

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

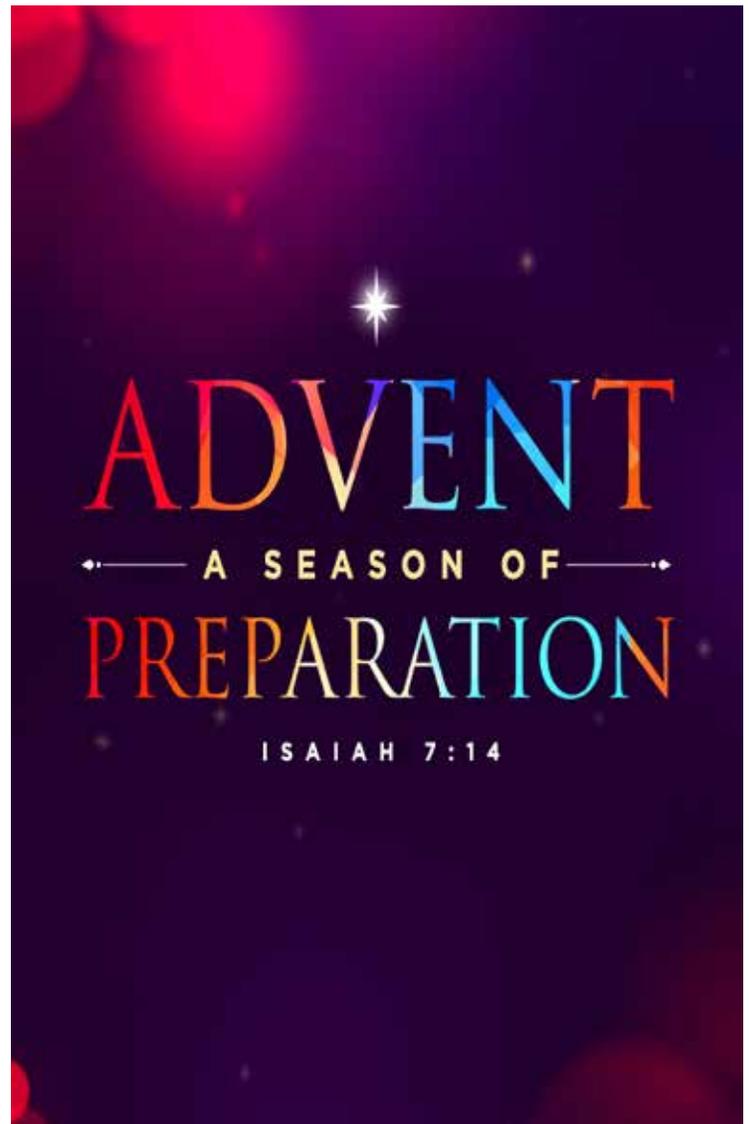
Contact our Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries, **Mindy Watts-Ellis** (mindy@firstpres.church) for more information.

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

December 9, 2018
2nd Sunday in Advent
8 and 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.

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

Pierre Tang

Preparation for Worship – Tower Bell

Greeting & Announcements

Minute for Mission – Advent Offering

Lighting of the Second Advent Candle

✽Call to Worship

One Lift up your hearts, people of God,
for the Lord has looked favorably upon us
and is sending us his beloved son.

**Many He is raising up for us a mighty savior
in the house of his servant David.**

One God is showing the mercy promised to our
ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant,
the oath he swore to our ancestors Abraham and
Sarah, that we might serve him without fear.

**Many We go before the Lord, following John the
Baptist, to prepare the way of the Lord.**

One Come, let us worship God
and listen to the voice crying out in the wilderness.

✽Hymn 88 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (vs. 1, 5-7)

✽Call to Confession

We may appear pure and blameless to others, but we know
the mistakes we have made with our words, our thoughts,
and our actions. But God promises not only to save us from
our enemies, sin and death, but from ourselves, as well. Join
me as we offer our confessing words to the One who will
make us new once more.

✽Prayer of Confession

**Forgiving God,
in this season of Advent,
we welcome the coming of your light
in a world filled with darkness.**

**We confess to you the ways in which we have added
to that darkness rather than obeyed your call to live
as children of the light.**

We ask your forgiveness:

**for times when we worship violence and belittle
peace,
for times when we do not work together as your
people,
for times when we forget that we are all children of
God,
for times when we do not stand up for the helpless
among us.**

**By your tender mercy,
may the dawn from on high break upon us,
and give light to those of us who sit in darkness and
in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace...**

(Continue to pray in silence)

✽Assurance of Pardon

One By the mercy and grace of our God, we may live in
peace with one another

**Many For we have been forgiven and restored to
right relationship with our God and with
each other. Alleluia!**

✽Passing of the Peace

One The peace of Christ be with you.

Many And also with you.

One Please greet one another in the peace of Christ.

Response #113 *Angels We Have Heard on High* refrain

9✽Hymn 144 *In the Bleak Midwinter*

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

Please complete Prayer Request Card.

9Children's Time

Offering of Gifts and Tithes

2nd Movement from Saxophone Sonata Paul Creston

Pierre Tang and Matthew Storie

9Doxology 606, Prayer of Dedication

Prayer for Illumination

A Reading from the Hebrew Prophets

Malachi 3:1-4 (OT pg. 889)

Hymn 102 *Savior of the Nations, Come*

A Reading from the Gospels

Luke 3:1-6 (NT pg. 60)

One This is the Word of the LORD.

Many Thanks be to God.

Message *Prepare the Way*

Pastor Eric Corbin

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern

The Lord's Prayer (Hymnal pg. 35)

✽Hymn 106 *Prepare the Way, O Zion*

✽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

Pierre Tang

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

✽Please stand if able.

This Week

Sunday, December 9

- 8:00 AM Contemplative Worship/Sanctuary
- 9:00 AM Traditional Worship/Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Easy English/Room 204
- 10:15 AM Adult Education/Parlor Living Room
- 11:15 AM The Gathering/Centennial Hall
- 2:00 PM French Young Adult Group/Chapel
- 3:00 PM Praise & Prayer Choir Rehearsal/Centennial Hall
- 4:00 PM Christmas Caroling/Westminster Hall

Monday, December 10

- 9:00 AM DREAAM Youth Center/Centennial Hall
- 9:00 AM ESL Classes/Room 204-207; Café
- 12:30 PM Epilepsy Support/Westminster Hall
- 1:00 PM GROW/Chapel
- 1:00 PM Knifty Knitters/Parlor
- 1:00 PM Prayer Team/Library
- 3:30 PM Environmental Team/Schoeffmann's
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall

Tuesday, December 11

- 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast/Centennial Hall
- 9:00 AM DREAAM Youth Center/Centennial Hall
- 9:00 AM ESL Classes/Room 204-207; Café
- 10:30 AM Staff Meeting/Parlor
- 12:00 PM Classic Book Study/U of I Atkins Bldg.
- 12:00 PM Mission Team/Westminster Hall
- 1:00 PM Video School to Prison Pipeline/Chapel
- 5:30 PM Contemporary Worship Team/Parlor

Wednesday, December 12

- 8:30 AM SEA Group/Parlor
- 9:00 AM DREAAM Youth Center/Centennial Hall
- 9:00 AM ESL Classes/Room 204-207; Café
- 11:30 AM Stephen Ministry Support/Parlor
- 6:00 PM Bell Choir/Bell Choir Room
- 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal/Choir Room

Thursday, December 13

- 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study/Library
- 9:00 AM DREAAM Youth Center/Centennial Hall
- 9:00 AM ESL Classes/Room 204-207; Café
- 10:30 AM Membership Team/Peterson's
- 11:30 AM Outreach Team/Peterson's
- 4:30 PM Finance/Library
- 6:00 PM YoungLives/Centennial Hall

Friday, December 15

- 9:00 AM DREAAM Youth Center/Centennial Hall
- 11:30 AM Moving Through Grief/Chapel

Saturday, December 16

- 11:00 AM CYF Cookie Baking/Centennial Hall
- 3:00 PM Worship Prep/Centennial Hall
- 6:00 PM Praise & Prayer Gathering/Centennial Hall

December Worship

Sunday, December 16

NO 8 AM service

- 9 AM Music Sunday
- 11:15 AM The Gathering

Sunday, December 23

Regular Worship Schedule

Monday, December 24

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

Sunday, December 30

- 9 AM Worship...only 1 service

Worship

•Liturgists this morning are **Bruce Rainey** at the 8 AM service and **Miriam Chenault** at the 9 AM service. Want to serve? Contact **Judi Geistlinger** at judgeistlinger@outlook.com.

•**Lisa Ainsworth, Andrew Leakey, Fiona, and Hazel** will light the Advent Wreath at this morning's 9 AM service.

•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. If you are interested in serving as a pew partner, an adult who will help sit beside and guide unaccompanied children through worship, please contact **Mindy Watts-Ellis** (mindy@firstpres.church).

•This morning's sermon is available online this next week or printed copies can be found in the kiosks next Sunday.

•**Christmas poinsettias** will decorate our Sanctuary this coming holiday season. Poinsettias are \$13 per plant and can be given in honor or memory of someone. Include "poinsettia" on your check along with a note of who it is given for.

•This year we have planned a special **Music Sunday**. Our Sanctuary Choir will combine forces with a chamber orchestra and the choir from First Presbyterian Urbana to feature *In Terra Pax* (On Earth, Peace) by Gerald Finzi. The service of Christmas music will be performed at our church at 9 AM on Sunday, December 16. **There will be NO 8 AM service that day.** The same music is being presented at Urbana this morning.

Connect

•**We are glad you're here!** If you want to learn more about becoming a member of First Pres., contact **Pastor Matt** or **Pastor Eric** or **Linda Peterson** from the Membership Team (membership@firstpres.church) or call the church office.

•All are invited to join us for a **Caroling Party** this afternoon at 4 PM. We will gather at the church in Westminster and break into small groups. We will be back at the church by 6:30 for hot chocolate and cookies. Bring a plate of cookies to share.

Serve

•Support our youth at their **Annual Cookie Sale** next Sunday, December 16. Purchase cookies by the pound to help fund their summer mission trip.

**2019 pledge total to date is \$781,516
with 180 responding.**