

*First Presbyterian Church
December 15, 2024*

*Joy
3rd Sunday in Advent*

*Morrison, Illinois
10:15AM*

Enter This Church That We Might Worship Together!



PRELUDE

THE GATHERING WELCOME

Pastor: Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ

People: Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ

INTROIT

O Come, O Come Emanuel

No. 9 Vs. 1

OPENING PRAYER & MOMENT FOR MEDITATION

“When (the wise men) had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.” —Matthew 2:9-10

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively) (Isaiah 12:2-6)

Pastor: Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the Lord God is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.

All: With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

Pastor: And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted.

All: Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

***HYMN**

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

No. 22

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

Lord, what joy we should have for all the love you give. You have given us our lives and you are with us our entire life long. You prepare a life for us to follow, yet with our ego, we become selfish and desire beyond our needs. When the world is not as we want it, we wander in a realm of emotions far from that of joy, and it keeps us from living fully with you. Forgive us and teach us again what joy we might have today.....*Silent prayer followed by ‘Amen’.*

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS** (Unison)

Rejoice, for the Lord our God is a merciful God and we are granted pardon from our sin through the atoning sacrifice of Jesus our Messiah. Praise be to God forever and ever. Amen.

***HYMN**

Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri)

No. 579

TIME WITH THE GROWING CHURCH (Concluding with the Lord’s Prayer (p. 16))

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Joy

The West Family

GOSPEL READING

Luke 3:7-18

SERMON

HYMN

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

No. 38

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (Concluding with the ‘Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer’)

OFFERING OF TIME, TALENTS & TREASURES

***HYMN**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (Doxology)

No. 592

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION** (Unison)

We thank you Lord for all that you have given us and continue to give. Help our hearts be full of joy this day. We offer to you all that makes up our life, so that we may be yours to be used as you would have us. Help us bring hope, peace and joy to others with your power. We pray this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

***HYMN**

What Child is This

No. 53

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE**

PASSING OF THE PEACE (*greeting: “Peace be with you,” response: “and also with you”*)

*You are invited to stand for this portion.

**Please remain seated until the conclusion of the postlude.

The Bible verses are read from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV).



Depart This House That We Might Witness Together!

Remember in prayer: residents and staff of Resthave, Homestead and Highlight Health (formerly Pleasant View); Bev & Larry Bealer, Dan Brandon, Brandy Claeys (a Friend of Stacie’s), Dale Johnson, Youdelka Philippe (MSH), Bob Sim, Rachael Tucker, Ray Tucker

Love one another!

Livestream Worship Services

Each Sunday at 10:15am from the church's Facebook group page: www.facebook.com/groups/firstpresmorrison. And after the service on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@firstpresmorrison>

Bible Study We will meet Tuesdays at 9:30am at Pleasant View. **POSTPONED FOR NOW.**

Drive-Up Meal The next meal will be on January 30. We will be serving beef & veggie soup. Meal begins at **4:30PM**. Help is needed on Wednesday at 1:30pm and Thursday starting at 3:45pm. We will be offering in person dining.

Upcoming Community Events:

12/15:

- 9:15am Sunday School
- 10:15am Worship Service
- 11:15am Coffee Hour & Cookie Frost-Off

12/16:

- 2pm Social Hour @ Resthabe
- 6:30pm Session Meeting

12/18:

- 1:30pm BINGO @ Resthabe

12/19:

- 8am Social Hour @ The Loft

12/22:

- 9:15am Sunday School
- 10:15am Worship Service
- 11:15am Coffee Hour


I said, "Surely the city will fear me, it will accept correction; it will not lose sight of all that I have brought upon it", but they were the more eager to make all their deeds corrupt. Therefore wait for me, says the Lord, for the day when I arise as a witness. For my decision is to gather nations, to assemble kingdoms, to pour out upon them my indignation, all the heat of my anger; for in the fire of my passion all the earth shall be consumed. At that time I will change the speech of the peoples to a pure speech, that all of them may call on the name of the Lord and serve him with one accord. From beyond the rivers of Ethiopia my suppliants, my scattered ones, shall bring my offering. On that day you shall not be put to shame because of all the deeds by which you have rebelled against me; for then I will remove from your midst your proudly exultant ones, and you shall no longer be haughty in my holy mountain. For I will leave in the midst of you a people humble and lowly. They shall seek refuge in the name of the Lord—the remnant of Israel; they shall do no wrong and utter no lies, nor shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouths. Then they will pasture and lie down, and no one shall make them afraid. Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord. —Zephaniah 3:14-20




STAFF

Pastor. Rev. Dr. Mike Selburg
 Office Manager. Stacie Baker
 Organist. Scott Vandermyde
 Custodian. Courtney Bruckner

SESSION ELDERS:

Rick Barr	Ron Shank	Deb Zigler
Lexie Laughlin	Scott Vandermyde	Stacie Baker, Clerk
Angela Reamer	Carol Wolf	



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