

First Presbyterian Church

December 8, 2024

2nd 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

Prepare the Way

No. 13 Vs. 1,3

OPENING PRAYER & MOMENT FOR MEDITATION (Malachi 3:1-4)

“See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.”

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively) (Luke 1:68-79)

Pastor: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.

All: He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David, as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.

Pastor: Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant, the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

All: And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins.

Pastor: By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us,

All: to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

***HYMN**

Angels We Have Heard on High

No. 23

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

The Lord has called us to follow the path of righteousness. Yet our lives often take us in the direction away from where we are called. Lord, we stray. We do not always follow you and your love. Rather, we follow the ways of the world. Forgive us. Help us make straight our paths.....
.....*Silent prayer followed by ‘Amen’.*

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS** (Unison)

John the son of Zechariah came proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. Jesus lived, died and rose again so we might be forgiven and promised eternal life. If our path follows the path of love, which is the path of God, we are assured of our forgiveness. 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 *Peace*

The Zigler Family

GOSPEL READING

Luke 3:1-6

SERMON

HYMN

I Wonder as I Wander

Insert

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 DEDICATION** (Unison)

Lord God, you have sent your only son as the atoning sacrifice for our sins. We give you our deepest thanks and pray that you take our lives and lead us in the path of righteousness. Prepare us for the ministry in which you call us into and hold us as we wander into the wild. We pray this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

***HYMN**

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

No. 8

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 December 12. We will be serving ham dinner. 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.

Resthave Be sure to attend Resthave's annual Bake Sale and Bizarre, December 13th, 2024, from 9:00—10:30am. Come enjoy a breakfast treat, coffee or juice. The bake sale is a freewill donation and the Bizarre is 5 tickets for \$10 or 10 tickets for \$20 and so on.

Upcoming Community Events:

12/08:

- 9:15am Sunday School
- 10:15am Worship Service
- 11:15am Congregational Meeting
- 11:30am Coffee Hour

12/11:

- 1:30pm BINGO @ Homestead
- 1:30pm Meal Prep

12/12:

- 4:30pm Free Drive Up Community Meal

12/13:

- 9am Resthave Annual Bake Sale and Bizarre

*I thank my God every time I remember you,
constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers
for all of you,
because of your sharing in the gospel
from the first day until now.
I am confident of this,
that the one who began a good work among you
will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.
It is right for me to think this way about all of you,
because you hold me in your heart,
for all of you share in God's grace with me,
both in my imprisonment
and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel.
For God is my witness,
how I long for all of you
with the compassion of Christ Jesus.
And this is my prayer,
that your love may overflow more and more
with knowledge and full insight
to help you to determine what is best,
so that in the day of Christ
you may be pure and blameless,
having produced the harvest of righteousness
that comes through Jesus Christ
for the glory and praise of God.*

—Philippians 1:3-11

Anniversary

12/12: Tom & Karen Genz

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	

⊕ **The First Presbyterian Church of Morrison IL** ⊕

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