

*First Presbyterian Church
December 22, 2024*

*Love
4th 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 *Angels We Have Heard On High* No. 23 Vs. 1

OPENING PRAYER & MOMENT FOR MEDITATION

“Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.” —1 John 4:7-13

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively) (Psalm 80)

Pastor: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh. Stir up your might, and come to save us!

All: Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Pastor: O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people’s prayers? You have fed them with the bread of tears, and given them tears to drink in full measure. You make us the scorn of our neighbors; our enemies laugh among themselves.

All: Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

***HYMN** *O Come, All Ye Faithful* No. 41

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

Lord of love, you have revealed your love among us through your only son, Jesus Christ. We are behooved to love one another as you love us, yet we still let ourselves hate and destroy one another for selfish, meaningless and empty ‘gain’ while we only lose the true beauty of creation, which is to be in love and to live in love. Forgive us, we pray..... *Silent prayer followed by ‘Amen’.*

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS** (Unison)

God lived and died in the form of a humble human, that of Jesus Christ, so that we might be forgiven for our sins and be able to live in love as God has shown us. Praise be to God forever and ever! 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 *Love* The Wolf Family

GOSPEL READING Luke 1:39-55

MEDITATION

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

Hymn *The First Nowell* No. 56 Vs 1,2

Scripture Reading 1 Corinthians 11:21-31

Distribution of the Elements

Pastoral Prayer

OFFERING OF TIME, TALENTS & TREASURES

***HYMN** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (Doxology)* No. 592

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

Lord God, Giver of Life, Creator of Love, you have given us this life in which we receive your love. In our thanksgiving, help our lives know love through your son Jesus Christ so that every ounce of our work and deeds may be done for you in the name of your Love. Amen.

***HYMN** *O Little Town of Bethlehem* No. 44

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 January 30. We will be serving beef & veggie soup. 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 Community Events:

12/22:

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

12/24:

4pm Christmas Eve Service & Pageant

12/26:

Office Closed

12/29:

10:15am Worship Service
11:15am Coffee Hour

*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

*Wishing you a very Merry Christmas
and a Blessed New Year!*

STAFF

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

SESSION ELDERS:

Rick Barr
Lexie Laughlin
Angela Reamer

Ron Shank
Scott Vandermyde
Carol Wolf

Deb Zigler
Stacie Baker, Clerk



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