

**Happy 169th Birthday FPC!**—Reminder there is a St. Paddy’s Day Potluck today following worship.

**FREE COMMUNITY MEAL**—The next Free Community Meal is April 25 beginning at **5:00 pm**. We will be serving stew.

**LIVESTREAM WORSHIP SERVICES** -Each Sunday at 10:15am from the church’s Facebook group page: [www.facebook.com/groups/firstpresmorrison](http://www.facebook.com/groups/firstpresmorrison). And after the service on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcZIobAb6lcNXGA0cbuuVdg>

**BIBLE STUDY**—We are meeting at 9:30 a.m. every Tuesday at Pleasant View. All are welcome to attend.

**EASTER LILIES**—The deadline to order Easter flowers is **TOMORROW**. Please contact the church office if you have any questions.

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**Birthdays This Week**

03/17: Steve Wolf  
03/20: Collin Wolf

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**STAFF**

*Minister.* . . . . . Rev. Dr. Mike Selburg  
*Office Manager.* . . . . . Stacie Baker  
*Organist today.* . . . . . Scott Vandermyde  
*Custodian.* . . . . . Courtney Bruckner

**SESSION  
ELDERS:**



Rick Barr  
Lexie Laughlin  
Angela Reamer

Ron Shank  
Scott Vandermyde  
Carol Wolf

Deb Zigler  
Stacie Baker, Clerk

*Jesus said,  
“The man who loves his life  
will lose it,  
while the man who hates his life  
in this world  
will keep it for eternal life.  
Whoever serves me  
must follow me;  
and where I am,  
my servant also will be.  
My Father will honor  
the one who serves me.”*

—John 12:25-27

⊕	<b>The First Presbyterian Church of Morrison, IL</b>	⊕
	100 E. Lincolnway Morrison IL 61270	
	firstpresmorrison@gmail.com 815-772-3510	
	<i>Reaching out to our neighbor with open hearts; sharing God’s blessings with others.</i>	
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*First Presbyterian Church  
March 17, 2024*

*5th Sunday in Lent*

*Morrison, Illinois  
10:15AM*

**HERITAGE SUNDAY**  
**Est. March 28, 1855**

† † † † †

*Enter This Church That We Might Worship Together!*

† † † † †

**PRELUDE**

*Jesus Loves Me*

arr. W. Bradbury

**THE GATHERING WELCOME**

Pastor: Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ

People: Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ

**INTROIT**

*Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

No. 482 Vs. 1

**OPENING PRAYER & MOMENT FOR MEDITATION** (Isaiah 45:22-25)

“Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other. By myself I have sworn, from my mouth has gone forth in righteousness a word that shall not return: ‘To me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear.’ Only in the Lord, it shall be said of me, are righteousness and strength; all who were incensed against him shall come to him and be ashamed. In the Lord all the offspring of Israel shall triumph and glory.”

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (Responsively) (Psalm 119:9-16)

Pastor: How can young people keep their way pure? By guarding it according to your word.

**All: With my whole heart I seek you; do not let me stray from your commandments. I treasure your word in my heart, so that I may not sin against you.**

Pastor: Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes.

**People: With my lips I declare all the ordinances of your mouth. I delight in the way of your decrees as much as in all riches. I will meditate on your precepts, and fix my eyes on your ways. I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.**

**\*HYMN**

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

No. 263

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison) (Psalm 51:1-6)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment. Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me. You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.....*Silent prayer followed by ‘Amen’.*

† † † † †

*Depart This House That We Might Witness Together!*

*Happy*

*169th*

*Birthday.*

*First Presbyterian Church*

*Of Morrison, IL*

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION (Unison)

We thank you Lord for the life you have given us, the love you pour out to us. This day we give a special thanks to you for our church. We have inherited it from generations before us who had faith that we might carry on the good work. Your Spirit has been with us at all times and you have never forsaken us. Lord God, we give you thanks for this. We pray that our lives may be rededicated to you in this moment so we might also rededicate our church to you. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

## REDEDICATION OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: One hundred sixty-nine years ago, the Lord called people together to create a community in which the ministry of Christ could reach this area of God's creation in a new way. Through the years, we have served as God's children and servants and continue that community and ministry today.

**All: Through the grace of God, we have maintained and we live as ministers of the Word of God. For this we give great thanks.**

Pastor: Upon this anniversary of this church, it is appropriate to rededicate our church to God.

**All: Lord God, Creator of all, you have given us this church as a gift so we might be able to perform your works. Yet we know the church is not ours, rather, it is yours, of which your son, Jesus Christ our King, is the head. We are simply instruments—vessels for your work to be done. We rededicate this church to you, Lord Almighty. It is yours. Guide us and use us as you will.**

Pastor: Lord, renew us in your Spirit.

**All: The Spirit of God has given us new life, a new beginning, and in this time Lord, we rededicate our lives and our church back to you.**

## PASTORAL PRAYER

**HYMN** *Farewell, Good Friends* No. 537

## BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE\*\*** *If You Allow God to Guide You* J.S. Bach

**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) unless otherwise noted.

## \*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (Unison)

The Lord loves us and the Lord forgives us. In Christ's triumph over death, we are saved and given the promise of new life here and now. Praise be to God, amen!

**\*HYMN** *"Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri)"* No. 579

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

**GOSPEL READING** John 12:20-33

## MEDITATION

## REAFFIRMATION OF THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

**Sentences of Scripture** (1 Corinthians 12:12-13, 27) (Pastor)

Just as the body is one  
and has many members,  
and all the members of the body, though many,  
are one body,  
so it is with Christ.

For in the one Spirit  
we were all baptized into one body—  
Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—  
and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Now you are the body of Christ  
and individually members in it.

**Profession of Faith** (Pastor)

Sisters and brothers in Christ,  
our baptism is the sign and seal  
of our cleansing from sin,  
and of our being grafted into Christ.  
Through the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Christ,  
the power of sin was broken,  
and God's kingdom entered our world.  
Through our baptism we were made citizens of God's kingdom,  
and freed from the bondage of sin.  
Let us celebrate that freedom and redemption  
through the renewal of the promises made at our baptism.  
I ask you, therefore,  
once again to reject sin,  
to profess your faith in Christ Jesus,  
and to confess the faith of the church,  
the faith in which we were baptized.

(continued...)

**Renunciations** (Responsively)

Pastor: Trusting in the gracious mercy of God,  
do you turn from the ways of sin  
and renounce evil and its power in the world?

**People: I do.**

Pastor: Who is your Lord and Savior?

**People: Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior**

Pastor: Will you be Christ's faithful disciple,  
obeying his Word and showing his love?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

**Profession** (Responsively)

Pastor: With the whole church, let us confess our faith through the words stated in  
the Nicene Creed.

**All:** We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**Thanksgiving for Baptism**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: Eternal and gracious God, we give you thanks.  
In countless ways you have revealed yourself in ages past,  
and have blessed us with signs of your grace.

We praise you that through the waters of the sea  
you led your people Israel out of bondage,  
into freedom in the land of your promise.

We praise you for sending Jesus your Son,  
who for us was baptized in the waters of the Jordan,  
and was anointed as the Christ by your Holy Spirit.  
Through the baptism of his death and resurrection  
you set us free from the bondage of sin and death,  
and give us cleansing and rebirth.

We praise you for your Holy Spirit,  
who teaches us and leads us into all truth,  
filling us with a variety of gifts,  
that we might proclaim the gospel to all nations  
and serve you as a royal priesthood.

We rejoice that you claimed us in our baptism,  
and that by your grace we are born anew.  
By your Holy Spirit renew us,  
that we may be empowered to do your will  
and continue forever in the risen life of Christ,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all glory and honor,  
now and forever.

**HYMN**

*The Church's One Foundation*

No. 442

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** (Concluding with "Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer")

**\*HYMN**

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (Doxology)*

No. 592