

◆Response of Gratitude

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold;
Take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee, ever, only, all for thee.

◆Prayer of Dedication & Thanksgiving

◆Call to Prayer #66 *Every Time I Feel the Spirit* (Spiritual)

Every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart I will pray.
Yes, every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart I will pray. (Repeat)

Prayers of the People with The Lord's Prayer (pg. 35; *in the language and wording most familiar to you.*)

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 for Commitment #729 *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*

◆Charge and Benediction

◆Congregational Sung Benediction #741 *Guide My Feet* (vs. 1; Spiritual)

Guide my feet while I run this race; guide my feet while I run this race;
Guide my feet while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain!

◆Postlude

◆Please stand as you are able in body or spirit.



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH** OF CHAMPAIGN

February 16, 2025

6th Sunday after Epiphany



Welcome to First Presbyterian Church
Bienvenue à La Première Eglise Presbytérienne de Champaign
Bienvenidos a La Primera Iglesia Presbiteriana

샴페인 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

Threshold Moment

◆Call to Worship

In Luke's gospel, Jesus called together the disciples
and a great multitude to a level place.

There he touched, healed, and taught.

There he spoke, "Blessed are..."

There he named the blessed—the saints of the faith.

**O God, call us together as you did those so long ago
to discover your blessed people.**

Today, in this place, Christ gathers us.

**Let us remember, confess, celebrate, and embody
the blessed saints of God.**

Christ, come among us. Alleluia!

Let us pray: ...

◆Hymn of Praise #450 *Be Thou My Vision*

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

Prayer of Confession

Teacher of hard truths,
it is difficult to let go of our anger
toward those who prosper through deceit and unscrupulous ways;
it is not easy to make ourselves believe that the meek will inherit the earth,
when they are being crushed by the unjust systems
stacked against them.
We long to see the vindication of the righteous
and the prosperity of those who work selflessly to bring your realm here on earth.
We yearn for the day
when all people will treat one another as they wish to be treated.
Help us live into that day, Holy One, even when it is difficult,
that your love might shine like the sun
through our lives and our ministries. Amen. *Silence is kept.*

Kyrie Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us

Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us; Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon

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 #386 *Come, Worship God* (vs. 4)

Now let us listen, for you speak among us; open our hearts to receive what you say.

**Peace be to all who remember your goodness, trust in your word,
and rejoice in your way!**

Scripture *Luke 6:17-26*

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!**

Message

Beth Wagner

◆Hymn for Reflection #773 *Heaven Shall Not Wait*

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 Confession of Belbar*

**We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation
in and through Jesus Christ; that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and
the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker,
that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new
earth in which righteousness dwells.**

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

Offertory *Take My Life and Let It Be*

Scott Perkins

This Week

Sunday, February 16

- 9:00 AM Worship/Westminster Hall
- 10:00 AM Annual Congregational Meeting/Westminster Hall & Zoom
- 10:10 AM Easy English Fellowship/Rooms 204, 206, 207
- 10:10 AM Children's Sunday School/CE Building
- 10:10 AM Adult Discussion/Parlor

Monday, February 17

- 9:15 AM ELL In-Person Classes/CE Building & Café
- 12:00 noon Lunch & Learn/Centennial Hall
- 1:30 PM Women's Bible Study/Library
- 1:00 PM GROW/Family Library
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

Tuesday, February 18

- 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 9:15 AM Compassion, Peace & Justice/Zoom
- 9:15 AM ELL In-Person Classes/CE Building & Café
- 10:30 AM Staff/Parlor & Zoom
- 12:00 PM Classic Book Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
- 3:30 PM Community Mission Deacons/Parlor & Zoom
- 5:00 PM DREAAM Learning Lab/Centennial Hall
- 5:00 PM DREAAM Mentoring/Café
- 6:00 PM DREAAM Praise Dance/Chapel

Wednesday, February 19

- 8:00 AM Cuba Partners/Zoom
- 9:15 AM ELL In-Person Classes/CE Building & Café
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
- 3:30 PM DREAAM Bible Club/Centennial Hall
- 7:30 PM Together on Tuesdays/Zoom

Thursday, February 20

- 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 9:30 AM ELL Conversation/Café
- 10:00 AM Beth's Coffee Shop Hours/Bakelab at Lodgic (1807 South Neil Street)
- 12:30 PM Bible Study/Windsor of Savoy
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
- 7:00 PM Session/Parlor & Zoom
- 7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal/Choir Room

Friday, February 21 Church Office Closed

- 8:15 AM Men's Prayer/Zoom
- 10:00 AM Christ Community Church Korean Choir/Chapel
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building

Saturday, February 22

- 10:00 AM DREAAM/Café & Gym
- 6:00 PM French Worship Service/Chapel

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.

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

●We are collecting royalties each time we sing or hear a **Spiritual** in our service. Royalties were never paid for this music. The royalties we collect will go to the DREAAM Choir. The donation box can be found in the Welcome Center.

●Grab a cup of coffee and join us for this morning's **Adult Discussion** in the Parlor immediately following the Annual Meeting. **Dr. Bob Kirby** will lead us in a discussion of *A Christian Responde to the Immigration Crisis*.

●Join **Paster Beth** for coffee Thursdays from 10-12 at Bakelab at Lodgic (1807 South Neil Street).

●The **Annual Meeting of the Congregation** will be held TODAY immediately following worship.

●In February, you are invited to **“Lunch and Learn”** on Mondays from 12-1:30 PM in Centennial Hall. Bring a lunch from home and come with a mind to learn! **February 17** – Navigating Facebook, search the internet. How do we stay safe? **February 24** – AI. What is it? And how do we live with it now that it is here?

●The **DREAAM middle school youth** and staff will again join us for fun activities, a Bible study, and a meal. We'll meet on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 5 PM February 26; March 12 and 26; April 16 and 30. The last date will be May 14. For more information, contact **Peter Yau** pmyau@illinois.edu (217-621-0448) or to sign up to help in the kitchen, or **Holly Ewan Nordheden** hnordheden@gmail.com (217-621-3450) or to sign up as one of the 4-6 table partners we need to greet our guests and facilitate conversation with prepared questions during our shared meal. Mark your calendar and sign-up NOW!

●Join the Nurture Committee for the **2nd Annual Chili Cook Off** on Sunday, February 23, at 4 PM in Centennial Hall. Details to come...so pull out your favorite recipes and join us for food and fun.

●**Ash Wednesday, March 5, marks the beginning of Lent.** Join us at 5 PM for a meaningful and peaceful start to a season of growth and transformation.

●During **inclement weather** the church office follows the closure of Parkland College. If Parkland College cancels classes or closes their offices, the church office will be closed.

●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 **February newsletter** is available in the kiosks or at 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. The Sunday **sermon** is available on-line anytime or on WDWS 1400AM the next Sunday at 10:30 AM.