

ROCK PRAIRIE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, January 11, 2026

10:30 a.m.

Holy Communion



8605 East County Road A

Janesville, WI 53546

(608) 752-1172

office@rockprairiechurch.org

Rev. Dr. Bruce A. Jones

THE CHURCH GATHERS

PRELUDE

SYLVIA O'CONNOR

“Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies” | Werner, Peterson

“Assurance” | Knapp, Bach, Beck

“We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight” | McFarland, Giamanco

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTERLUDE

SYLVIA O'CONNOR

“Pastorale” | Wagner

*CALL TO WORSHIP –

MATTHEW 3, ACTS 10

One: Come and seek the Lord. May you experience an epiphany
and see who God truly is.

**All: We seek a moment where God opens the heavens for
us to see.**

One: At Jesus' baptism, the heavens opened, and the Spirit descended
upon Him.

**All: We come marked by those same waters, to claim our
identity as God's own.**

One: As Jesus emerged from the water, the Spirit descended like a dove.

All: The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

One: We worship the One who calls us to the waters and claims us.

All: We worship and celebrate Jesus Christ—He is Lord.

*HYMN

“Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart”

[147] +HFG

THE CHURCH CONFESSES AND SEEKS ASSURANCE

CALL TO CONFESSION

EPHESIANS 1

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

MATTHEW 3

**Lord of All, we come to the waters of baptism and remember our
need to be washed clean. Jesus identifies with us in the waters of
baptism, yet we continue wandering away. Christ demonstrated the
life of a faithful servant. As fallen human beings, we need Christ to
forgive us. We bring our sins and weaknesses to the throne of grace.**

TIME FOR PERSONAL PRAYER AND EXAMINATION

Forgive us, O God. We offer our prayers and seek to return to the path you prepare for us.

Gracious God, we thank You for dealing with our sin with grace and forgiveness. We embrace the fresh gift of love and forgiveness which lights up our lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON

ISAIAH 5, PSALM 80

One: In Christ, God's salvation has come. He wipes away our tears with forgiveness and faithfulness. In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: God called us by name and claimed us for redemption. This is Good News for all of creation! Thanks be to God. Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE

*RESPONSE

"Gloria Patri"

[142] +HFG

THE CHURCH LISTENS FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

1 SAMUEL 3

NEW TESTAMENT

MATTHEW 3:13-17

BAPTISM OF JESUS

Jesus begins His public ministry by being baptized by John the Baptist in the Jordan River. His baptism reveals His divine identity as God's beloved Son. Christ's identity is confirmed by a voice from heaven, and the Spirit descends like a dove, anointing His ministry. Jesus declares this act "fulfills" God's plan to show His perfect obedience and identification with humanity's need for God's way. Fully God, Fully Human to provide our salvation.

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

KIDS KIRK *“Children of the Heavenly Father” [89 vs. 1]*

CHRIS ZHE

Children are invited to come up to the front chancel as we sing.

***“Children of the heavenly Father
Safely in His bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in Heaven
Such a refuge e’er was given.”***

SPECIAL MUSIC *“Down in the River to Pray”* | David Mennicke

CHOIR

NEW TESTAMENT ACTS 10:34-43

GENTILES HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

The Apostle Peter preaches the first gospel message to the Gentiles. At Cornelius's house, he proclaimed, “God shows no partiality” and accepts anyone from any nation who fears Him and does what is right. He summarizes Jesus's life, miraculous healing, crucifixion, resurrection, and commissioning of His followers. God’s promise of forgiveness for all who believe in Him, marks a huge shift for the early church. The Good News breaks down ethnic barriers, salvation for Jews and non-Jews, was validated by the Holy Spirit falling on the Gentiles as Peter speaks.

Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

SERMON *“Anointed with the Holy Spirit”*

REV. DR. BRUCE A. JONES

THE CHURCH RESPONDS IN FAITH

**Rock Prairie Presbyterian Church,
will follow God's call to build a path of spiritual growth
to engage in ministry and mission for community impact.**

*HYMN *"Let Us Break Bread Together"* [564] +HFG

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: Let us lift up our hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and and join their unending hymn.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven
and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

You told us when ... as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ was born to save. Christ was crucified to redeem us;
Christ rose from the grave and will come again in glory.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER (MALOTTE) [440] +HFG

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

*RESPONSE *"Doxology"* [384] +HFG

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION EXODUS 3

**Lord Jesus, today we remember your baptism when You identified with
us, your children. You humbly offered a precious gift of life and grace
through the cross. We respond to your gift with our morning offering.
We commit to support your kingdom of love with our gifts and our**

talents. We ask for your Spirit to strengthen us in our service to others in your name. Amen.

***HYMN** *“Come to the Waters”*

[436] +HFG

***CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

SYLVIA O’CONNOR

“The Faithful Heart Rejoices” | Peterson

** Please stand if you are able*

If you are visiting or seeking a church home, we invite you to explore all that happens in the life and ministry of this church. Speak to our pastor or someone next to you for more information.

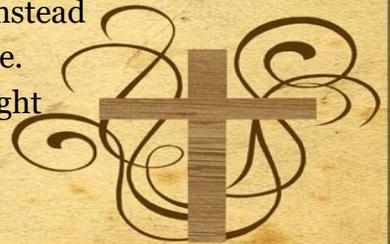
Children are always welcome in worship.

Childcare for infants and toddlers is provided in the nursery.

****Please remember to wear your name tags****

If you do not have one, notify the office and we will have one made for you.

Pastoral Care: If pastoral care needs arise, please call Rev. Bruce Jones at 608-205-7428 to assist you with emotional, social, and spiritual support. If you or a family member are admitted to the hospital, the best practice if you would like a pastoral visit, is to call Rev. Bruce instead of expecting the hospital staff to call the church office. Please do not hesitate to call at any time of day or night for pastoral emergencies



WORSHIP GUIDE

Bold text said in unison

* Please stand if you are able.

// GG - *Glory to God Presbyterian Hymnal*

+ HFG – *Hymns for the Family of God*

**SF – *Sing the Faith*, small blue hymnal

- Audio enhancements, larger print Bibles and bulletins,
children's resources are available at the table in the sanctuary.

- CCLI church license 1555479, and One License A-73845

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Bruce A. Jones

Director of Music: Krista Jones

Piano/Organ Accompanist: Sylvia O'Connor

Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper: Sandi Fogle

Office Assistant: Jessica Wellnitz

Nursery Coordinator: Angela Tyson

Nursery Assistant: Emily Kleinheinz

Audio/Video Technician: Matthew Blija

Church Caretaker: Michael Blija

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Greeters: Bob & Lindi Paull

Ushers: Bob & Lindi Paull

Liturgist: Karen Johnston

Kids Kirk: Chris Zhe

Communion Servers: Eileen Howarth, Rick Janezic
Martha Johnson & Tammy Porsche

Connect with us!

(608) 752-1172

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Facebook: *Rock Prairie Presbyterian Church*

2026 SESSION

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Comm & Outreach Ministry –
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Youth Ministry – VACANT

2026 DEACONS

Russ Antos, Char Behling, Jackie Davis, Theresa Huber,
Eileen Howarth, Martha Johnson, Sandy Kohls,
Jean Paszkiet, Chris Stried & Kay Ward

