



Welcome to

First Presbyterian Church

November 23, 2025



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—*Steve Bernstein*

MUSICIANS—*Alejandro Alumbrosos, Mark Paffrath, Pat Badger,
Dave Titus, Handbell Choir - directed by Fumi Nakayama*

BULLETIN & GRAPHICS—*Shelley Maurer*

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

Steve Bernstein

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

PRELUDE

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come | *George Job Alvey*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Woe to the shepherds who destroy
and scatter the sheep of my pasture!
I myself will gather my flock
and bring them back to their fold.

**God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.**

God will give knowledge of salvation to his people
by the forgiveness of their sins.

**God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.**

By the tender mercy of our God,
the dawn from on high will break upon us
to give light to those who sit in the
shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.

**God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.**

*OPENING HYMN

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether [GtG Hymn #529]

Alejandro Alumbrosos, Mark Paffrath, Pat Badger, Dave Titus

*ACT OF PRAISE

Glory Be to the Father [GtG Hymn #581]

*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

Take My Life and Let It Be | *Henri A. Cesar Milan,*
arr. Patricia Sanders Cota
Handbell Choir, directed by Fumi Nakayama

Proclaiming the Word

SCRIPTURE

Luke 22:14-20, 24-30
[NT 86, 87]

SERMON

Table Service
Rev. Darren Utley

Responding to the Word

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

Etude in B-flat Major (Giving Thanks) | *Phillip Keveren*

*SONG OF RESPONSE

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ [GtG Hymn #526]

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Adapted from Confession of '67

To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God's reconciling community.
This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God's message of reconciliation

and shares God’s labor of healing the enmities which separate people from God and from each other. Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit.

OFFERING/OFFERTORY Thanksgiving | *George Winston*

*DOXOLOGY [GtG Hymn #606]

Going Forth to Minister

*CLOSING HYMN God Whose Giving Knows No Ending [GtG Hymn #716]

*BENEDICTION

*SUNG BLESSING Take My Life [GtG Hymn #697, v. 4]

POSTLUDE Prayer of Thanksgiving | *Netherlands Folk Melody, arr. Anne Britt*

upcoming
MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sun., Nov. 23 rd	9:30 ^{AM}	Worship
	10:40 ^{AM}	Fellowship
Mon., Nov. 24 th	9:00 ^{AM}	Staff Meeting via Zoom
Tues., Nov. 25 th	10:00 ^{AM}	Delivery for Food Pantry
	6:30 ^{PM}	Session Meeting
Wed., Nov. 26 th	4:00 ^{PM}	Food Pantry
Sat., Nov. 29 th	9:30 ^{AM}	Decorating for Advent
Sun., Nov. 30 th	9:30 ^{AM}	First Sunday of Advent Service
	10:40 ^{AM}	Fellowship

Mission Initiative and Deacons

This year we are collecting for two initiatives to help support the Children and Families of Julian Thomas Elementary School, and both donations can be made through December 7th.

Holiday Food Cards: The deacons need help with cash/check donations for food cards. Rather than giving families an actual food basket, the selected recipient families will each receive a gift card for ALDI so they can purchase the food items that their family needs. All monetary donations that are given to Julian Thomas School will support this initiative. Donations in any amount are appreciated. Checks should be made payable to First Presbyterian. Write *JT Gift Card* on the memo line. Or you can make a secure donation by visiting firstpresracine.org/donate and click on SECURE GIVING THRU PAYPAL. From the dropdown list, please select Julian Thomas Gift Card.

Christmas Toy Drive: We are also collecting toys, crafts and gift items for Julian Thomas School. There is a decorated box in Ihrman Hall for the donations.

Every year, the teachers and staff identify students whose families may be in distress and could benefit from having a brighter holiday. They then put together Santa Bags for all of the children in the selected families. Our target gift price range is \$10-\$30 per item.

Save the Dates...

Advent Begins

Sunday, November 30th

A CANDLELIGHT CONCERT

The Choral Arts Society and Music & More

Collaboration

Saturday, December 6th at 7:00^{PM}

Tickets \$20 (adult) - \$10 (youth)

purchase from CAS by visiting

choralartsonline.org

Loss & Light Service

Thursday, December 11th at 7:00^{PM}

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Wednesday, December 24th at 6:30^{PM}



Loss & Light Service

Olympia Brown Unitarian
Universalist Church and
First Presbyterian Church
invite you to the

Loss & Light Service
on Thursday, December 11th
at 7:00^{PM}

This service will be held in the
sanctuary at First Presbyterian.

Prayer Matters

Heartfelt thoughts & prayers for 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 Vi Shufelt, Sheila Lawrence, Nancy DeKraay, Peggy Wagner, John Brooke, Austin Moulds, Peggy Taylor, Ed Lehmann, 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 Deborah Adkins, per Talib Akbar—guests of First Presbyterian; the paternal grandparents of Autumn Eifert; Nancy—girlfriend of Ken Schacht; Amy—daughter of Jim & Bonnie Eastman and sister of Jenny Eastman, David—brother of Ed Lehmann, Ramona, Steve, Susan, Sandra, John, Liz and Gabby—friends & family of the Galles; Carol—sister of Ginny Holle; Bob—friend of Sharon Campbell; John—husband of Sandy Hawley; Richard—brother of Steve Comeau; Dan & Joyce—parents of Shelley Maurer; Elena & Ezequiel Romero—parents of Deb Utley; Masako—mother of Fumi Nakayama; Mary Ann—mother of Cheryl Nitz; John—son of Mac & Marilyn MacCaughey; Chuck Pehlivanian—Sue's husband; Nancy—mother of Gloria Zember; 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.

Special prayers for Central Reformed Presbyterian Church in Matanzas, Cuba, as they search for their new pastor, and Pastors Ary & Beidy, as they move forward with their work at the Evangelical Theological Seminary.

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

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

Candlelight

CONCERT

A Music & More and Choral Arts Society collaboration

Saturday, December 6

7:00 p.m. • 716 College Avenue • Racine, WI

Performers: Mark Paffrath, Choral Arts Society, The Studio of Classical Dance Arts, and More!

Tickets: \$20 Adults • \$10 Students



Boxes of Homemade Christmas
cookies for sale \$10/box

Music & MORE
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Choral
ARTS
Society

FOR TICKETS: choralartsonline.org | (262) 634-3250

This season is supported in part by a grant from the Racine Community Foundation, a grant from the Racine Arts Council's ArtSeed Grant Program funded by the Racine Arts Council and the Wisconsin Arts Board with funds from the State of Wisconsin, and a grant from the Wisconsin Arts Board with funds from the State of Wisconsin and the National Endowment for the Arts.

