

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WELCOME

GREAT TO SEE YOU!

January 18, 2026

BAPTISM



Welcome to this sanctuary.

Welcome to this time of worship and wonder.

Welcome to this family of faith.

We're glad you're here today and pray that your experience with us in worship is both challenging and uplifting!

Our ushers are available to assist you as needed.

For more information about First Presbyterian Church, we invite you to visit our website. There you will find out the ways to keep in touch, how we live our faith, our different partnerships and so much more.

Our website address is: www.firstpresracine.org

If you're interested in receiving news about the church, please call 262.632.1686 or email: shelley@firstpresracine.org

Rev. Darren Utley—Church Pastor
pastordarren@firstpresracine.org

TODAY'S SERVICE

PASTOR—Rev. Darren Utley

LITURGIST—Royce Earnest

**MUSICIANS—Alejandro Alumbreros, Mark Paffrath, Pat Badger,
Dave Titus, Chancel Choir**

MEDIA TECH SPECIALIST—Steve Comeau

*Please stand as you are able.

[Bold type] indicates text to be spoken by the congregation.

[Bold italic type] indicates song to be sung by the congregation.



WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

As a courtesy to everyone, please mute your mobile device.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Royce Earnest

Welcome! May you find God's love, peace, grace, and joy as we worship today.

PRELUDE

The Snow Prelude No .3 in C Major | Ludovico Einaudi

POEM OF INVITATION

Beginning with Beloved - A Blessing | Jan Richardson

Begin here:

Beloved.

Is there any other word
needs saying,
any other blessing
could compare
with this name,
this knowing?

Beloved.

Comes like a mercy
to the ear that has never
heard it.

Comes like a river
to the body that has never
seen such grace.

Beloved.

Comes holy
to the heart
aching to be new.
Comes healing
to the soul
wanting to begin
again.

Beloved.

Keep saying it
and though it may
sound strange at first,
watch how it becomes
part of you,
how it becomes you,
as if you never
could have known yourself
anything else,
as if you could ever
have been other
than this:
Beloved.

*OPENING HYMN

I Was There to Hear Your Burning Cry

[GtG Hymn #488]

Alejandro Alumbreros, Mark Paffrath, Pat Badger, Dave Titus

THE LORD'S PRAYER AND PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

*ACT OF PRAISE

Seed, Scattered and Sown

[GtG Hymn #531, v. 2]

*Seed, scattered and sown; wheat, gathered and grown;
bread, broken and shared as one, the living bread of God.*

*Vine, fruit of the land; wine, work of our hands;
one cup that is shared by all, the living cup,
the living bread of God.*

*The seed which falls on rock will wither and will die.
The seed within good ground will flower and have life.*

*Seed, scattered and sown; wheat, gathered and grown;
bread, broken and shared as one, the living bread of God.*

*Vine, fruit of the land; wine, work of our hands;
one cup that is shared by all, the living cup,
the living bread of God.*

*PASSING THE PEACE

As Christ welcomed everyone,
no matter what their background or social standing;
as Christ welcomed enemies & friends, outcasts & leaders,
foreigners & neighbors, let us open our hearts and homes and lives.
Let us be like Christ to everyone we meet.
Peace be with you.
And also with you.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Grant Us Peace | Michael Scott

Chancel Choir

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 3:13 thru 4:11
[NT 3]

SERMON

Baptism
Rev. Darren Utley

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High

*SONG OF RESPONSE

Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove
[GtG Hymn #279]

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We have seen the valley.

We have seen a sky without stars.

We have seen the longest night, and still we believe.

We believe in a with-us God.

We believe in the hope of tomorrow.

We believe that good news is louder than fear.

We believe this good news is for all people.

So even when our knees shake,

even when our voice trembles,

even when fear is all around us,

we will hold onto that good news.

We will reach for each other.

We will look for God in our midst.

We will sing songs of joy.

We will proclaim: Unto us, love is born.

We have seen the longest night,

and we have seen unimaginable love.

So still, we believe. Amen.

OFFERING/OFFERTORY

Take Me to the Water

*DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen!*

GOING FORTH TO MINISTER

*CLOSING HYMN

Take My Life
[GtG Hymn #697, v. 1-3, 6]

*BENEDICTION

*SUNG BLESSING

Sometimes a Light Surprises
[GtG Hymn #800, v. 2]

*In holy contemplation we sweetly then pursue
The theme of God's salvation and find it ever new;
Set free from present sorrow, we cheerfully can say,
"Let the unknown tomorrow bring with it what it may."*

POSTLUDE

King of My Heart | John Mark, Sarah McMillan, arr. Philip Keveren



THIS WEEK...

Sun., Jan. 18 th	9:30AM 10:40AM	Worship Service Fellowship
Mon., Jan. 19 th	9:00AM	Staff Meeting via Zoom
Wed., Jan. 21 st	4:00PM	Food Pantry
Sun., Jan. 18 th	9:30AM 10:40AM	Worship Service Fellowship

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATIONAL

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2026

LL Dining Room - directly following worship

The annual meeting will be followed by...

THE FIRST ANNUAL DENNIS REESER MEMORIAL CHILI TASTING EVENT

As with so many Church fellowship gatherings, the man behind the scenes getting everything set up and working correctly was Dennis Reeser. His amazing generosity of time coupled with a fantastic skill set and wonderful sense of humor added so much joy to our Church Family. There is not a First Pres event where he does not come to mind, and he is deeply missed. So, plan to come and eat some chili, spread some joy, help feed some hungry people with your free-will offering and raise a spoon to the memory of our friend who showed us daily what love in action looks like.



PRAYER MATTERS

Heartfelt thoughts & prayers for Fumi Nakayama & family, for the recent loss of her father—Masamune Shoso Nishikiori; and all who have recently experienced the loss of a friend or family member. May they know peace and comfort during these difficult times.

Prayers of comfort & healing for Don Tobias, Elie Hunt, Jeremy Nitz, Peggy Taylor, Ginny Holle, Ken Schacht, Vi Shufelt, Sheila Lawrence, Peggy Wagner, Ed Lehmann, Austin Moulds, Mac & Marilyn MacCaughey, Ellen Easley, Sandra Hopkins, Kay Mahl, Mary Johnson, Leah Fisher, Barb Stevenson, Evelyn Vanderheyden.

As they deal with physical, emotional and/or spiritual issues, please pray for Mary Ann—mother of Cheryl Nitz; Mark—son of Sharon Campbell; Josephine—aunt of Georgia Herrera; David—friend and Dan & Joyce—parents of Shelley Maurer; Jack Flynn and Mary—sister of Gretchen Hermann; Ainara—sister of Alejandro Alumbreros; David—brother of Ed Lehmann; the paternal grandfather of Autumn Eifert; Carol—sister of Ginny Holle; Chad—son of Sheila Lawrence; the grandfather of Jay Perrone; Amy—daughter of Jim & Bonnie Eastman and sister of Jenny Eastman; Nancy—girlfriend of Ken Schacht; Elena & Ezequiel Romero—parents of Deb Utley; Masako—mother of Fumi Nakayama; Nancy—mother of Gloria Zember; John—son of Mac & Marilyn MacCaughey; Richard—brother of Steve Comeau; John—husband of Sandy Hawley; Chuck—husband of Sue Pehlivanian; Ramona, Steve, Susan, Sandra, John, Liz and Gabby—friends & family of the Galles; Laurel—niece of Curt & Victoria Vollman; Meyer Schaal; Tim—family member of Sheila Lawrence; the Moes family and Scott Mohn—friends of the Paffrath family.

Prayers for those in the service — Evan Humphreys, Col. Jay Brooke, Jared Smith, Jordan Smith, Nicholas Hansen.

Thank you for your continued prayers for everyone. They are powerful!