Come and hear the words spoken long ago:

"Jesus will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High."

Will there be an end to his kingdom, his mission of love on earth?

"Of his kingdom there will be no end."

Then have no fear, for the kingdom of heaven is eternal.

We are not afraid. Come, let us worship!

❖Hymn of Praise #88 O Come, O Come Emmanuel (vs. 1, 2, 4 and 7)

Lighting of Advent Candles

Stretch, Noni & Grace Ledford

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Our Most High God, you call us to bring the light of your Word to a foggy, confusing world. You call us to bring the light of comfort to a lost and lonely creation. But we confess we often use our lights to shame others and our darkness to hide pain and suffering. You created us to bring illumination and compassion, and instead we have brought condemnation. Forgive us, God. Help us begin again today. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Rest in the knowledge our sins are forgiven, our hopes are renewed, and the God who lights the path toward deliverance will never forsake us.

Receive the pardon of the Most High God today. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

Thanks be to God.

Passing of the Peace

Today we celebrate the incarnation of the Prince of Peace, and the peace that finds us both in dark and light places. We find peace among us and between us as we gather to worship.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(Please greet one another in the peace of Christ.)

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

The Lord Did Send the Angel Gabriel (Text adapted from Luke 1:26-38)

Fred Gramann

Response of Gratitude #93 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates (vs. 1)

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold the King of glory waits;

The king of kings is drawing near, the Savior of the world is here.

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 #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 *Matthew 3:1-12 (NT pg. 2)*

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 *While We Are Waiting, Come*

Matt Matthews

Announcements

●We are glad you're here! Questions about First Pres, contact **Pastor Matt** or call the church office.

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

●**Sunday School** for children this morning at 10 AM. Sign in children at the Welcome Center 8:45-9. After worship, they will be escorted to their class. Meet your child or children in the library in the Education Building at 11. Transportation is not being provided at this time.

●**Adult Education** this morning at 10:15 AM in the Parlor will feature **Bob and Claudia Kirby** speaking on their experiences with Border Ministries leading up to our visit from **Mark Adams**, our mission coworker on the border of Mexico and Arizona.

●**Ann Stout** will preach today's 10:15 AM service at the Windsor of Savoy.

●**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.

●**It's A Green Christmas!** Stop by the ESC table in Westminster Hall, fill out a questionnaire and register for the chance to win a Christmas stocking with environmentally friendly gifts. There are lots of great earth friendly shopping ideas for your holiday giving. Winning names are drawn weekly.

●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.

●Have you ever played BINGO in Spanish? Do you love coffee and cinnamon chocolate cake? On December 6, come hear a **presentation on border ministry and immigration reform** and enjoy a cup of Cafe Justo and dessert. **Mark Adams**, our mission coworker on the border of Mexico and Arizona, will be with us sharing what he and his wife Miriam do at Frontera de Cristo. They are traveling the country for this next year on "Interpretation Assignment." What an opportunity to ask your personal questions with someone who is actively working in border ministry and making a difference! Unfortunately, Miriam could not be with Mark this time but we hope to have some other guests join us. The program will be at 6:30 PM in Centennial Hall. Bring a friend.

●We have some **special musical offerings** coming up in December! Sunday, December 11, during the 9 AM worship service, the choir will present our **Christmas Music Sunday**. We will feature a selection of Christmas anthems and carols accompanied by **Sora Shepard** on piano and organ and a chamber ensemble of strings and woodwinds.

The finale is **Christmas Day**, a medley of carols by Gustav Holst. We hope to see you there!

●The response to the **Angel Tree** gifts to Kemmerer Village last year was so great that when the invitation came to help their 200 children have a better Christmas this year, the Community Mission Deacons unanimously agreed to set up the Angel Tree this year for Kemmerer Village. The Angel Tree is up for you to choose an ornament with a child's wishes on it. We will need to send the gifts to Kemmerer Village by December 11.

●Set aside Sunday, December 11. In the morning we will celebrate the holidays with Christmas Music Sunday at our 9 AM service presented by our Chancel Choir. That afternoon will be a Caroling Party starting with an open house at the home of **Michael Hogue and Bruce Rainey**, 1104 West Clark, Champaign, from 1-3 PM. At 3, we will walk/drive the neighborhood between Clark Street and the church and carol.

●Enduring the holidays can be tough if you have recently lost a family member. **Surviving the Holidays** will meet again on Wednesdays, December 21 and January 4, at 5 PM in the Parlor. This week's meeting on Wednesday will meet from 5-7 PM in the Parlor while December's meeting will start in the Parlor then end the evening at *The Longest Night* worship service in the Sanctuary. Contact **Rachel Matthews, Sherry Marble** or **Sallie Hutton** with questions.

●**Laetitia Kyungu**, one of our guest singers throughout the year, will hold a free concert *I Surrender* on Saturday, December 17, at 5 PM at the Independent Media Center, 202 South Broadway Avenue Suite 203, Urbana.

The Season of Advent...Join us for this season of light as the days grow shorter.

Highlights of the season include:

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| December 6 | 6:30 PM Advent Offering/ Dessert and Coffee Special Program - Mission co-worker Mark Adams on Immigration at the border and Frontera de Cristo. Our Advent Offering recipient. |
| December 11 | Christmas Music Sunday, led by our choir accompanied by a small orchestra at the 9 AM service. (NO Second Sunday brunch in December.) The afternoon includes our caroling party. |
| December 18 | Our all-congregation, no-rehearsal Christmas pageant at 9 AM |
| December 21 | 6 PM Longest Night service especially for those for whom Christmas can be a hard time surrounded by those of us to love and support them, full of quiet music and candlelight |
| December 24 | Christmas Eve!
4 PM Intergenerational service
8 PM Candlelight and communion service |
| December 25 | Christmas morning worship at 9 AM. (No Sunday School or childcare.) |
| January 1 | Ring in the New Year at 9 AM worship with carols, communion and few surprises. (No Sunday School or childcare.) |

This Week

Sunday, December 4

- 9:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Sunday School/CE Building
- 10:00 AM Easy English Fellowship/Room 204
- 10:15 AM Adult Education/Parlor
- 10:15 AM Worship/Windsor of Savoy
- 5:30 PM World Mission Dinner/Parlor

Monday, December 5

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 9:00 AM ELL (English Language Learners)/Zoom
- 1:00 PM GROW/Family Library
- 1:30 PM Bible Study/Parlor
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School/CE Building
- 4:00 PM HR Meeting/Zoom
- 5:00 PM DREAAAMette Dance Team/Gym
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall
- 6:30 PM Epilepsy Support/Westminster Hall
- 7:00 PM ELL (English Language Learners)/Zoom

Tuesday, December 6

- 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 9:00 AM Small Group Ministry/Parlor & Zoom
- 9:30 AM ELL In-Person/CE Building
- 10:30 AM Church Staff/Sanctuary
- 12:00 PM Classic Book Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School/CE Building
- 5:30 PM DREAAAMette Cheer Team/Gym
- 6:30 PM Dessert with Mark Adams/Centennial Hall

Wednesday, Decembber 7

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 9:30 AM ELL In-Person/CE Building
- 10:00 AM ELL/Zoom
- 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch/Westminster Hall
- 1:30 PM Pakistan Study/Parlor & Zoom

- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School/CE Building
- 5:00 PM DREAAAMette Dance Team/Gym
- 5:30 PM DREAAM Robotics/201, 204, 205, 206, 207
- 6:30 PM Welcomed & Affirmed/Zoom
- 7:00 PM UIUC Lyrical Recital/Sanctuary
- 7:00 PM ELL/Zoom

Thursday, December 8

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 10:00 AM ELL/Zoom
- 11:00 AM DREAAM Carle Partnership Lunch/Parlor
- 12:30 PM Bible Study/Windsor of Savoy
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School/CE Building
- 4:30 PM Finance/Zoom
- 6:30 PM Nurture/Parlor & Zoom
- 6:30 PM Bell Rehearsal/Bell Room
- 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal/Choir Room

Friday, December 9 Church Office Closes at Noon

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 8:30 AM Men's Prayer/Zoom
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School/CE Building
- 7:30 PM Friday Night Lights/Zoom

Saturday, December 10

- 10:00 AM Music Sunday Rehearsal/Sanctuary
- 11:00 AM DREAAM Self Care/Centennial Hall & Gym
- 6:00 PM French Worship Service/Centennial Hall

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