

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.

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Anthem *Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing* C. Alington; music-M. Vulpius; arr. Robert Benson

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.
Hear our prayer, O Lord.**

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 #233** *The Day of Resurrection*

◆ **Charge and Benediction**

◆ **Benediction** *Hallelujah Chorus*

G.F. Handel

◆ **Postlude**

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

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

March 31, 2024

Easter



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 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." 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

(This is the Good News, Stages on the Way: Worship Resources for Lent, Holy Week, and Easter; Wild Goose Worship Group)

This is the Good News—the grave is empty. Christ is risen!

Hallelujah. The Lord is risen, indeed!

This is the Good News—the light shines in the darkness and the darkness can never put it out.

The Lord is risen!

Hallelujah. The Lord is risen, indeed!

This is the Good News—once we were no people, now we are God's people.

Hallelujah! Christ is risen! Hallelujah!

◆Hymn of Praise #232 *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

Call to Confession

Jesus, redeemer of the world,
have mercy upon us.

And, by your grace, grant us peace.

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, you raised Jesus from the grave and You have shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. Save us from the worry that paralyzes us. Wash away our sins of pride and self-centeredness. Redeem us for service in the manner of your Holy Son, our Risen Lord. AMEN.

Assurance of Pardon

Who is in a position to condemn?

Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

Alleluia!

Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

Thanks be to God.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven.

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 #637 *O Sing to the Lord*

O sing to the Lord; O sing God a new song.

O sing to the Lord; O sing God a new song.

O sing to the Lord; O sing God a new song.

O sing to our God; O sing to our God.

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 #288 *Spirit of the Living God*

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Scripture *Mark 16:1-8*

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 *Who Will Roll Away That Stone for Us?*

Matt Matthews

This Week

Sunday, March 31

- 9:00 AM Worship/Westminster Hall
- 10:30 AM Worship/Westminster Hall
- 10:15 AM Worship/Windsor of Savoy

Monday, April 1 Church Office closed

- 3:30 PM DREAAM Mentoring/Room 206, 212, Gym
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

Tuesday, April 2

- 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 9:00 AM Small Group Leaders/Parlor & Zoom
- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Building
- 10:30 AM Church Staff/Parlor & Zoom
- 12:00 PM Classic Book Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 7:30 PM Together on Tuesdays/Zoom

Wednesday, April 3

- 9:15 AM ELL Classes/CE Building
- 11:30 AM Lunch Bunch/Parlor
- 3:30 PM Youth Bible Club/Centennial Hall & Kitchen
- 5:00 PM DREAAM Effective Black Parenting/Various spaces

Thursday, April 4

- 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 12:30 PM Bible Study/Windsor of Savoy
- 2:30 PM Care Deacons/Parlor & Zoom
- 4:00 PM Spiritual Formation/Zoom
- 6:00 PM Bell Choir/Bell Room
- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir/Choir Room

Friday, April 5 Church Office closes at noon

- 8:15 AM Men's Prayer/Zoom

Saturday, April 6

- 6:00 PM Refugee Center Gala/I-Hotel
- 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.
- Bruce Rainey** is our liturgist at 9 AM while **the Rev. Dr. Rachel Matthews** is the liturgist at 10:30 AM this morning. If you would like to serve, contact **Carol Miles**.
- Gale Brandner** will preach this morning's service at the Windsor of Savoy. **Judi Geistlinger** is preaching in Decatur this morning.
- One Great Hour of Sharing** offering will be received TODAY. OGHs is the single largest way that Presbyterians join together to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world. Each gift helps to improve the lives of people in challenging situations.
- 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 **April 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 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.
- Join us again next Sunday, April 7. **Jean René Balekita** will be our guest musician at the 9 AM worship service. He will then share his faith journey at the 10 AM **Adult Ed** class *Faith in the Real World*.
- The **Installation Service for Associate Pastor of Discipleship Joe Lundy** will be held Sunday afternoon, April 14, at 3 PM. A reception will follow in Centennial Hall.
- This year's **Illinois Marathon** on Saturday, April 27, brings back the first full marathon since Covid. The Saturday route runs down Church Street in front of the Education Building. Sign-up this morning to volunteer with other church members to cheer the runners on or help man the water/snack station that we will host at the Education Building. Contact **Joe Lundy** for more information and questions.



Church Office Hours

Office hours have been adjusted.

The church office is now open:

Mon-Thurs 8:30 AM - 2 PM

Friday 8:30 AM - noon

Please note these new times.

Easter Flowers 2024

A special thank you to those who donated to the beautiful Spring flowers
adding to our worship experience this joyful Easter morning.
Anyone is invited to take a plant following the 10:30 AM service.

Leslie Babbs and Larry Kranz in loving memory of Howard, Marian, and Gordon Babbs and Walter Krantz;
Dave and Mary Lou Bauer in memory of Jim and Leland Andrews;
Jim Berger in memory of Thomas E. Berger, Bertha Jean Berger, Frederick E. Berger, Agnes Zilly Berger, and M. Louise Zilly;
Mary Beastall in memory of her parents and sister;
Jean Brunson in memory of Bob Brunson and Conner Brunson Skwarcan;
Helen and Richard Coddington in loving memory of R.C. and Norma Coddington and John and Marian Rodemer;
Tanya Deckert dedicated to her mom, Millie; sister, Betty; and brother, Paul;
Carol Ann Green and Jerry Jahn in memory of Dick Green and Helen Jahn;
Judy and Mark Hendrickson in memory of Jack and Helen Hendrickson and Paul and Jean Bates;
Marilyn Lamkin in memory of her husband, Gene Lamkin; and Irene and Burrhead Lamkin;
Nancy Martin in memory of Betty and Bob Eisner and in honor of Lisa and Vivian Schroeder;
Linda Miller in memory of her husband, Gene Miller;
Melinda Miller in memory of her father, Gene Miller;
Diane Mortensen in celebration of loved ones;
The Nicolette and Born families in memory of Bob Nicolette, Jill Nicolette Izzi, and Beth and Hal Dawson;
Kathy and Mark Schoeffmann in memory of their parents;
Buddy Selin in honor of his daughters, Erin and Mauve;
Michael and Judith Thompson in celebration of their children Hale, Jon (Tina), and Tom and grandchildren, Sylvie and Wilder; and in loving memory of their daughter Clarrisa Jane, and their parents Clarence Thompson and Jane Luyties and Walter and Laretta Irlle;
The Travers, Roux, Chao, and Sansone families in memory of Janny Quinn Travers.

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