

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.

Song for Centering & Call to Prayer #471 *O Lord, Hear My Prayer* (vs.1)

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer
When I call, answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer.
O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to 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 #166 *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days*

❖ 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 26, 2023 1st Sunday in Lent



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 pew.

Greeting & Announcements

Cross Testimony

John Muirhead

❖Call to Worship

For forty days and forty nights

our Savior fasted in the wilderness.

Tempted to turn from God, tempted to turn to power and privilege

our Savior resisted.

Let us follow Jesus through the wilderness this Lent, examining our temptations, resisting them
and returning to God.

Let us worship God.

❖Hymn of Praise #819 *Be Still, My Soul*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (from *Psalms* 51)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;

according to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

Do not cast us away from your presence,

and do not take your holy spirit from us.

Assurance of Pardon

Remember and receive these hopeful words from *John 8:32*, "If you continue in my word, you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." Receive God's truth. Receive God's grace. Accept the freedom God provides.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

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 *Matthew 4:1-11* (NT pg. 3)

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")

Lenten Drama *A Very Reasonable Man* (from *Stages on the Way* telling of the temptation of Jesus)

Special Music *I Will Sing the Goodness of God*

Jean René Balekita

Sermon *Our Journey Begins*

Matt Matthews

This Week

Sunday, February 26

9:00	AM	Worship/Sanctuary
10:00	AM	Annual Meeting of the Congregation/Sanctuary
10:00	AM	Sunday School/Christian Education Building
10:00	AM	Easy English Fellowship/Room 204
10:15	AM	Lenten Study/Parlor
10:15	AM	Worship/Windsor of Savoy
1:00	PM	APNC/Parlor

Monday, February 27

8:00	AM	DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
10:00	AM	ELL In-Person/Room 204
1:00	PM	GROW/Family Library
1:00	PM	Knifty Knitters/Parlor & Zoom
2:00	PM	DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
5:30	PM	AA/Centennial Hall

Tuesday, February 28

8:00	AM	Men's Breakfast Study/Parlor & Zoom
8:00	AM	DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
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	World Mission/Parlor & Zoom

Wednesday, March 1

8:00	AM	DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
9:30	AM	ELL In-Person/Rooms 102, 103, 104, 201, 204, 205, 206, 207, Café
11:30	AM	Lunch Bunch/Westminster Hall
2:00	PM	DREAAM After School Program/CE Building

Thursday, March 2

8:00	AM	DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
9:00	AM	Women's Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
12:30	PM	Bible Study/Windsor of Savoy
2:00	PM	DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
2:30	PM	Congregational Care Deacons/Parlor & Zoom
4:00	PM	Spiritual Formation/Zoom
6:30	PM	Bell Rehearsal/Bell Room
7:30	PM	Choir Rehearsal/Choir Room

Friday, March 3 Church Office Closes at Noon

8:00	AM	DREAAM/Rooms 105,109, 212
8:15	AM	Men's Prayer/Zoom
9:00	AM	Church Women United/Westminster Hall
2:00	PM	DREAAM After School Program/CE Building
7:30	PM	Friday Night Lights/Zoom

Saturday, March 4

6:00	PM	French Worship Service/Centennial Hall
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Announcements

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

●**Pat Phillips** 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.

●**Tired of just making chocolate taboo for Lent? Feel like you are called to do something to be closer to God this sacred season?** Join us this morning in the **Parlor at 10:15 for a video/discussion** series based on Adam Hamilton's *The Walk, Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life*.

Come explore how focusing on faith practices you probably already do can help you walk nmore closely with God during Lent and every day. This morning's discussion leader is **Ken Chapman**.

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

●Pick up a printed copy of the **2023 Lenten Daily Devotional** from the Welcome Center or one of the kiosks. Electronic copies are also available. Contact church office for an electronic copy.

●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 this morning immediately following the 9 AM service.

●**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.

●Celebrate on Friday, March 3, at First Pres **Church Women United World Day of Prayer**.

9:30-10 AM refreshments; 10-11 AM program written by women from Taiwan. Call **Sandy Carr** (217-356-1568) with questions or to volunteer.

●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.

●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.