

First Presbyterian Church

Morrison, Illinois

February 23, 2025

7th Sunday after Epiphany

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

God Is Here!

No. 461 Vs. 1

OPENING PRAYER & MOMENT FOR MEDITATION (1 Corinthians 15:35-38)

“And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.”

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively) (Psalm 37:1-11,39-40)

Pastor: Do not fret because of the wicked; do not be envious of wrongdoers, for they will soon fade like the grass, and wither like the green herb.

All: Trust in the Lord, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.

Pastor: Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

All: Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act. He will make your vindication shine like the light, and the justice of your cause like the noonday.

Pastor: Be still before the Lord, and wait patiently for him; do not fret over those who prosper in their way, over those who carry out evil devices.

All: Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath. Do not fret—it leads only to evil. For the wicked shall be cut off, but those who wait for the Lord shall inherit the land.

Pastor: Yet a little while, and the wicked will be no more; though you look diligently for their place, they will not be there. But the meek shall inherit the land, and delight themselves in abundant prosperity. The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; he is their refuge in the time of trouble.

All: The Lord helps them and rescues them; he rescues them from the wicked, and saves them, because they take refuge in him.

***HYMN**

Called as Partners in Christ’s Service

No. 343

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

We come together today to recognize that life moves by fast. We were born into a world set in certain social standards, and those standards and norms continue to change and continue to influence us. We get caught in the culture at hand, and become engulfed in the power of the material. We lose sight of whom we came from, and to whom we hope to return. We treat others, and others treat us, with unjust inequality. We lose love and replace it the struggles of power and status. Forgive us and bring us back to the true path found in following Christ. We pray this in Jesus’ name. *Silent prayer followed by ‘Amen’.*

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS** (Unison)

God is always with us. God always loves us. God always forgives us. God continues to give us the path to humbly live a just life within peace, equality and agape love. In Christ, we have the way. May we follow Christ in all the actions and thoughts of our lives. Praise to Jesus! Amen.

***HYMN**

Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri)

No. 579

GOSPEL READING

Luke 6:27-38

SERMON

HYMN

When a Poor One

No. 407

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (Concluding with the Lord’s Prayer (p. 16))

OFFERING OF TIME, TALENTS & TREASURES

***HYMN**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (Doxology)

No. 592

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

With great thanks and praise, we dedicate all that we have and all that we are to living out Jesus’ ministry. We rededicate our lives to the Triune God so that we may be the vessels to spread the light that began to shine with Jesus. Help us in our struggle to irradicate injustice in this world. Help us along this path to overcome our struggles and oppressions, and to free our own actions from the darkness. We pray this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

HYMN

Song of Hope

No. 432

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).

Donations may be placed in the offering plate near the narthex door.



Depart This House That We Might Witness Together!

Remember in prayer: residents and staff of Resthove, Homestead and Highlight Health (formerly Pleasant View); God’s Will Giving Center,; Bev & Larry Bealer, Dan Brandon, Glenda Hegwood, Dale Johnson, Barbara Marti, Youdelka Philippe (MSH), Jody Tucker, 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 Highlight Health (formerly Pleasant View).

Drive-Up Meal The next meal will be on February 27. We will be serving chili and cornbread. 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 Events:

02/23:

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

02/25:

9:30am Bible Study @ Highlight Health

02/26:

1:30pm Meal Prep

02/27:

4:30pm Free Drive Up Community Meal

03/02:

9:15am Sunday School
10:15am Worship
11:15am Potluck

STAFF

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

SESSION

ELDERS:

Rick Barr	Ron Shank	Stacie Baker, Clerk
Lexie Laughlin	Scott Vandermyde	
Tim Reynolds	Carol Wolf	

*Joseph said to his brothers,
“I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?”
But his brothers could not answer him,
so dismayed were they at his presence.
Then Joseph said to his brothers,
“Come closer to me.”
And they came closer.
He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt.
And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves,
because you sold me here;
for God sent me before you to preserve life.
For the famine has been in the land these two years;
and there are five more years
in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest.
God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth,
and to keep alive for you many survivors.
So it was not you who sent me here, but God;
he has made me a father to Pharaoh,
and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt.
Hurry and go up to my father and say to him,
“Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt;
come down to me, do not delay.
You shall settle in the land of Goshen,
and you shall be near me,
you and your children and your children’s children,
as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have.
I will provide for you there
—since there are five more years of famine to come
—so that you and your household, and all that you have,
will not come to poverty.’
—Genesis 45:3-11*



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