

U P D A T E S

Sun., July 4	9:30 ^{AM}	Worship with Communion
	10:25 ^{AM}	Deacons Huddle (<i>narthex</i>)
Mon. July 5		Office Closed
Tue., July 6	9:30 ^{AM}	Staff Meeting via Zoom
Wed., July 7	4:00-7:00 ^{PM}	FirstPres Food Pantry
	5:30 ^{PM}	<i>P.L.A.Y.</i>
	7:00 ^{PM}	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thurs., July 8		
Fri., July 9	6:30 ^{PM}	Zoom Book Club Mtg (<i>to discuss next book</i>)
Sat., July 10	9:00 ^{AM} -3:00 ^{PM}	Church Rummage Sale
Sun., July 11	9:30 ^{AM}	Worship
	10:25 ^{AM}	Deacons Huddle (<i>narthex</i>)
	11:00 ^{AM} -4:00 ^{PM}	Church Rummage Sale

Have a safe and happy Fourth of July!

Prayer Matters

Please pray for Jim Muir, Leah Fisher, Elie Hunt, Ellen Easley, Nancy Ritter, John, Steve & Pam Simpson, Jen Seversen, Peggy Taylor, Mary Lou Schuler, Sandra Hopkins, Bill Blandford, Mary Ralston, Louise Shapley, Kay Mahl, Ellen Cardwell, Evelyn Vanderheyden, Mary Jane Johnston, Marlene Wilson, Les & Ann Lucareli, Mac & Marilyn MacCaughey, Don & Nancy Tobias.

Thoughts and prayers for those who have lost loved ones. May they know some peace and comfort.

Prayers of healing for John—brother of Peggy Taylor, Dawn and Jason—family and friends of the Lehmann family, Linda—daughter of Louise Shapley, Mary—sister of Carrie Massey, Charlie—niece of Carrie Massey and Kathi Wilson, Gillian and Ben—friends and former pastors of First Presbyterian.

Prayers for those serving—Col. Jay Brooke, Evan Humphrey, Chad Lawrence, Jared Smith, Jordan Smith.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF RACINE July 4, 2021

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'd like to explore becoming a member of First Presbyterian, or how to participate in any of the many ministries here, please speak to the pastor after worship.

If you are interested in receiving news about the church, please call 262.632.1686 or email the office—office@firstpresracine.org

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Larry Dickerson

PRELUDE

*“Maestoso” by J. Pilland
Alejandro Alumbremos*

CALL TO WORSHIP

God has accomplished all things through Christ,
so that we might live as God's own children.

Let us give thanks to God
and live for the praise of God's glory.

OPENING HYMN

*“Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine” [PH341]
Alejandro Alumbremos*

*Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.*

Refrain:

*This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.*

*This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.*

*Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight.
Angels descending bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love. [Refrain]*

*Perfect submission, all is at rest.
I in my Savior am happy and bless'd,
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love. [Refrain]*

*Cure thy children's warring madness,
Bend our pride to Thy control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
Rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal,
Lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal.*

*Set our feet on lofty places;
Gird our lives that they may be
Armored with all Christlike graces,
Pledged to set all captives free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage.
That we fail not them nor Thee!
That we fail not them nor Thee!*

*Save us from weak resignation
To the evils we deplore;
Let the search for thy salvation
Be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Serving Thee whom we adore,
Serving Thee whom we adore.*

BENEDICTION

SUNG BLESSING

*“Open My Eyes That I May See” [PH324, v1]
Open my eyes, that I may see
Glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;
Place in my hands the wonderful key
That shall unclasp and set me free.*

POSTLUDE

"Allegro" by G. Moisenei

OFFERING/OFFERTORY

"God Is Here Today"

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*

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you,
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts,
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God,
It is right to give our thanks and praise....

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

"Here, O Lord Your Servants Gather"

GOING FORTH TO MINISTER

CLOSING HYMN

"God of Grace and God of Glory" [PH420]

*God of grace and God of glory,
On thy people pour thy power;
Crown thine ancient church's story;
Bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
For the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour.*

*Lo! The hosts of evil round us
Scorn Thy Christ, assail Thy ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
Free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
For the living of these days,
For the living of these days.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

God has blessed us in Jesus Christ
with every spiritual blessing and
calls us to be holy and blameless.
The riches of God's grace
promise forgiveness of our trespasses.
Let us confess our sins.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of creation, too often we have neglected and forgotten the gifts that you give us to grow and bear fruit in your world. Like some rusty spade in the garden shed, we have allowed your wisdom and insight to fade from our thoughts. Perhaps no tool has gone more unused than our imagination. In a world so rich with your blessing, bubbling over with your love, and resplendent with your glory; we walk around as if our eyes are closed. We do not love as we might because we cannot begin to imagine how much we are loved. We do not seek justice because we cannot imagine your profound capacity to liberate and restore. We fail as peacemakers because we can't imagine the full abundance of your goodness and mercy.

Open the eyes of our hearts Lord. Grant us a vision of the new creation we are together in Christ. Forgive us and make us whole. Amen

(Let us continue to pray in silence.)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

According to the riches of his grace,
which God has lavished upon us
and sealed for us by the promised Holy Spirit,
hear this good news:
In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE

Since God has made us the blessed community, the Church,
let us greet one another, in whatever way we can,
with the peace and joy of Christ.
Peace and joy be with you.
And also with you.

SONG OF PRAISE

“Arise, Your Light is Come!” [PH411, v1]
*Arise, your light has come!
The Spirit’s call obey;
Show forth the glory of your God
Which shines on you today.*

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 1 *Larry Dickerson*
The Two Ways
Happy are those
 who do not follow the advice of the wicked,
or take the path that sinners tread,
 or sit in the seat of scoffers;
but their delight is in the law of the Lord,
 and on his law they meditate day and night.
They are like trees
 planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season,
 and their leaves do not wither.
In all that they do, they prosper.

The wicked are not so,
 but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgement,
 nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;
for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,
 but the way of the wicked will perish.

Ephesians 1:3-14
Spiritual Blessings in Christ
Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his

blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God’s own people, to the praise of his glory.

SERMON

“The Richest Soil”
Rev. Darren Utley

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

“Amazing Grace”

SONG OF RESPONSE

“Come, Let Us Eat”

*Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread;
Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.
Our Lord's body let us take together;
Our Lord's body let us take together.*

*Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured;
Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.
Jesus' blood poured let us drink together;
Jesus' blood poured let us drink together.*

*In Jesus' presence now we meet and rest;
In Jesus' presence now we meet and rest.
In the presence of our Lord we gather;
In the presence of our Lord we gather.*

*Rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word;
Rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word.
Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom;
Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom.*