



COMBINED SERVICE

October 18, 2026
10:00^{AM}



Welcome

Welcome to this sanctuary.

Welcome to this time of worship and wonder.

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.

Today's Service

WORSHIP LEADERS – *Royce Earnest & Carolyn Churchill*

CHALICE LIGHTER – *Lila Sommer*

USHERS & CANDELABRA LIGHTERS – *Ken Schacht & Steve Simpson*

GUEST POET – *Regie Gibson, Poet Laureate of Massachusetts*

DIRECTOR OF LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – *Leann Pomaville*

MUSICIANS – *Alejandro Alumbremos, Mark Paffrath, Pat Badger, 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 Together

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Royce Earnest & Carolyn Churchill

PRELUDE

Andante | Abbé Louis Lepage
Alejandro Alumbros

**During the prelude, First Pres will light candles and OBUUC will light chalice.*

OPENING WORDS

Regie Gibson

*OPENING HYMN

Morning Has Broken
[GtG Hymn #664]
Alejandro Alumbros, Mark Paffrath, Pat Badger

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Leann Pomaville

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

We are,
We are blessed,
We are blessed by being,
We are blessed by being here,
We are blessed by being here together.

*CHILDREN'S HYMN FOR SENDING FORTH

As You Go | Kathleen Tracy

***We hold you in our love as you go, as you go.
May your heart be at peace as you go.
To nurture the spark of your precious life,
We hold you in our love as you go.***

*PASSING THE PEACE

Royce Earnest

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

Shout the Glad Tidings | G.F. Handel, arr. H. H. Hopson
*First Presbyterian Chancel Choir,
directed by Alejandro Alumbremos*

OFFERTORY

Sanctuary | Kevin Olson

POEM FOR THE PEOPLE

Regie Gibson

JOY & SORROWS

Carolyn Churchill

All who have a joy or a sorrow are invited to come forward to light a candle.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

from The New Zealand Prayer Book
Royce Earnest

**Eternal Spirit,
Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is Heaven:
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
Your Heavenly will be done by all created beings!**

**Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope
and come on Earth.**

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and testing, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever.

Amen.

SONG

There Is a Love | Rebecca Parker

There is a love holding me/us.

There is a love holding all that I/we love.

There is a love holding all.

I/We rest in this love.

REFLECTION

Regie Gibson

*CLOSING HYMN

Lift Every Voice and Sing

[GtG Hymn #339]

*BENEDICTION

Regie Gibson

POSTLUDE

The Gospel Train | African American Spiritual

During the postlude, the candles and chalice will be extinguished.

**Presbyterians light candles before worship to symbolize that Jesus Christ is the light of the world and to remind the congregation that God's presence is with them.*

Unitarian Universalist congregations light a flaming chalice during worship services to create a reverent, sacred space for reflection, prayer, and community.

Bio for Regie Gibson

Regie Gibson has lectured and performed widely in the US, Cuba, and Europe. In Italy, representing the US, he received both the Absolute Poetry Award (Monfalcone) and the Europa en Versi Award (Como). He has also received the Walker Scholarship, a Mass Cultural Council Award, a YMCA Writer's Fellowship, and the Brother Thomas Fellowship from the Boston Foundation. In addition, he was awarded two Live Arts Boston (LAB) grants for the production of his first musical, *The Juke: A Blues Bacchae*, in which he uses Euripides' tragedy to explore African American music and spirituality.

Gibson has served as a consultant for the National Endowment for the Arts' "How Art Works" initiative and "The Mere Distinction of Colour," a permanent exhibit examining the legacy of slavery and the U.S. Constitution at James Madison's Montpelier home in Virginia. He is the author of *Storms Beneath the Skin*, and the creator of *The Shakespeare Time-Traveling Speakeasy*, a theatrical, literary-musical performance focusing on William Shakespeare. Gibson has performed with, and composed texts for, Boston City Singers, Mystic Chorale, Boston Pops and the Handel and Haydn Society. He was a poet-in-residence at the Museum of Fine Arts and is currently a poet-in-residence at the Cary Memorial Library.

He is currently the creative lead on a team of scientists and members of the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre (Hague, Netherlands), helping to craft language regarding issues of climate change. He teaches at Berklee College of Music as well as Clark University.



What's happening this week?

Sun., Oct. 18 th	10:00 ^{AM}	FPC/OBUUC Combined Service
Wed., Oct. 14 th	4:00 ^{PM}	Food Pantry
Sun., Oct. 15 th	9:30 ^{AM}	Sunday Worship

Save the Dates

Today - 10:00^{AM}

FPC/OBUUC Combined Service & Fellowship

Saturday, December 5, 2026 - 7:00^{PM}

Carols by Candlelight Concert

Sunday, January 17, 2027

**Cuban Sandwich Fundraiser*

Sunday, February 14, 2027

**Dennis Reeser Memorial Chili Event*

Saturday, May 8, 2027 - 7:00^{PM}

Music & More Spring Sampler

**These events will be directly following worship.*

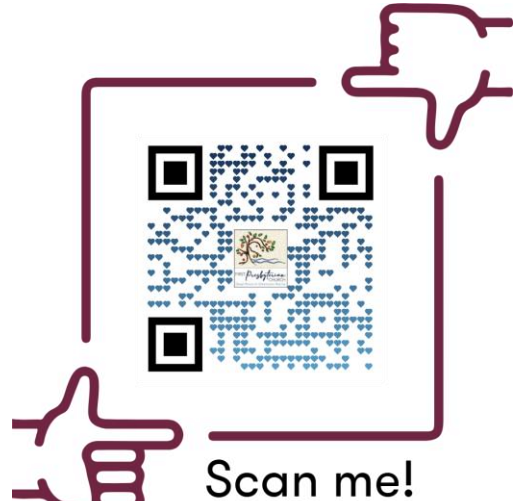


Olympia Brown October Offering Recipient

The Racine Symphony Orchestra enriches, educates, and entertains our communities through the power of music. Founded in 1932, the RSO has been an integral part of Racine's cultural landscape for more than nine decades, bringing exceptional live orchestral performances to audiences throughout Southeastern Wisconsin. Each season, the RSO connects people of all ages through inspiring concerts, educational programs, community partnerships, and opportunities to experience the transformative power of music. As the Orchestra approaches its 100th anniversary, the RSO honors its rich heritage while looking toward the future—building stronger connections, expanding access, and ensuring orchestral music continues to thrive in our community.

If you would like to donate to support the missions of **First Presbyterian**, please visit:

<https://firstpresracine.org/donate> or scan this QR code.



Scan me!

