

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

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-Kindergarten—first floor; 1st-High School—second floor. The 6-7th grade meet in the family library on the first floor.

Schedule

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|-------------|--|
| 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 |

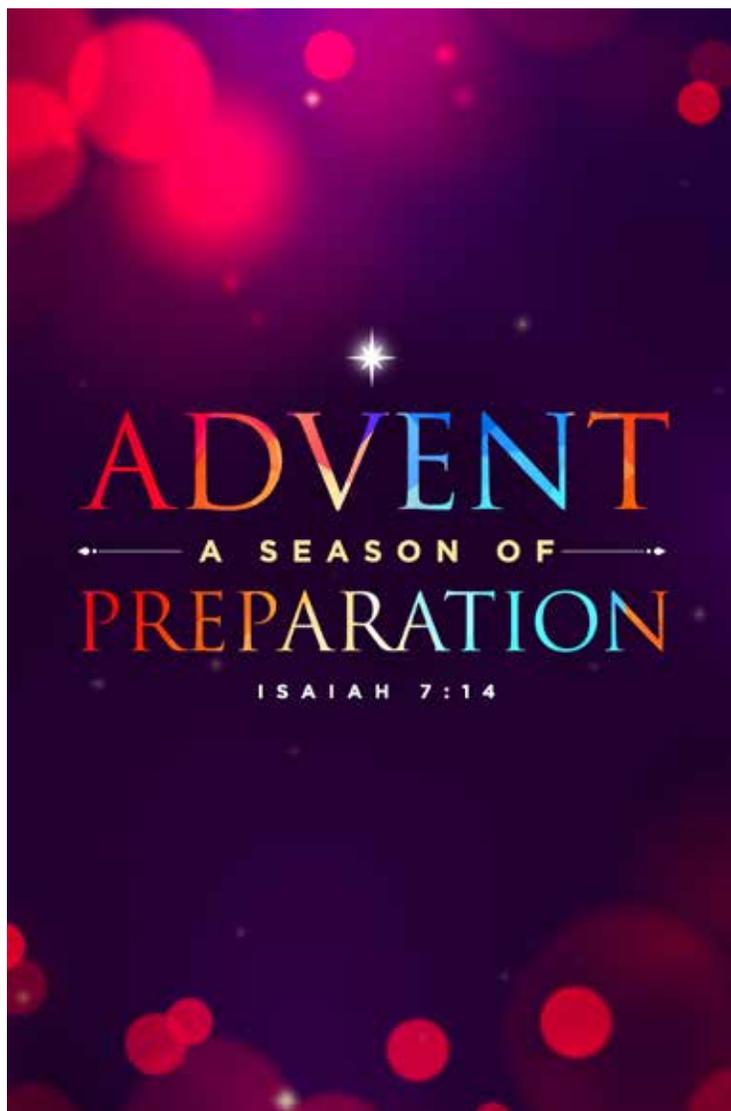
Contact our Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries, **Mindy Watts-Ellis** (mindy@firstpres.church) for more information.

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

December 8, 2019
2nd 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 Richard Rossi

Preparation for Worship – Tower Bell

Greeting & Announcements

Minute for Mission – Knifty Knitters Brandi Lowe

Lighting of the Second Advent Candle

Mark, Sarah, Henry, Sam and Ellie Laufenberg

Introit *Lift Up Your Head, Ye Mighty Gates* Musica Sacra, 1778

♦Call to Worship

Lord, you invite us to come to you to worship, and we come...

Alleluia.

Those who are faithful and of little faith,

humbly, we come.

Those who are weak and strong,

with awe, we come.

Those who are lions and lambs,

with doubts and reservations, we come.

Those who are doves and sword bearers,

with gratitude, we come.

Those who are afflicted and comfortable,

with a hunger for justice, we come.

Lord, you invite us to come to you to worship, and we come...

Let us worship God. Alleluia!

♦**Hymn of Praise #82** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Call to Confession

The waters of Baptism refresh us, reminding us that God loves us and claims us. We confess our sins because only God can restore what becomes broken in our relationship with him and others. 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 praise your Son's birth, and refused his peace on earth. We have expected little, and hoped for less. Forgive our doubt, 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

During this Season of Advent, wedged between Easter and Christmas, we wait for the rebirth of Jesus in our hearts. But we don't need to wait to know that God loves us.

Alleluia!

Be at peace and 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.

♦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 #163** *Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice*

Act of Friendship and Sharing Prayer Concerns

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

Children's Time

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 *E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come* Paul Manz

A Reading from the Gospels

Matthew 3:1-12 (NT pg. 2)

This is the Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God.

Message *John the Baptist Is Calling You Names*

Pastor Matt Matthews

Call to Prayer *Hear My Prayer, O God*

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern

The Lord's Prayer (Hymnal pg. 35)

♦**Hymn #144** *In the Bleak Midwinter*

♦**Charge and Benediction**

♦**Congregational Choral Benediction**

#106 *Prepare the Way, O Zion* vs. 1 (See screens)

♦**Postlude**

(You may wish to be seated for the postlude.)

Richard Rossi

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

Gloria in excelsis Deo! comes from the Vulgate (Jerome's Latin) version of Luke 2:14, and means "Glory to God in the highest."

This Week

Sunday, December 8

- 9:00 AM Worship/Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Easy English Fellowship/Room 204, 212
- 10:15 AM Sunday School/Education Building
- 10:15 AM Adult Ed/Parlor
- 11:15 AM The Gathering/Centennial Hall
- 11:15 AM Go & Serve Parent Mtg/Room 205
- 12:15 PM New Americans & Session/Parlor
- 2:00 PM French Young Adult Group/Room 204
- 2:00 PM Praise & Prayer Music Rehearsal/Centennial Hall
- 5:30 PM Youth Fellowship/Café
- 6:00 PM Service of Wholeness/Sanctuary

Monday, December 9

- 9:00 AM ESL Classes/Rooms 201,204,205,206, Café
- 1:00 PM GROW/Chapel
- 1:00 PM Knifty Knitters/Parlor
- 1:00 PM Prayer Team/Library
- 5:30 PM AA/Centennial Hall
- 6:30 PM Epilepsy Support/Westminster Hall

Tuesday, December 10

- 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast Study/Centennial Hall
- 9:00 AM ESL Classes/Rooms 201,204,205,206, Café
- 11:00 AM Staff Christmas Lunch/Matthew's Home
- 12:00 PM Classic Book Study/Atkins Bldg, S. First Street-C.
- 5:30 PM Contemporary Worship Team/Parlor

Wednesday, December 11

- 8:30 AM SEA Group/Parlor
- 9:00 AM ESL Classes/Rooms 201,204,205,206, Café
- 11:30 AM Stephen Ministry Support/Parlor
- 3:00 PM DREAAM/Centennial Hall & Gym
- 4:00 PM Outreach/Library
- 6:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal/Bell Room
- 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal/Choir Room

Thursday, December 12

- 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast Study/Library
- 9:00 AM ESL Classes/Rooms 201,204,205,206, Café
- 11:00 AM Nurture-Membership Team/Peterson's Home
- 12:30 PM Mission Team/Library
- 4:30 PM Finance/Library
- 5:30 PM Courageous Conversation/Parlor
- 6:00 PM YoungLives/Centennial Hall

Friday, December 13 Church Office closes at Noon

- 8:30 AM Men's Prayer/Chapel
- 3:45 PM Senior High Advent Gathering/Hwu's Home

Saturday, December 14

- 10:00 AM Youth Cookie Baking/Centennial Hall
- 10:00 AM Music Sunday Rehearsal/Sanctuary
- 6:00 PM Praise & Prayer Gathering/Centennial Hall

Worship

•Liturgist this morning is **Rachel Matthews**. Contact **Judi Geistlinger** judgeistlinger@outlook.com to serve as a liturgist. **Charles Masengu** will read the scripture in French this morning.

•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.

•Our Sanctuary Choir accompanied by orchestra will present the *Vivaldi Magnificat* on **Music Sunday**, December 15, at the 9 AM service.

•**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.

•Join us for a **Service of Wholeness** this evening at 6 PM in the Sanctuary.

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) or call the church office.

•**Opportunities to give during Advent...**A tradition at First Pres is the annual **Angel Tree**. Each ornament on the tree represents an item on a wish list for a local agency we support. Take as many ornaments as you wish. Items must be returned by Sunday, December 15.

•This year's **Advent Offering** will support Restoration Urban Ministry. Make your check "Advent" in the memo and drop in the offering plate. Cash donations should also be marked and placed in a pew envelope. Thanks for your generosity!

•**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.

December Worship

Sunday, December 15

9 AM Music Sunday/Cookie Sale

11:15 AM The Gathering

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