

Christ has died, yet Christ is risen; Christ has died, yet Christ is risen;
Christ will come again in glory. Hosanna in the highest!

...in the power of Your amazing Grace!

(to the tune of *I Want Jesus To Walk With Me*)

When I'm lovin', Lord walk with me; When I'm lovin', Lord walk with me.

When I'm crying for all God's children, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

The Lord's Prayer (pg. 35; in the language or wording most familiar to you.)

Communion

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 #803 *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

‡Charge and Benediction

May the Spirit of the Living God, Made known to us most fully within life's Dark Wood:

Go before you to show you the way; **Go above you** to watch over you;

Go behind you to push you into places you may not necessarily go yourself;

Go beneath you to uphold and uplift you;

Go beside you to be your strong and constant companion;

And dwell within you to remind you that you are surely not alone,

And that you are loved—loved beyond your wildest imagination.

And may the fire of God's blessing burn brightly Upon you, and within you, Now and always.

Amen.

‡Congregational Sung Benediction (Congregation echoes words in bold.)

There's a path (**There's a path**) ... and it leads us out together.

To the Wood (**To the wood**) ... where the darkness hovers still.

We are sent (**We are sent**) ... and the Spirit goes before us.

God says, "Go (**God says, "Go**) ... be my presence in the world."

‡Postlude *Forty Days and Forty Nights*

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

Service Material References

All liturgy by Marcia McFee, www.worshipdesignstudio.com; *There's a Path* and *Come and Rest* words by Marcia McFee, music by Chuck Bell. Contemporary reading from Parker Palmer, *A Hidden Wholeness: The Journey Toward an Undivided Life* (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2004), 58–59. *Blessing from Gifts of the Dark Wood* by Eric Elnes

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

March 1, 2026

2nd 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 worship space, 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 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 *My Song Is Love Unknown*

Chiming of the Hour on Tower Bell

Greetings & Welcome/Act of Friendship & Prayer Concerns

Please pass the Friendship Pad, noting with whom you are sitting, and list prayer concerns on the prayer request cards in the pews.

‡**Call to Worship** (‡Please stand as you are able in body or spirit.)

(See screens. Soloist sings first time through; then leads congregation in the echo second time through.)

Opening Prayer

‡**Hymn of Praise #805** *Come Sing to God*

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

Prayer of Confession

For filling up our lives with little room for You,

Forgive and restore us, O God.

For worry that outlasts trust,

Forgive and restore us, O God.

For choosing being right over being in relationship,

Forgive and restore us, O God. *Silence is kept.*

Kyrie #577 *Lord, Have Mercy*

Assurance of Pardon

God chooses relationship over perfection. Who you are is "loved by God."

God is with you, forgiving and restoring you to wholeheartedness.

Thanks be to God! Amen!

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 #204 *Stay With Me* (vs. 1)

Scripture in French *Mark 15:22-38*

Ceci est la Parole du Seigneur./ **Gloire à Dieu** (pronounced "glow-ah ah dew")

Anthem *O Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem*

Herbert Howells

Contemporary Reading in English

Message

Rev. Beth Wagner

A Time for Reflection

‡**Hymn for Reflection #220** *Go to Dark Gethsemane*

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.

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

Offertory *Take My Life*

Response of Gratitude #607 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

Prayer of Dedication & Thanksgiving

Prayers of the People *Come and Rest* *(See screens. Choir sings first time through; then leads congregation in the echo.)*

Communion

Invitation to the Table **Hymn #775** *I Want Jesus To Walk With Me* *(Woven throughout communion liturgy)*

...Christ is there!"

I Want Jesus To Walk With Me (vs. 1)

Great Thanksgiving

The Holy Living God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...together we proclaim the praise-filled truth of your glory along with all the saints:

(to the tune of I Want Jesus to Walk With Me)

Holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts! Holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts!

Heav'n and earth are full of your glory! Hosanna in the highest!

Blest are they who come in your name! Blest are they who come in your name!

Heav'n and earth are full of your glory! Hosanna in the highest!

...We claim renewed strength for the journey

(to the tune of I Want Jesus to Walk With Me)

This Week

Sunday, March 1

- 9:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Congregational Meeting/Sanctuary
- 10:10 AM Adult Sunday Discussion/Parlor
- 10:10 AM Easy English Fellowship/Rooms 204 & 207
- 10:10 AM Sunday School/CE Building Classrooms
- 10:15 AM Tech Assistance/Library

Monday, March 2

- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Building & Café
- 10:00 AM Food Pantry Discussion/Library
- 1:00 PM GROW/Chapel
- 1:00 PM DREAAM After School Academy/CE Building
- 1:30 PM Bible Study/Church Library
- 4:00 PM HR Team/Zoom
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

Tuesday, March 3

- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Building & Café
- 10:30 AM Church Staff/Parlor & Zoom
- 12:00 PM Classic Book Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 1:00 PM Coffee with Beth/Mad Goat Coffee
- 1:00 PM DREAAM After School Academy/CE Building

Wednesday, March 4

- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Building & Café
- 11:00 AM Francophone Ministry/Library
- 1:00 PM DREAAM After School Academy/CE Building
- 5:30 PM DREAAM Family Dinner/Centennial Hall
- 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal/Choir Room
- 7:30 PM Wednesdays We Gather/Zoom

Thursday, March 5

- 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Building & Café
- 11:00 AM Christ Community Church Korean Choir/Chapel
- 12:30 PM Windsor of Savoy Bible Study/Windsor of Savoy
- 1:00 PM DREAAM After School Academy/CE Building
- 2:30 PM Congregational Care Deacons/Parlor & Zoom
- 4:00 PM Spiritual Formation/ Zoom

Friday, March 6 Church Office closes 12 noon

- 8:15 AM Men's Prayer/Zoom
- 12:00 PM New Americans/Chapel
- 1:00 PM DREAAM After School Academy/CE Building
- 7:00 PM French Prayer/Zoom

Saturday, March 7

- 9:30 AM DREAAM Illini Mentoring/Centennial Hall
- 6:00 PM Francophone Bethesda Fellowship/Chapel

Announcements

- **Betty Hollister** is our liturgist this morning. If you would like to serve as liturgist on a Sunday morning, contact **Carol Miles**.
- **Large print bulletins** available for use on Sunday mornings. Ask an usher if you cannot find one.
- We have access to our hearing assistant loop during worship. This technology allows people with hearing aids equipped with **T-Coil technology** to hear the service through their hearing aids. If you know you have T-coil technology, plan to turn on the T-coil via your phone each Sunday morning.
- **We are glad you're here!** Questions about First Pres, see **either pastor** after the service or contact the church office (info@firstpres.church).
- Please join us after worship for our **Adult Sunday Discussion**. During Lent, we will be using a series from Darkwood Brew called *Gifts of the Dark Wood*.
- **Our graduate student members** are available this morning after worship in the church library to assist congregants with their **tech needs or questions**.
- Please wear your **name tag** to help our **staff** get acquainted.
- Anyone interested in **donating flowers for use on Sunday mornings during worship**, please contact **Nancy Dankle @217.778-4088** or nkdankle@icloud.com.
- **Spring flowers** will help brighten our Sanctuary Easter morning. Plants are \$15 each. If you would like to give a plant in memory or honor of someone, please place your check/cash in an envelope marked "spring flowers" along with a note for whom they are given.
- We are collecting royalties each time we hear a **Spiritual** in our service. Royalties were never paid for this music. Money we collect will go to the DREAAM Choir. A donation box is on the Welcome Center.
- Join **Pastor Beth** for **coffee in March on Tuesdays from 1-3 PM** at Mad Goat Coffee in downtown Champaign.
- Gather at the church at 11:30 AM Friday, March 6, as we go together to catch the bus to and from the free Thai lunch and the **YMCA Friday Forum** and Conversation Cafe. Check the February newsletter for topic and speaker.
- **Copies of the 2025 Annual Report** can be found in the kiosks or on the church website.
- There will be a **Congregational Meeting TODAY** immediately following worship for the purpose of electing a **Pastor Nominating Committee**.
- 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 **service video** is available on-line this week; audio sermon available the following Sunday at 10:30 AM on WDWS 1400AM.
- **Scam/Email Spoof Alert** ... Please know that your pastors will **never** send a text, email or voicemail asking you to help them by purchasing gift cards. The latest spoof is an email with an attachment. Most note FEB with a "proposal." This is a scam, you should immediately delete the message and not open the attachment. If in doubt, please contact the church office.