

**Anthem** *Somebody's Knocking at Your Door* (American Spiritual) arr. Sharon Elery Rodgers  
Upper Room Ringers; Libby Sternhagen, Director

**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 #435 *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*
  - ♦Charge and Benediction
  - ♦Congregational Sung Benediction #558 *Amen*
  - ♦Postlude
- 
- ♦Please stand if able. Remain seated if need be.



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN**

February 25, 2024 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent



## **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** (adapt. 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.**

Let us worship God.

**The Lord's name be praised.**

♦**Hymn of Praise #213** *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

**Call to Confession** (*Psalms 51:10*)

Create in me a clean heart, O God.

**Put a new faithful spirit deep within me.**

As we offer our hearts to God,

**Let us confess our sins . . .**

**Prayer of Confession** (adapt from the *Belhar Confession*)

**While You, O God, have entrusted Your church with Your message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ, we confess we sometimes align with systems of sin and death. Forgive us when our words and attitudes espouse hatred, bitterness, and enmity instead of Your life-giving Word and Spirit . . . Help us always to fix our sights on your son, Jesus, who knows the way and, by your Holy Spirit, guides our steps. AMEN.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

**In Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven.**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**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 #623** *I've Got Peace Like a River*

**I've got peace like a river; I've got peace like a river;**

**I've got peace like a river, in my soul. I've got peace like a river, in my soul.**

**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 #314** *Longing for Light* (refrain)

**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.**

**Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.**

**Scripture** *Mark 8:31-33*

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** *Attentiveness in Our Lenten Walk*

Matt Matthews

## **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.*

**A Litany for the Church**

Thank you for hearing us, O Holy God.

**Alleluia!**

# This Week

## Sunday, February 25

- 9:00 AM Worship/Westminster Hall
- 10:00 AM Easy English Fellowship/Room 204 & 207
- 10:10 AM Sunday School/CE Building
- 10:10 AM Adult Ed/Parlor
- 10:15 AM Worship/Windsor of Savoy
- 3:00 PM Chili Cookoff/Centennial Hall

## Monday, February 26

- 9:00 AM Compassion, Peace & Justice/Zoom
- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Building
- 1:00 PM Grow/Family Library
- 3:30 PM DREAAM Mentoring/Room 206, 212, Gym
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

## Tuesday, February 27

- 8:00 AM Men’s Breakfast Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Building
- 10:30 AM Church Staff/Parlor & Zoom
- 11:45 AM Staff Lunch hosted by PW/Centennial Hall
- 12:00 PM Classic Book Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 4:30 PM World Mission Team/Parlor & Zoom
- 5:30 PM DREAAM Parent Titans/Cafe
- 5:30 PM DREAAM Tiny Titans/Gym
- 7:30 PM Together on Tuesdays/Zoom

## Wednesday, February 28

- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Building
- 3:30 PM Youth Bible Club/Centennial Hall & Kitchen
- 5:00 PM DREAAM Effective Black Parenting/Various rooms

## Thursday, February 29

- 9:00 AM Women’s Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 12:30 PM Bible Study/Windsor of Savoy
- 6:00 PM Bell Choir/Bell Room
- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir/Choir Room

## Friday, March 1 Church Office closes at noon

- 8:15 AM Men’s Prayer/Zoom

## Saturday, March 2

- 1:30 PM DREAAM SAT Prep/Cafe
- 6:00 PM French Worship Service/Chapel

# 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 **Associate Pastor Joe Lundy** get acquainted.

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

●**Gary Peterson** will preach this morning’s service at the Windsor of Savoy.

●**Sunday School classes for children K thru 8<sup>th</sup> grade from 10:15-11!** Walk across the alley, go upstairs, and see what’s happening. Youth will be escorted to their class.

●Join us this morning throughout Lent **Adult Education** will be studying *Pause - Spending Lent with the Psalms* by Elizabeth Caldwell. This book guides us on a different sort of Lenten pilgrimage, lingering with the ancient words of the Psalms and uncovering layers of personal meaning from the diving poetry. Books are available at a cost of \$10 each. Grab a cup of coffee and join us in the Parlor immediately following worship.

●**Help us celebrate the glory of Easter!** Potted plants will enhance our worship service Easter morning. Plants are \$10 each and can be purchased in honor, memory or celebration of someone. Make your check to the church with "Easter" in the memo along with the name(s) of who they honor.

●You can pick up your copy of the **Small Group Spring 2024** brochure this morning. Join a small group this Spring!

●Copies of the **2023 Annual Report** are available in print in the kiosks or online at <https://firstpres.church/newsletters-reports>.

●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](https://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](https://firstpres.church/live). The Sunday **sermon** is available on-line anytime or on WDWS 1400AM the next Sunday at 10:30 AM.

●Plans are well underway for Bible Club on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 5 PM DREAAM middle school youth and staff on our campus will join us. Can you help out on our kitchen team or serve as a table partner? Contact **Gary Peterson** ( [amer-swede@yahoo.com](mailto:amer-swede@yahoo.com) or 217-398-8504) or **Bob Kirby** ([rwk3213@gmail.com](mailto:rwk3213@gmail.com) or 217-621-5915) for more information or to sign up.

●We’re having a **Chili Cook-off** TODAY at 3 PM. Be creative! Entry forms are available in Westminster Hall or via the link in Matt’s Friday Email.





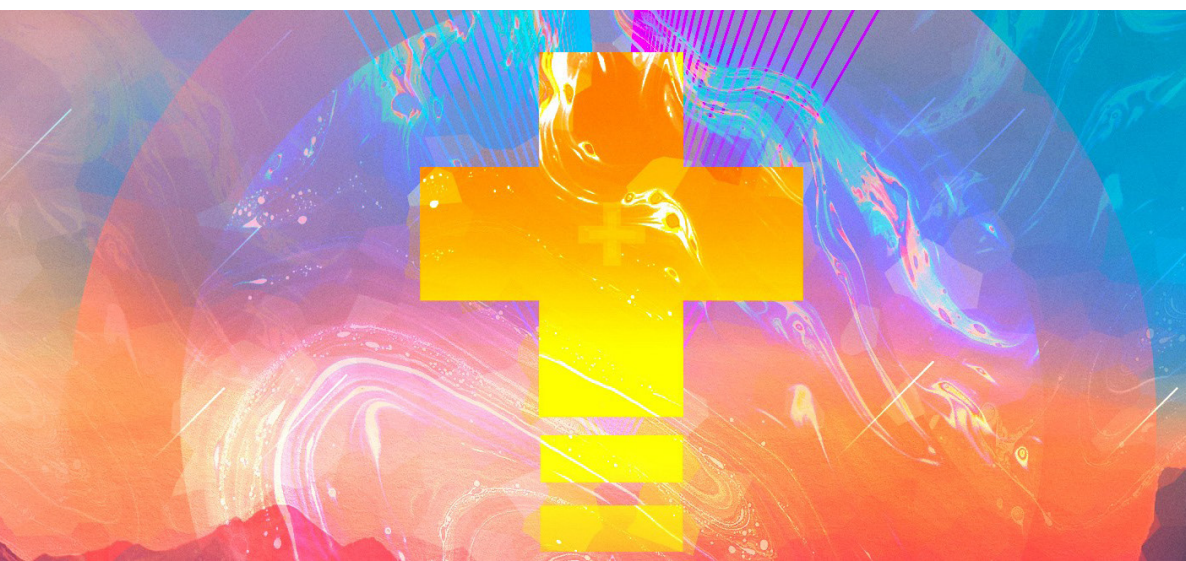
# Collecting for Cuban Adults & Children

“Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.” *Romans 12:13*

A delegation of five will visit our sister congregation in Cuba in mid-March. They will be carrying special gifts to help their mutual musical learning and playing of bells together. They also will take your donations for everyday needs so scarce in Cuba. Remember we would like to take things for both children and adults.

Please consider donating any of the following items dropping them off at the library adjacent to Westminster Hall or the church office. Or call the church office for pick up. Or, you can make a financial donation to the church in the memo: “Cuba”

1. Small clear empty medicine containers. We will clean off the labels.
2. Over the counter medicines Analgesics: aspirin, acetaminophen (Tylenol), ibuprofen (Motrin)... Decongestants: phenylephrine, pseudoephedrine (Sudafed)....Vitamins: multivitamins
3. Hygiene items  
Feminine hygiene products, shampoo, bathing soap, deodorant, toothbrushes and toothpaste (Your dentist may have free samples.)
4. Adult diapers small, medium, and large
5. Wet wipes for babies and adults
6. Insulin syringes and insulin
7. Materials for Sunday School  
glue sticks and liquid like Elmer’s glue, pencils, crayons, erasers, construction paper...



# Upcoming Services for Holy Week & Easter

## Palm Sunday, March 24

9 AM      Worship

## Maundy Thursday, March 28

5:30 PM      Worship and light supper in Centennial Hall

## Good Friday, March 29

7 PM      Worship with First Methodist Church at the Methodist Church

## Easter Sunday, March 31

9 AM      Worship  
10:30 AM      Worship