

Welcome

We are an inclusive, Christ-centered community of faith, passionately committed to sharing the love of Jesus Christ in practical ways. Please let us know of your interests and concerns.

Pastors:

Matt Matthews
Eric Corbin

matt@firstpres.church
eric@firstpres.church

We want to get to know you!

- Fill in the Friendship Pads; please use a name tag.
- Introduce yourself to your pew mates and one of the pastors.
- Join us for coffee and conversation in Westminster Hall.
- Trouble hearing? Try a hearing device at the back of the Sanctuary.
- Large-print hymnals are on the back table.
- Wheelchairs are available for in-church use.
- Printed sermons are available the following week; video is available at www.firstpres.live

Children, Youth & Families

Please sign your child in at the Welcome Center in Westminster Hall. There you will receive a name tag for your child(ren) and a matching identification label to be used by the parent or guardian at pick up. Children who wish to attend Sunday School will meet their teachers at the baptismal font following worship. The teachers will lead the children to their classrooms in the Education Building across the alley. Our child care rooms for children 4 years and under are open from 8:45 AM-12:15 PM each Sunday. The Christian Education hour is 10:15-11:05 AM. Pick up children in the Education Building from their classrooms. Nursery through Kindergarten children are located on the first floor. First grade through High School classes are located on the second floor.

Schedule

- 8:45-9:00 Children check-in at the Welcome Center and gather in the children's corner
- 9:00-10:00 Children attend traditional worship with family or pew partners
- 10:00-10:15 Children follow their teachers to classrooms for fellowship and snack
- 10:15-11:05 Educational lessons in the classrooms
- 11:05 Children dismissed to parents
- 11:00-11:30 Children's Choir rehearsal in the chapel (starting 9/23)
- 11:15-12:15 Children attend The Gathering worship with family

Contact our Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries, **Mindy Watts-Ellis** (mindy@firstpres.church) for more information.



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH** OF CHAMPAIGN

**December 30, 2018
9 AM**



Welcome to First Presbyterian Church
Bienvenu à First Presbyterian Church
Bienvenidos a La Primera Iglesia Presbiteriana
삼페인 제일 장로교회에 오신것을 환영합니다.

Office: 302 West Church, Champaign, IL 61820 217.356.7238
info@firstpres.church www.firstpres.church
Facebook: fb.com/firstpreschampaign

Pour nos amis de langue française et les membres,
nous avons des copies du sermon d'aujourd'hui en français
à l'arrière de l'église

Service for the Lord's Day

A special welcome to those at our church for the first time.

We'd love to connect with you this morning. Fill out the Friendship Pad when passed, then stop by our Welcome Center after the service to receive a small gift. Enjoy some coffee, meet new people, and learn how our church can become your home.

Prelude

Karen Dohme

Preparation for Worship – Tower Bell

Greetings and Announcements

✧ **Call to Worship** (from *Feasting on the Word*)

Praise the Lord!

Praise God in the heavens.

Praise the Lord from the earth!

Young and old alike,

Men and women together.

Praise the Lord!

✧ **Hymn 134** *Joy to the World!*

✧ **Call to Confession** (from *1 John 1:8-9*)

If we say we have no sin,

we deceive our selves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just
will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all
unrighteousness.**

In confidence of God's enduring love and forgiveness
let us confess our sins to God.

✧ **Prayer of Confession** (from *Feasting on the Word*)

**God of wonder,
you surround us with signs of your glory
and surprise us with your presence,
yet we often miss the marvels you place before us.
Forgive our dullness and make us alert
to the ways you make yourself known,
that we might be witnesses to your good news
and proclaim your extravagant love;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

✧ **Assurance of Pardon**

The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were yet sinners,

Christ was born for us,

Christ died for us,

Christ rose for us,

Christ reigns in power for us,

Christ prays for us.

The old life is gone;

The new life has begun.

Believe the Gospel and be at peace:

In Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven.

Alleluia!

✧ **Passing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Please greet one another in the peace of Christ.

Response #113, *Angels We Have Heard on High* Refrain

Christmas Carols with Joe Grant

Pick your favorite carol and we'll sing the first verse

Children's Time

Dave Whitford

Act of Friendship (Learn the names of your pew mates)

Please complete Prayer Request card.

Offering of Gifts and Tithes

Karen Dohme

Alleluia 586

Prayer of Dedication

Prayer for Illumination

**God, source of all light and love, by your Word you
feed our souls. Pour out your wisdom and
understanding upon us so that our hearts and minds
may be opened to your love and mercy. Amen.**

Reading from the Old Testament *Isaiah 63:7-9* (OT pg 693)

Reading from the Gospels *Matthew 2:13-23* (NT pg 2)

This is the Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God

Message *Saving Christmas*

Dave Whitford

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern

The Lord's Prayer (Hymnal pg. 35)

✧ **Hymn 119** *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

✧ **Benediction**

✧ **Congregational Choral Benediction**

Go With Us, Lord 748

**Go with us, Lord, and guide the way
Through this and every coming day,
That in your Spirit strong and true
Our lives may be our gift to you.**

✧ **Postlude**

Karen Dohme

(If you wish to be seated for the postlude, you may.)

✧ Please stand if able.

This Week

Sunday, December 30

- 9:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary
- 2:00 PM French Young Adult Group/Chapel
- 3:00 PM Praise & Prayer Choir Rehearsal/Centennial Hall

Monday, December 31

- 9:00 AM DREAAM Youth Center/Centennial Hall
- 12:00 PM Church Office Closes at noon
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall
- 10:00 PM New American's Night Prayers/Centennial Hall

Tuesday, January 1 New Year's Day

Church Office Closed

Wednesday, January 2

- 9:00 AM DREAAM Youth Center/Centennial Hall
- 6:00 PM Bell Choir/Bell Choir Room
- 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal/Choir Room

Thursday, January 3

- 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study/Library
- 9:00 AM DREAAM Youth Center/Centennial Hall
- 11:00 AM Compassion, Peace, Justice/Library
- 12:00 PM Congregational Care Deacons/Parlor
- 5:30 PM Spiritual Formation/Library

Friday, January 4

- 8:30 AM Men's Prayer/Chapel
- 9:00 AM DREAAM Youth Center/Centennial Hall

Saturday, January 5

- 3:00 PM Worship Prep/Centennial Hall
- 6:00 PM Praise & Prayer Gathering/Centennial Hall

Announcements

•Liturgist this morning is **Pat Mitchell**.

•Thanks to **Dave Whitford** for preaching today so that Pastors Eric and Matt can be with their families. Dave has been a member of the First Presbyterian Amateur Preachers Association for more than thirty years. He is a Professor Emeritus in the College of Business. During his 30+ years at the U of I, he taught graduate and undergraduate courses in corporate finance and investments. After retirement, Professor Whitford continued to teach graduate finance courses at the U of I and Millikin University in Decatur. He is an Elder as well as former Chairman of the Financial Trustees of the church. He currently serves on our church's Finance Team.

•Many thanks to **Karen Dohme** for subbing as organist while Pierre Tang is away.

•The **church office** will be closed Tuesday, January 1, 2019 (New Year's Day).

•**Next Sunday**, our regular Sunday morning schedule will resume with traditional worship at 8 and 9 AM and The Gathering at 11:15 AM.

•The **Christmas Joy Offering** of the Presbyterian Church (USA) supports church workers and their families who have retired, those who continue their ministry, and those who will be our future leaders. Each of us gives thanks to someone who points us to God and the gift of Jesus Christ in our lives.

•**Looking for ways to deepend your spiritual life in the new year?** Check out the new *Winter-Spring Small Group & Adult Education Opportunities* brochure. These can be found in the kiosks at the back of the sanctuary and around the church.

*We wish you a safe and
blessed holiday season!*