

forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel... God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come Lord Jesus". With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Song for Centering & Call to Prayer #775 *I Want Jesus To Walk With Me* (vs.1)  
I want Jesus to walk with me; I want Jesus to walk with me;  
All along my pilgrim journey, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

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 #12 *Immortal, Invisible*

❖ Charge and Benediction

❖ Congregational Sung Benediction #543 *God Be the Love* (vs. 1)

God, be the love to search and keep me;  
God, be the prayer to move my voice;  
God, be the strength to now uphold me.  
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

❖ Postlude

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

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# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

February 19, 2023    Transfiguration of the Lord



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**

Blessed is the Lord our God, who revealed the law to Moses.

**The Lord our God is holy!**

Blessed is the Lord our God who has spoken through the prophets.

**The Lord our God is holy!**

Blessed is the Lord our God, who came to us in Jesus Christ.

**The Lord our God is holy!**

The one who spoke and called light out of darkness now shines in our hearts.

**The Lord our God is holy!**

The one who comes and does not keep silence now speaks in our midst.

**The Lord our God is holy!**

Now we have seen the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

**The Lord our God is holy!**

Great God of dazzling beauty and overshadowing majesty, in Jesus Christ, your beloved, we glimpse the image of your glory. Teach us to listen to him so that we may hear your voice and follow your holy way; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **❖ Hymn of Praise #263 *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!***

### **Call to Confession**

### **Prayer of Confession**

**God of compassion, in Jesus Christ you reveal the light of your glory, but we turn away, distracted by our own plans. We confess that we speak when we should listen, and act when we should wait. Forgive our aimless enthusiasms. Grant us**

**wisdom to live in your light and to follow in the way of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

### **Passing of the Peace**

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

**Offertory Song – Sora Shepard**

### **Response of Gratitude #25 *O Lord Our God How Excellent* (vs. 5)**

**O Lord, our God, how excellent, how glorious is your name,  
Majestic in your holiness. We sing, and praise your fame.**

### **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 #458 *Thy Word Is a Lamp Unto My Feet* (refrain)**

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.**

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.**

### **Scripture *Exodus 24:12-18* (OT pg. 70); *Matthew 17:1-9* (NT pg. 18)**

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 *Thin Places***

Jean Oliver-Holder

## **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.*

### **Anthem *Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies***

music: Eleanor Daley; text Charles Wesley

### **An Affirmation of Faith *(from A Brief Statement of Faith)***

**In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. 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, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts,**

# This Week

## Sunday, February 19

- 9:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Sunday School/Christian Education Building
- 10:00 AM Easy English Fellowship/Room 204
- 10:15 AM Faith in the Real World/Parlor
- 10:15 AM Worship/Windsor of Savoy
- 1:00 PM APNC/Parlor

## Monday, February 20

- 10:00 AM ELL In-Person/Room 204
- 1:00 PM GROW/Family Library
- 1:30 PM Bible Study (Rempe)/Westminster Hall
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

## Tuesday, February 21

- 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 9:00 AM PW Coordinating Team/Zoom
- 9:30 AM ELL In-Person/Rooms 102, 103, 104, 201, 204, 205, 206, 207, Café
- 10:30 AM Church Staff/Parlor & Zoom
- 12:00 PM Classic Book Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
- 3:30 PM DREAAM Culinary Arts Club/Centennial Hall & Kitchen
- 4:30 PM Community Mission Deacons/Parlor & Zoom

## Wednesday, February 22 Ash Wednesday

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 9:30 AM ELL In-Person/Rooms 102, 103, 104, 201, 204, 205, 206, 207, Café
- 1:30 PM Pakistan Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
- 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service/Sanctuary

## Thursday, February 23

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 10:30 AM Circle of Joy/Parlor & Zoom
- 12:30 PM Bible Study/Windsor of Savoy
- 1:00 PM Circle of Faith/Parlor & Zoom
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
- 6:30 PM Bell Rehearsal/Bell Room
- 7:00 PM Circle of Peace/Parlor & Zoom
- 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal/Choir Room

## Friday, February 24 Church Office Closes at Noon

- 8:00 AM DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
- 8:15 AM Men's Prayer/Zoom
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
- 7:30 PM Friday Night Lights/Zoom

## Saturday, February 25

- 1:00 PM DREAAM Strategy Planning/Westminster Hall
- 6:00 PM French Worship Service/Centennial Hall

# Announcements

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

●**Mary Jane Kelley** 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.

●**Sabbatical Pastor Jean Oliver-Holder** will lead this morning's Faith in the Real World at 10:15 AM in the Parlor.

●**The Rev. Connie Bandy** will preach today's 10:15 AM service at the Windsor of Savoy.

●**Ash Wednesday Service** Wednesday, February 22, 7 PM in the Sanctuary. If unable to attend in-person, you may join the service at [firstpres.live](https://firstpres.live) that evening at 7.

●You can sign up on the flower chart in Westminster Hall near the Welcome Center to **donate flowers for Sunday worship** in memory of a loved one, for a celebration, or just because. Consider buying plants for Sundays instead of flower arrangements. **Remember no lilies!** You can donate money for the flowers too, make checks out to First Pres, specify that it is for flowers.

●**The Annual Meeting of the Congregation** will be held Sunday, February 26, immediately following the 9 AM service. For a zoom link for the meeting, contact the church office.

●**If unable to attend church**, catch our 9 AM service live each Sunday morning at [firstpres.live](https://firstpres.live). The Sunday **sermon** is available on-line anytime or on WDWS 1400AM the next Sunday at 10:30 AM.

●For the next week, **in-person church office hours are 8:30 AM-2 PM**. After 2, you can email [marcia@firstpres.church](mailto:marcia@firstpres.church) or call the church office phone 217.356.7238.

●**The Winter/Spring Small Group brochure** is now available in the kiosks, at the Welcome Center or on the church website. Check out the many opportunities to join a small group this winter/spring.

●If you or a loved one is **in the hospital or in need of a pastoral visit**, contact the church office.

●We need your help. **The Little Free Pantry** is a small but important way you can help our neighbors without an address (and others on financial hard times). We are currently low on supplies for our Little Pantry and are asking for food bars, snack bars, nut bars, dried goods, canned soups and meats with pull top lids, and other pantry items. Also socks, gloves and hats. Cold weather is a critical time for these items. Thank you for your generosity.

●**The February newsletter** is available in the kiosks or at [firstpres.church/newsletter](https://firstpres.church/newsletter).

●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.