

# 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!

- If you would like to hear the service in French, please pick up headphones and a receiver at the back of the Sanctuary. Si vous souhaitez que le service soit traduit en français, procurez-vous un récepteur et des écouteurs à l'arrière du sanctuaire.
- 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 in the back.
- Wheelchairs are available for in-church use.
- Printed sermons are available the following week; video is available at [www.firstpres.live](http://www.firstpres.live)

## Children, Youth & Families

Child care is available for children 4 years and younger in the education building 8:45 AM-12:15 PM. Parents must sign children in and out of the child care rooms directly. Please sign your children in for Sunday School at the Welcome Center in Westminster Hall (main level). You will receive a name tag for your child/ren and a matching identification label to be used by the adult responsible for them at pick up. Children meet their teachers in the south east children's corner of Westminster Hall. Teachers will lead children to their classrooms in the Education Building across the alley. Education hour is 10:15-11:05 AM. Children's Choir is in the chapel 11-11:30 AM. Children are to be picked up from their classrooms or from choir practice. Nursery-Kinder-garten-first floor; 1<sup>st</sup>-High School-second floor. The 6-7<sup>th</sup> grade meet in the family library on the first floor.

### Schedule

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 8:45-9      | Check-in at the Welcome Center desk and gather in the children's corner  |
| 9-10        | Children may attend traditional worship with a special children's sermon                                       |
| 10-10:15    | Children meet their teachers in the children's corner and walk over to the classroom in the education building |
| 10:15-11:05 | Faith Education lessons in the classrooms  |
| 11:05       | Children dismissed   |
| 11-11:30    | Children's choir rehearsal in the chapel   |
| 11:15-12:15 | Children may attend The Gathering worship service  |

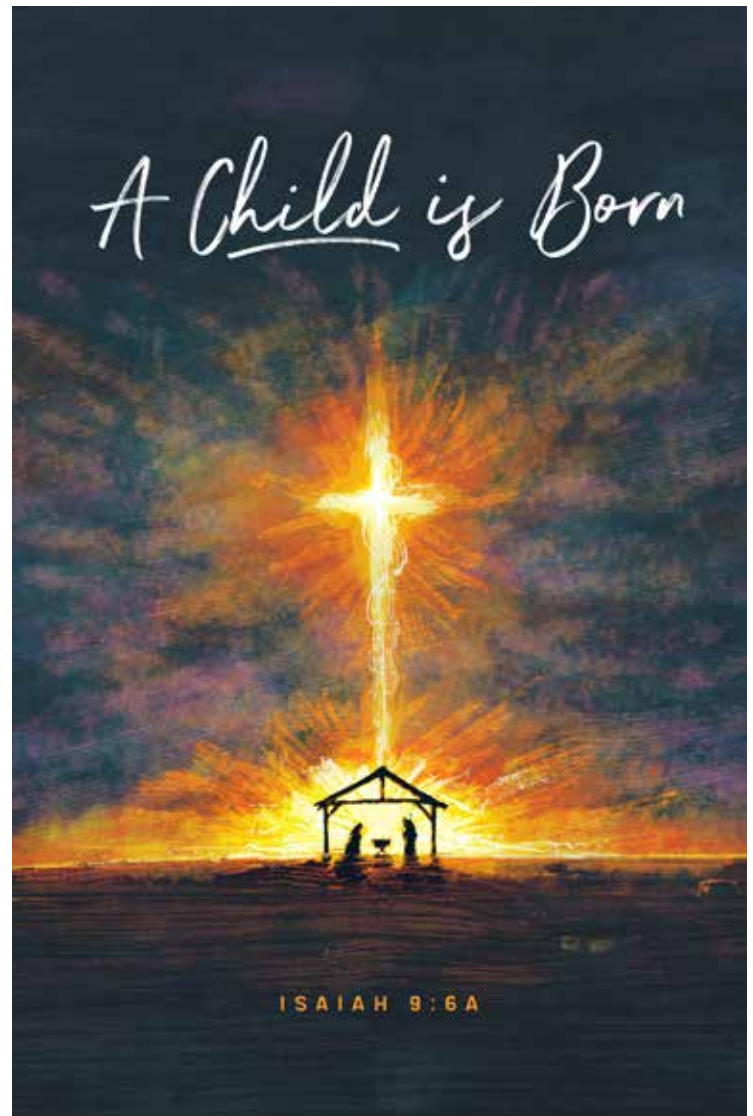
Contact our Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries, **Mindy Watts-Ellis** (mindy@firstpres.church) for more information.

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



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

**December 22, 2019**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**  
**9 AM**



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.

# 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** Upper Room Ringers; Karin Vermillion, Director

**Preparation for Worship – Tower Bell**

**Greeting & Announcements**

**Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle**

Sean, Debra and Miriam Miller

**Introit** *Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light* J.S. Bach

✳️**Call to Worship** (–Brian Wren)

Come and listen, come and sing, come and tell how the Name beyond all names, carpenter of all creation, prepared to visit earth by sending prophets and forerunners and choosing a people, a place, a time, and a date to risk being born.

**Come and listen, come and sing, come and tell how Joshua of Nazareth, Jesus, named “Liberator,” “Savior,” and “God with us,” was cradled by low-status parents in a small town far from the centers of power in a superpower empire.**

Come and listen, come and sing, come and tell of advent and birth and growth, teaching and healing, betrayal and death, the day of resurrection, and the coming of the Spirit!

**Come and listen, come and sing, come and tell.  
Come and worship God!**

✳️**Hymn of Praise #133** *O Come All Ye Faithful*

**Call to Confession**

We confess our sins because only God can restore what becomes broken in our relationship with him and others. With the cleansing waters of Baptism in mind, let us pray humbly, gladly and honestly.

**Prayer of Confession**

**Almighty God, who sent a star to guide us to the holy child Jesus: we confess that we have not followed the light of your word. We have not searched for signs of your love in the world, or trusted good news to be good. We have failed to celebrate your Son's birth, and refused his peace on earth. Forgive our sin, and renew in us all fine desires, so we may watch and wait and once more hear the glad story of our Savior, the Christ. AMEN.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

Friends, hear the Good News. In Jesus Christ know you are forgiven by God to be the people you were called to be, gladly loving the world in the name and manner of Jesus Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

Be at peace, and share the peace.

**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 of Gratitude #113** *Angels We Have Heard on High*  
(See screens)

✳️**Hymn #128** *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

**Act of Friendship and Sharing Prayer Concerns**

(Learn the names of your pew mates. Please complete Prayer Request Card.)

**Offering of Gifts and Tithes**

Richard Rossi

**Sung Response #609** *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*

**Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving**

**Prayer for Illumination #92** *While We Are Waiting, Come*  
(see screens)

**Anthem** *Stille Nacht/Joseph Lieber*  
Trenna Thomas, flute

arr. Richard Rossi

**Gospel** (to be read by our children during the pageant)  
*Luke 2:4-20*

*Our Christmas Pageant  
presented by the Children of our Church*

✳️**Hymn #134** *Joy to the World*

✳️**Charge and Benediction**

✳️**Congregational Choral Benediction**

#106 *Prepare the Way, O Zion* vs. I (See screens)

✳️**Postlude** Upper Room Ringers; Karin Vermillion, Director  
(You may wish to be seated for the postlude.)

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

## *Christmas Pageant Participants*

Grace Ledford  
Plamedi Lembelembe  
Alex Mbungu  
Miriam Miller  
Fortunel Nana  
Veldie Nana  
Winner Ngalamulume  
Orsela Tembo  
Cecilia Vermillion

Kerene Lembelembe  
Heather Lowe  
Blessing Mfulama  
Mike Musasa  
Vainqueur Nana  
Blessing Ngalamulume  
Ursela Tembo  
Prunella Tembo  
Allison Young

# This Week

## Sunday, December 22

- 9:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Easy English Fellowship/Room 204, 212
- 10:15 AM Adult Ed/Parlor
- 10:15 AM Candy House Making/Westminster Hall
- 2:00 PM French Young Adult Group/Room 204
- 2:00 PM Praise & Prayer Music Rehearsal/Centennial Hall

## Monday, December 23

- 1:00 PM GROW/Chapel
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

## Tuesday, December 24 Church Office closes at noon

- 10:00 AM Christmas Eve Service/Chapel
- 4:00 PM Christmas Eve Service/Sanctuary
- 8:00 PM Christmas Eve Service/Sanctuary

## Wednesday, December 25 Church Office closed

## Thursday, December 26 Church Office closed

## Friday, December 28 Church Office closes at Noon

- 8:30 AM Men's Prayer/Chapel

## Saturday, December 29

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

•The **church office** will close at 12 noon on Tuesday, December 24. The office will remain closed Wednesday, December 25, and Thursday, December 26, for the holiday.

# Worship

- Liturgist this morning is **Ellie Laufenberg**. Contact **Judi Geistlinger** [judgeistlinger@outlook.com](mailto:judgeistlinger@outlook.com) to serve as a liturgist.
- We **welcome children** of all ages to worship. The CYF committee has provided green pew cards with tips on the back for guiding children in worship.
- This **morning's pageant** is from *A Savior is Coming* by Bob Landis and Ruth Wiertzeman, *The Jesus Storybook Bible* by Sally Lloyd-Jones, and *All is Wonderful, All is Well* by Denise Harris.

# Connect

- We are glad you're here! If you want to learn more about becoming a member of First Pres., contact **Pastor Matt**, **Pastor Eric** or **Linda Peterson** from the Membership Team ([membership@firstpres.church](mailto:membership@firstpres.church)) or call the church office.
- This year's **Advent Offering** will support Restoration Urban Ministry. Mark your check "Advent" in the memo and drop in the offering plate. Cash donations should also be marked and placed in a pew envelope.
- The **Christmas Joy Offering** will be taken at the Christmas Eve services. Christmas Joy supports grants that help retired church workers and their families, provides emergency aid to church workers, and provides scholarships for minority students and future church leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges. Thanks for your generosity!
- Join us this morning immediately after the service for a **special time** of making candy houses in Westminster Hall from 10:15 - 11 AM. This activity is open for all ages!
- Judi Geistlinger** will lead the Advent study *Christmas In the Four Gospel Homes* this morning at 10:15 AM in the Parlor.
- Keep up with the latest news...pick up a copy of the **December newsletter** from one of the kiosks.

MAY THE GIFT OF

*His Presence*

BE WITH YOU THIS CHRISTMAS  
AND EVERY DAY OF THE NEW YEAR!

## December Worship

Sunday, December 22

9 AM Worship/Children's Pageant  
...only ONE service

Tuesday, December 24

10 AM Worship/Chapel  
4 PM Family Worship  
8 PM Candlelight Service

Sunday, December 29

9 AM Worship...only ONE service

# Styrofoam Sunday

BY CLEMMIE ACKERMANN, MEMBER  
ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE  
COLETTA.ACKERMANN@GMAIL.COM

## STYROFOAM RECYCLING



The holidays send us to the stores and the internet to order food, gifts and decorations. Many of these products are shipped and protected with styrofoam. The Green Team is asking you to help us help the environment. Until January 5<sup>th</sup>, please collect and save styrofoam blocks and cups or food containers imprint-

ed with a #6 and chasing arrows. We'll collect what you've saved in January.

JANUARY 5, 2020

WESTMINSTER HALL - 8:00 – 12:00

CENTENNIAL HALL – 10:30 – 11:15

GREEN TEAM MEMBERS WILL COLLECT YOUR STYRO-  
FOAM AND DELIVER TO DART  
STYROFOAM CONTAINERS, CUPS OR BLOCK FOAM  
(no packaging peanuts!)

- MUST BE CLEAN (Rinsed and Wiped)
- MUST HAVE #6 & CHASING ARROW IMPRINTED ON IT
- REMOVE STRAWS, LIDS, TAPE OR ANY OTHER NON-FOAM MATERIAL

This event will be a first for our church and a gift for the environment. Thank you for your help and our committee's wish for you is to have a blessed holiday and a joyous New Year.

Faithfully yours,

Environmental Stewardship Committee