



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

December 5, 2021
Second Sunday of Advent

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Invitation

Great Thanksgiving

May the God of every mercy be with you.

May you be filled with the tenderness of our God.

Lift up your hearts to the One who looks with grace upon us.

Confident of God's love, we open our hearts to the One who comes to us.

Sing glad songs of praise in this moment.

We join our sisters and brothers in joyful thanksgiving.

The prayer continues...

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.

Celebration of Holy Communion

Prayer after 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.*

❖ **Hymn** *Zechariah's Lullaby* (see insert)

❖ **Charge and Benediction**

❖ **Congregational Sung Benediction #88** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (vs. 1)

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

❖ **Postlude** *Christ the Morning Star* (You may wish to be seated for the postlude.)

JS Bach

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

Communion prayer by Thom Shuman in Lectionary Liturgies

Liturgy adapted from prayers by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed/A Sanctified Art LLC/sanctifiedart.org

Cover Art Berakah by Hannah Garrity Inspired by Luke 1:57-80. © a sanctified art | sanctifiedart.org



*“And you child will
be called a prophet
of Christ to bring
hope to hearts and to
shadows the light.”*

from today's last hymn
Zechariah's Lullaby

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 the Welcome Center downstairs in Westminster Hall after the service. Mingle with other friends and guests, and learn how this congregation can become your church home. **Welcome!***

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 *The First Nowell*

W. Sandys

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

Minute for Ministry – News from Children, Youth, Family

Mindy Watts-Ellis

❖ **Call to Worship**

If life was a home, then we would pray –

may love be the foundation. May God be the cornerstone,

May the Spirit be the windows – ushering light in.

And may hope be the walls – holding us together.

In this hour of worship, let us work toward building that home together.

We may not know the path ahead, but God is here, even now.

Let us give thanks for a foundation of love.

Let us worship Holy God.

❖ **Hymn #133** *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Advent Candle Lighting

Tom and Julia Ulen

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, when John was Born, Zechariah leaned down and whispered words of love into his ear. We know that you do the same for us day in and day out, yet we fail to hear it. We forget that in the beginning we were made good. We doubt that we could possibly be enough. We hustle for our self-worth and wear ourselves out aiming for perfection. We deflect words of praise. We hide behind shiny first impressions. Forgive us. Trusting our worth is the hardest job. Open our ears as you

open our hearts, so that we might rest on the foundation of goodness you have laid for us. Gratefully we pray, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Family of faith, no matter how old we get, God continues to say to us:

“You are loved; you are forgiven.” That is the foundation of our lives.

That is the truth upon which we build our home. So breathe deeply. There is grace and peace here. Join me in proclaiming this good news:

We are loved. We are forgiven. We are claimed. This is our foundation.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Waving of the Peace

Response of Gratitude #82 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* (vs. 1)

Call to Offering *We are invited to return God's tithes and give our offering.*

Offertory

Prayer of Dedication

We Gather Around God's Holy Name

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

Scripture *Luke 3:1-6*

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.

⁵Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;

⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

Sermon *Repent!*

Matt Matthews

This Week

Sunday, December 5

- 9:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Congregational Meeting/Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Sunday School/Gather in Westminster Hall
- 10:15 AM Advent Study/Parlor
- 10:15 AM Worship/Windsor of Savoy
- 11:00 AM Easy English Fellowship/Zoom
- 11:15 AM The Gathering/Chapel
- 2:00 PM Service Opportunity/Salt & Light, Urbana

Monday, December 6

- 10:00 AM ESL/Zoom
- 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study (Rempe)/Parlor
- 1:00 PM GROW/Family Library
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

Tuesday, December 7

- 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast Study/Zoom
- 9:00 AM Small Group Ministry Team/Parlor & Zoom
- 10:00 AM ESL/Zoom
- 10:30 AM Church Staff Meeting/Parlor & Zoom
- 12:00 PM Classic Book Study/Parlor & Zoom
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program

Wednesday, December 8

- 10:00 AM ESL/Zoom
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program
- 6:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal/Bell Room
- 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal/Choir Room

Thursday, December 9

- 10:00 AM ESL/Zoom
- 12:30 PM Bible Study/Windsor of Savoy
- 2:00 PM DREAAM After School Program
- 4:30 PM Finance Team/Zoom

Friday, December 10 Church Office closes at noon

- 8:00 AM Men's Prayer/Zoom
- 7:30 PM Friday Nite Lights Study/Zoom

Saturday, December 11

- 10:00 AM Music Sunday Rehearsal/Sanctuary
- 11:00 AM Youth Cookie Baking/Centennial Hall Kitchen
- 6:00 PM French Prayer/Zoom

Worship

- We **welcome children** of all ages to worship. Childcare is available for children 4 years and younger in the education building 8:45 AM-12:15 PM. **Sunday School** will be held at 10:15 this morning.
- Liturgist this morning is **Sandy Carr**. Contact **Carol Miles** to serve as a liturgist. **Jose Pukata** will read our scripture in French today.
- Rev. Dr. Rachel Matthews** will preach at this morning's 10:15 AM service at the Windsor of Savoy. **Gary Peterson** is preaching in Piper City this morning as part of our Amateur Preacher's Ministry.
- The Session has called a **meeting of the Congregation** immediately after the 9 AM worship service **TODAY** for the purpose of asking the Congregation to instruct the Nominating Committee to search for a slate of candidates to serve on an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee.
- Be sure to join us next Sunday, December 12, at 9 AM for **Christmas Music Sunday** featuring a variety of musical selections reflecting on the Christmas season. The Chancel Choir will be accompanied by strings, trumpet, oboe and organ. The Upper Room Ringers will take part in our arrangement of *O Little Town of Bethlehem*.
- Christmas poinsettias** will decorate our Sanctuary this coming holiday season. Poinsettias are \$17 per plant and can be given in honor or memory or someone. Include "poinsettia" on your check along with a note of who it is given for.
- Everyone **must wear a mask** indoors for safety.
- This morning's **sermon** will be available online or on WDWS 1400AM next Sunday at 10:30 AM.
- If unable to attend church**, catch our 9 AM service live each Sunday morning at firstpres.live

Connect

- We are glad you're here!** Questions about First Pres, contact **Pastor Matt** or call the church office. After the service, join us for conversation in Westminster Hall.
- Join us this morning and the remainder of **Advent** to prepare our hearts and minds for the birth of Christ. Let's spend the season looking at the ordinary and glimpsing the divine. Discussion of *Advent in Plain Sight* by Jill Duffield begins today at 10:15 in Mae Chapin Parlor.
- Children, Youth and Family and a church-wide service opportunity** this afternoon 2-4 PM at Salt & Light, Philo Road in Urbana. Open to all ages.
- The annual **Youth Cookie Sale** will be held after the 9 AM service next Sunday, December 12. Pre-assembled varieties in half, one and two pound increments will be available. You can pre-order by contacting mindy@firstpres.church. Price is \$10/pound.
- This year's **Angel Tree** supports the children of Kemmerer Village. Take the wish list tag(s) from the tree this morning and return your gift(s) by December 12. Gifts will be delivered to Kemmerer on December 13.
- If you or a loved one is **in the hospital or in need of a pastoral visit**, contact the church office.
- The **November newsletter** is available in the kiosks or at firstpres.church/newsletter.