

*First Presbyterian Church*

*March 16, 2025*

*2nd Sunday in Lent*

*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**

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

No. 420 Vs. 1

**OPENING PRAYER & MOMENT FOR MEDITATION** (Job 42:-16)

Then Job answered the Lord: “I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted. ‘Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?’ Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know. ‘Hear, and I will speak; I will question you, and you declare to me.’ I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you; therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes.”

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (Responsively) (Psalm 27)

Pastor: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

**All: When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh—my adversaries and foes— they shall stumble and fall. Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident.**

Pastor: One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple.

**All: For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock. Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord.**

Pastor: Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!

**All: “Come,” my heart says, “seek his face!” Your face, Lord, do I seek. Do not hide your face from me. Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help. Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation! If my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will take me up.**

Pastor: Teach me your way, O Lord, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.

**All: Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries, for false witnesses have risen against me, and they are breathing out violence. I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!**

**\*HYMN**

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

No. 263

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

Creator God, you called us to you long ago and have placed us in the lineage of your chosen descendants. Help us remember we are your children, and help us follow your loving commandments. Forgive us, we pray in Jesus’ name. When we stray, Lord, help us come back to you and be your children again .....*Silent prayer followed by ‘Amen’.*

**\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS** (Unison)

We always have been and always will be the children of God. We are loved and forgiven. Our Savior extends us grace and we may have new life. The Holy Spirit is with us. Praise be to God in the name of Jesus Christ, forever and ever! Amen.

**\*HYMN**

*Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri)*

No. 579

**GOSPEL READING**

Luke 13:31-35

**EPISTLE READING**

Philippians 3:17-4:1

**SERMON**

**HYMN**

*My Song Is Love Unknown*

No. 76

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** (Concluding with “The Lord’s Prayer” (p16))

**\*HYMN**

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

No. 592

**\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION** (Unison)

We thank you Lord for this day and for every day to come. Help us so that each moment may be lived fully for you. Help us see the splendor of your creation in all things. Help us to fully give our life to you so that your will may be done through us. Help your love to shine through us and help us bring peace to the entire earth. We pray this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

**HYMN**

*The Glory of These Forty Days*

No. 87

**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, Marian Osborn, 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](http://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 March 27. We will be serving ham and potato chowder. Meal begins at **5PM**. Help is needed on Wednesday at 1:30pm and Thursday starting at 4:15pm. We will be offering in person dining.

## Birthdays

03/15: Jim Palmer  
03/17: Steve Wolf  
03/20: Collin Wolf

## STAFF

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

## SESSION ELDERS:

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

## Upcoming Events:

03/16:  
9:15am Sunday School  
10:15am Worship Service  
11:15am Coffee Hour

03/17:  
2pm Social Hour @ Resthave  
6:30pm Session Meeting

03/18:  
9:30am Bible Study @ Highlight Health

03/19:  
1:30pm BINGO @ Resthave

03/20:  
8am Social Hour @ The Loft

03/23:  
10:15am Worship Service  
11:15am Coffee Hour

*After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision,  
“Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield;  
your reward shall be very great.”  
But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will you give me,  
for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?”  
And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring,  
and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.”  
But the word of the Lord came to him, “This man shall not be your heir;  
no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.”  
He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars,  
if you are able to count them.”  
Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.”  
And he believed the Lord;  
and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.  
Then he said to him,  
“I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans,  
to give you this land to possess.”  
But he said, “O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?”  
He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old,  
a female goat three years old,  
a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.”  
He brought him all these and cut them in two,  
laying each half over against the other;  
but he did not cut the birds in two.  
And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.  
As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram,  
and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.  
Then the Lord said to Abram, “Know this for certain,  
that your offspring shall be aliens in a land that is not theirs,  
and shall be slaves there, and they shall be oppressed for four hundred years;  
but I will bring judgment on the nation that they serve,  
and afterward they shall come out with great possessions.  
As for yourself, you shall go to your ancestors in peace;  
you shall be buried in a good old age.  
And they shall come back here in the fourth generation;  
for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete.”  
When the sun had gone down and it was dark,  
a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces.  
On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying,  
“To your descendants I give this land, from the river of  
Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates...”*

—Genesis 15:1-18



## The First Presbyterian Church of Morrison IL

100 E. Lincolnway, Morrison IL 61270

815-772-3510 • [firstpresmorrison@gmail.com](mailto:firstpresmorrison@gmail.com)

[www.firstpresmorrison.org](http://www.firstpresmorrison.org)

YouTube Channel: First Presbyterian Church of Morrison Illinois

