

First Presbyterian Church

Morrison, Illinois

December 4, 2022

2nd Sunday in Advent

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

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

No. 8

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) (Psalms 72:1-7, 18-19)

Pastor: Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king’s son.

People: **May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice.**

Pastor: May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

People: **May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.**

Pastor: May he live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.

People: **May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.**

Pastor: In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more. **All:**

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things. Blessed be his glorious name forever; may his glory fill the whole earth. Amen and Amen.

***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*

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 3:1-12

EPISTLE READING

Romans 15:4-13

SERMON

HYMN

Prepare the Way

No. 13

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

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

***HYMN**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (Doxology)

No. 592

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND 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**

I Wonder as I Wander

Insert

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: Individuals and families fighting COVID-19 infection; residents and staff of Resthove, Homestead, and Pleasant View; medical workers, essential employees, school teachers & staff; Dan Brandon, Orville Goodenough, Janet Johnson, Joyce Mathew, Shirley Mills, Marian Osborn, Youdelka Philippe (MSH), Cooke Shawver, Jean Temple, Rachel Tucker, Ray Tucker, Dick Vandermyde, Michael Vegter, Jr.

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/channel/UCcZlobAb6lcNXGA0cbuuVdg>

Annual Meeting The Annual Meeting will be held on December 11. Please join us to approve the upcoming 2023 budget and incoming Session members.

Bible Study We will meet Tuesdays at 9:30am at Pleasant View. Rick Barr will lead the weeks that Pastor Mike is unable.

Birthdays

12/05: Myra Huizenga
12/6: Joel Roberts

Deacons Are Here For You Do you have a physical or spiritual need? Our deacons want to help! Please feel free to reach out to a deacon!

Drive-Up Meal The next meal will be on December 8. We will be serving Christmas Ham Dinner. Meals will begin at 4:30PM

Prayer Requests Have a prayer request? You can now email them to prayers.firstpresmorrison@gmail.com

STAFF

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

SESSION ELDERS:

Lynn Knox
Lexie Laughlin
Jim Palmer
Angela Reamer
Tim Reynolds
Scott Vandermyde
Carol Wolf
Deb Zigler
Stacie Baker, Clerk

Deacons:

Mavis Best
June Cortes
Doris Robertson
Jody Tucker

*A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.
The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.
On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples;
the nations shall inquire of him,
and his dwelling shall be glorious.*

—Isaiah 11:1-10

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