

First Presbyterian Church

October 25, 2026

FIRST Presbyterian CHURCH

Deep Roots In Downtown Racine

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 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 – *Deb Yale*
MUSICIANS – *Alejandro Alumbreros, Mark Paffrath, Pat Badger, Hans Mayer*

*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 — *Deb Yale*

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

PRELUDE — **Prelude of Tranquility** | James Michael Stevens
Alejandro Alumbreros

WORDS OF INVITATION — Carl P. Daw, Jr.

God the Spirit, guide and guardian,
wind-sped flame and hovering dove,
breath of life and voice of prophets,
sign of blessing, power of love:
give to those who lead your people
fresh anointing of your grace;
send them forth as bold apostles
to your church in every place.

*OPENING HYMN — **Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**
[GtG Hymn #366]
Alejandro Alumbreros, Mark Paffrath, Pat Badger

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE | THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 — **Love the Lord Your God**
[GtG Hymn #62, x2]

Love the Lord your God with all your heart.
Love the Lord you God with all your soul.
Love the Lord your God with all your mind.
Love the Lord your God with all that you are.

*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.

Proclaiming the Word

Scripture — **Leviticus 19:1-2,15-18** [OT 106]
Matthew 22:34-46 [NT 25]

Sermon — **Love**
Rev. Darren Utley

Responding to the Word

Music for Reflection — **Native American Flute Music**
Hans Mayer

*Song of Response — **Lead Me, Guide Me** [GtG Hymn #740]

*Affirmation of Faith — *Brief Confession of Faith '91*

"We trust in the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through scripture, engages us in the world to proclaim good news and to work for justice and peace, and prays in us when our own words fail. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit

gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives."

OFFERTORY **Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord**

*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

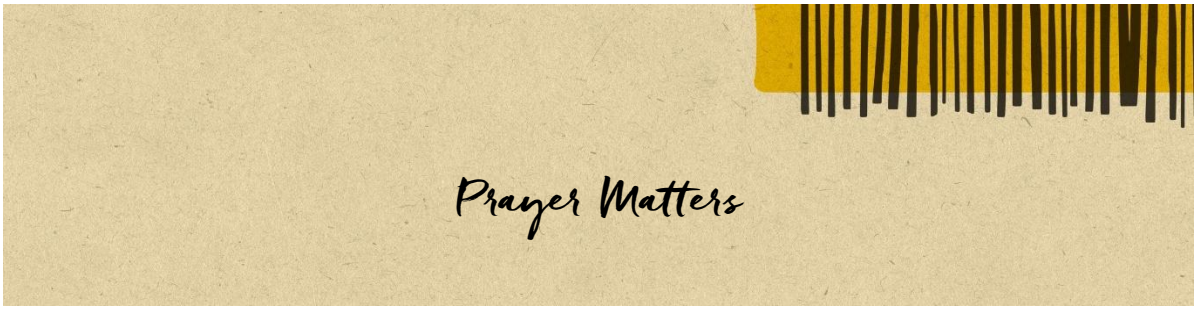
*CLOSING HYMN **Jesus Calls Us**
[GtG Hymn #720]

*BENEDICTION

*SUNG BLESSING **Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak**
[GtG Hymn #722, v. 4]

O fill me with Your fullness, Lord,
Until my very heart o'erflow
In kindling thought and glowing word,
Your love to tell, Your praise to show.

POSTLUDE **Mosso Moderato** | Heinrich Oberhoffer



Heartfelt thoughts & prayers for Mac & Marilyn MacCaughey and family with the resent passing of their son – John; and all who have recently lost a friend or family member. May they know peace and comfort during these difficult times.

Prayers of comfort & healing for Steve & Pam Simpson, John Brooke, Kay Mahl, Sheila and Shelley Lawrence, Jennifer Humphreys, Peggy Taylor, Vi Shufelt, Don Tobias, Mac & Marilyn MacCaughey, Ed Lehmann, Leah Fisher and unspoken prayers for two church members.

As they deal with physical, emotional and/or spiritual issues, please pray for Monica—daughter of Ben & Catherine Neal, Rudy—brother of Nancy Lechner, John—husband of Sandy Hawley, Joyce—mother of Shelley Maurer, Nancy—mother of Gloria Zember, family members of Sharon Campbell, paternal grandfather of Autumn Eifert, Shaun—friend of Patrick Herrera, Baby Hazel—grandniece of Carrie & Kathi, Chad—son of Sheila Lawrence, Masako—mother of Fumi Nakayama, Johan—brother of Cecilia Andersson, Elena & Ezequiel Romero—parents of Deb Utley, Mary Ann—mother of Cheryl Nitz, Amy—daughter of Jim & Bonnie Eastman, Chuck—husband of Sue Pehlivanian, Austin Moulds, Meyer Schaal, friends & family of the Lehmanns, Jack Flynn and Mary—sister of Gretchen Hermann, friends & family of the Galles.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sun., Oct. 25th	9:30AM	Sunday Worship
Mon., Oct. 26th	9:00AM	Staff Meeting via Zoom
Tues., Oct. 27th	10:00AM	Delivery for the Food Pantry
	6:30PM	Session Meeting
Wed., Oct. 28th	4:00PM	Food Pantry
	7:00PM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Sun., Nov. 1st	9:30AM	Sunday Worship

First Presbyterian Food Pantry

Haven't donated to the food pantry for a while? Now's your chance!

The food pantry needs macaroni & cheese, hearty soups & stews, and tuna. Next time you're out shopping, pick up an item or two to donate!

If you'd prefer, you can make a secure online donation by visiting our webpage: *firstpresracine.org/donate*. Select SECURE GIVING THROUGH PAYPAL and click on **Food Pantry**. Or you can scan the QR code on page 9.

WANTED!

CLEAN, GENTLY USED WINTER OUTERWEAR

Help keep our neighbors warm this winter.

We are collecting warm clothing in good condition for Food Pantry Guests.

Most Wanted Items

Coats • Jackets • Hats
Gloves • Mittens • Scarves • Boots

Please donate items that are:
Clean • Gently used • Have Working Zippers

• Free of stains, tears, and strong odors

Men's items are in demand

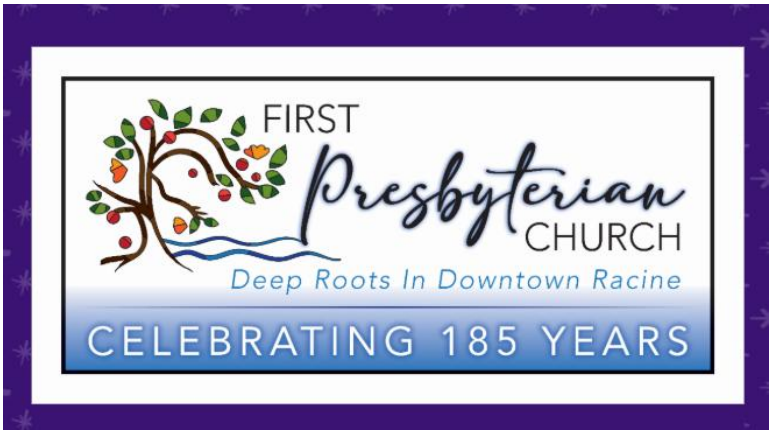
Your donation can make a warm difference!



For questions contact Meg Daniels: 262-497-0610

If you would like to donate to support the mission of FPC church, please visit: *https://firstpresracine.org/donate* or scan this QR code.





As we near the Advent season, we are in need of liturgists, poetry readers and candle lighters. If you are willing to help, please let Shelley know, so you can be added to the list.

Liturgists are needed for:

- *Sunday, December 13*
- *Sunday, December 20*
- *Sunday, December 27*
- *Sunday, January 3*

Poetry readers are needed for:

- *Sunday, December 13*
- *Sunday, December 20*
- *Sunday, December 27*
- *Sunday, January 3*

Families are needed for candle lighting:

- *Sunday, November 29*
- *Sunday, December 6*
- *Sunday, December 13*
- *Sunday, December 20*

Thank You!



The gatherings will include simple meditative music, Scripture, prayer, reflection, and periods of silence. While Taizé comes from a Christian tradition, the format is intentionally simple and contemplative, and we would like to welcome anyone in the community who finds meaning in quiet reflection, music, prayer, and meditation.

Upcoming dates:

- November 2, 2026
- December 7, 2026
- January 4, 2027
- February 1, 2027
- March 1, 2027
- April 5, 2027
- May 3, 2027
- June 7, 2027

Save the Dates

Saturday, December 5, 2026 - 7:00PM
**Carols by Candlelight Concert*

Sunday, January 17, 2027 – following worship
Cuban Sandwich Fundraiser

Sunday, February 14, 2027 – following worship
Dennis Reeser Memorial Chili Event

Saturday, May 8, 2027 - 7:00PM
Music & More Spring Sampler

Carols by Candlelight

In collaboration with Choral Arts Society of SE Wisconsin
and Music & More
Saturday, December 5th at 7:00PM

Featuring community artists, the Choral Arts Society, and our audience, this performance centers on the reflective mood that music, poetry, and candlelight can shine in winter and spiritual darkness, surrounding all of us with beauty, hope, and peace. It is a new, unique, and unfolding tradition, our gift to the community. In this program, the Choral Arts Society continues our collaborative relationship with two local arts organizations, Music & More and The Studio of Classical Dance Arts.

Tickets (Adult $20; Student $10) are available through the CAS website: *https://choralartsonline.org/attend/*