ROCK PRAIRIE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, October 25, 2026

10:30 a.m.



8605 East County Road A

Janesville, WI 53546

(608) 752-1172

Office hours Mon–Thu, 8:30am – 2:30pm

Rev. Dr Bruce A. Jones

** Please stand if you are able*

THE CHURCH GATHERS

PRELUDE SYLVIA O'CONNOR

"They'll Know We Are Christians"
| Scholtes, Leatherman
"Reflections"| Chopin, Kendall
"Celebration in D" | Aber

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTERLUDE SYLVIA O'CONNOR / CHOIR

"My Utmost for His Highest" | Paris, Keveren

***CALL TO WORSHIP** MATTHEW 21

One: God calls us to step out in faith.
All: We trust the Lord who leads us into the unknown.
One: God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
All: The Lord is with us always, even until the end of the age.
One: God calls us to be reformed and always reforming according to the Word.
All: God calls us to be a holy covenant.
One: Let us worship God with grateful hearts.
All: We gather to worship the Lord our God.

***HYMN #98 + HFG "** *Great Is Thy Faithfulness"*

THE CHURCH CONFESSES AND SEEKS ASSURANCE

CALL TO CONFESSION PHILIPPIANS 1

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION MATTHEW 21

Lord of Love, You call us to love with all our heart, soul, and mind, yet we give You only parts of ourselves. You call us to love our neighbors, yet we cling to fear, prejudice, and

indifference. You teach us at the heart of your law love reigns, yet we choose convenience over compassion. Forgive us and set us on your path again, that we may walk in faith and live in love.

Time for Personal Prayer and Examination

Forgive us, renew us, and reshape us by your Spirit, so that our lives may reflect the love of Christ in all we say and do.

God of Grace, You reform your church in every age, yet we resist your renewing Spirit. You call us to love you fully and to love our neighbors faithfully. Forgive us, O Lord. Correct us, shape us, and reform us so that we may reflect Christ's love and bear witness to your kingdom. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON PHILIPPIANS 1

One: The Lord who began a good work in you will bring it to completion. In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and made into a new creation in Christ.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. We live as people made new by One Spirit.

PASSING THE PEACE

***GRATEFUL RESPONSE #323 V1 + HFG**

"Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty"

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

THE CHURCH LISTENS FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION 1 CORINTHIANS 12

THE GOSPEL MATTHEW 22:34-46

GREATEST COMMANDMENT

Jesus engages in debate with the religious leaders and silences the Sadducees. A Pharisee tests him by asking which commandment is greatest. Jesus summarizes the law with two commands: love God with all your heart, soul, and mind (Deut. 6:5) and love your neighbor as yourself (Lev. 19:18). He declares that all of Scripture hangs on these two loves.

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet"'? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

KIDS KIRK KATIE BLIJA

CHILDREN ARE INVITED TO COME UP TO THE CHANCEL

#226 + HFG *"Jesus Loves Me"*

"Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he strong.
Refrain: Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so."

Special Music *"Let All Creation Sing His Praise"* Choir

Old Testament Genesis 12:1-9

The Call of Abram

Our Sunday School students are learning of God's call to Abram. God asks Abram to step into an unknown future, trusting God's promise and becoming a blessing to the world. Abram responds with quiet obedience, taking Sarai, Lot, and all their household into Canaan.

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Then the Lord appeared to Abram, and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him.

From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the Lord and invoked the name of the Lord. And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

One: This is the Word of the Lord. ***All: Thanks be to God***

SERMON *"Faithful Reformation"* REV. DR. BRUCE A. JONES

THE CHURCH RESPONDS IN FAITH

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

***HYMN** #515 + GG *"I Come with Joy"* *(PAGE 10)*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING JOHN 14

One: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us offer our thanks to God.

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

We give thanks for God's…angels who praise the Lord.

> ***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.***

In Jesus Christ…Therefore, we trust and believe.

> ***We believe in one Spirit who makes us***
> ***one body in Christ. We believe in one God***
> ***who strengthens us with truth.***

In Christ, we stand firm. In the Spirit, we are one.

We give thanks for the Lord's steadfast love. May the Spirit of Christ set this bread and juice apart from common use, into the true communion with Christ and be strengthened in faith, hope, and love.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER (MALOTTE)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION OF ELEMENTS - INTINCTION

INVITATIONTO GIVE AND SERVE

***RESPONSE** #697 + GG *"Take my Life, and Let It Be"*

"Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store. Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee, ever, only, all for thee.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** GALATIANS 6

God of Generosity, You bless us so that we may be a blessing. Receive our gifts and use them to bless the world with your love. We offer this offering as a sign of our desire to love You fully and serve our neighbors faithfully. Take these offerings and transform them into acts of compassion, justice, and hope. By your Spirit, reform our hearts so that our whole lives may glorify you. Make us faithful stewards of your grace, for the sake of Christ our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN** #826 + GG *"Lift High the Cross"* *(PAGE 11)*

***CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE SYLVIA O'CONNOR

"To God Be the Glory" | Doane, Johnson

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

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 & bulletins, and children's resources are available

CCLI church license 1555479,
and One License A-73845

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Greeters: Ed & Dawn Hale

Ushers: Leon Beebe & Cindy Kuter

Liturgist: Chris Zhe

Kids Kirk: Katie Blija

Communion Servers: Bill Albright, Pam Hatfield, Eileen Howarth, Laurie VanderJagt

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STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Bruce A. Jones

Director of Music: Krista Jones

Piano/Organ Accompanist: Sylvia O'Connor

Administrative Assistant: Sandi Fogle

Bookkeeper: Misha Brawner

Nursery Coordinator: Angela Tyson

Nursery Assistant: Baylee Hernandez

Audio/Video Technician: Matthew Blija

Church Caretaker: Jason Van Meter

WELCOME VISITORS!
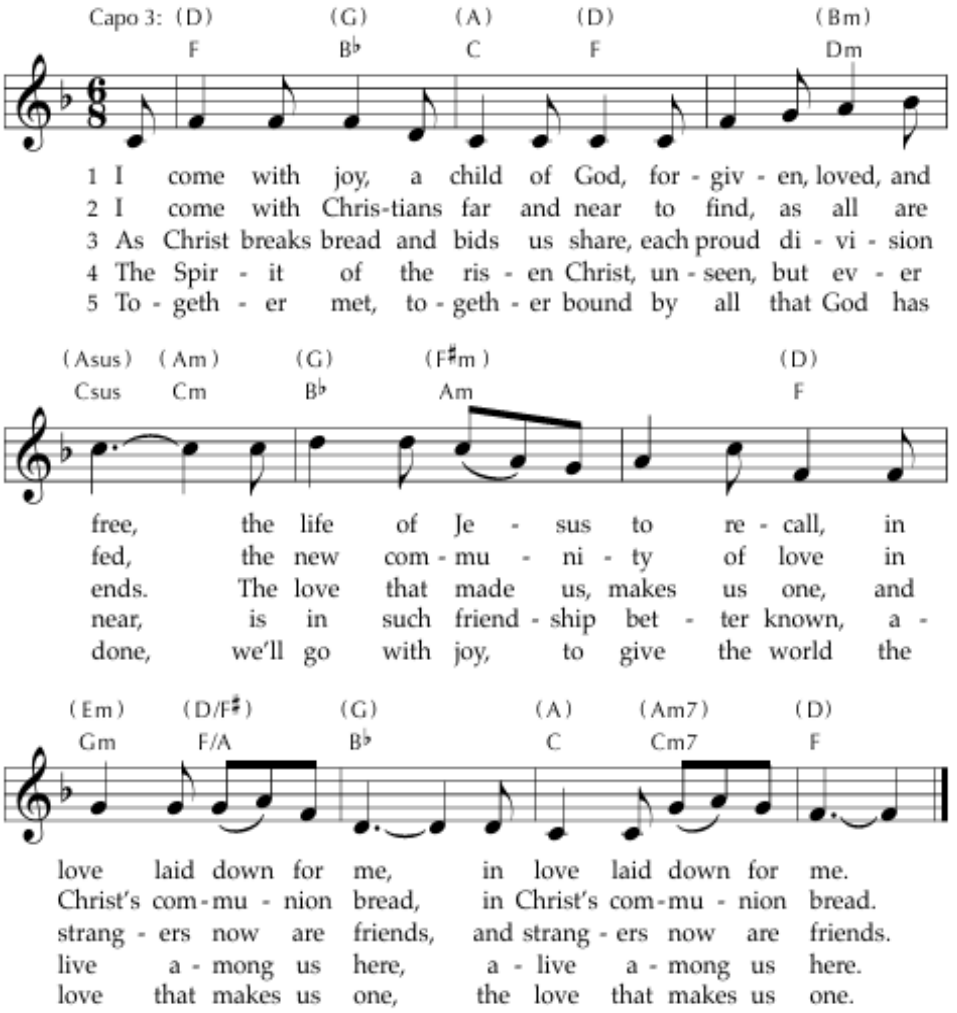
If you are visiting or seeking a church home,
we invite you to explore all that happens in the life and ministry of this church. Speak to our pastor or someone next to you for more information.
Children are always welcome in worship.
Childcare for infants and toddlers is provided in the nursery.

AT ROCK PRAIRIE

Service of Remembrance: November 1st, 10:30 a.m., All Saints Day, we will remember our members, family, and friends who have died in the past year. We all experience grief differently and process our sorrow in our own way. The greatest joy of a church is to be with families in times of transition, seeing God's hand and God's path in their lives.

We continue to lift you in prayer during this time. The first year after a loved one dies; the season of Thanksgiving and Christmas can be emotionally challenging. Typically, we begin November celebrating All Saints Sunday with a Service of Remembrance. If you would like to remember someone this year, please contact Sandi in the church office 608-752-1172 by October 25th so we can remember your loved one during this special service.

I Come with Joy 515
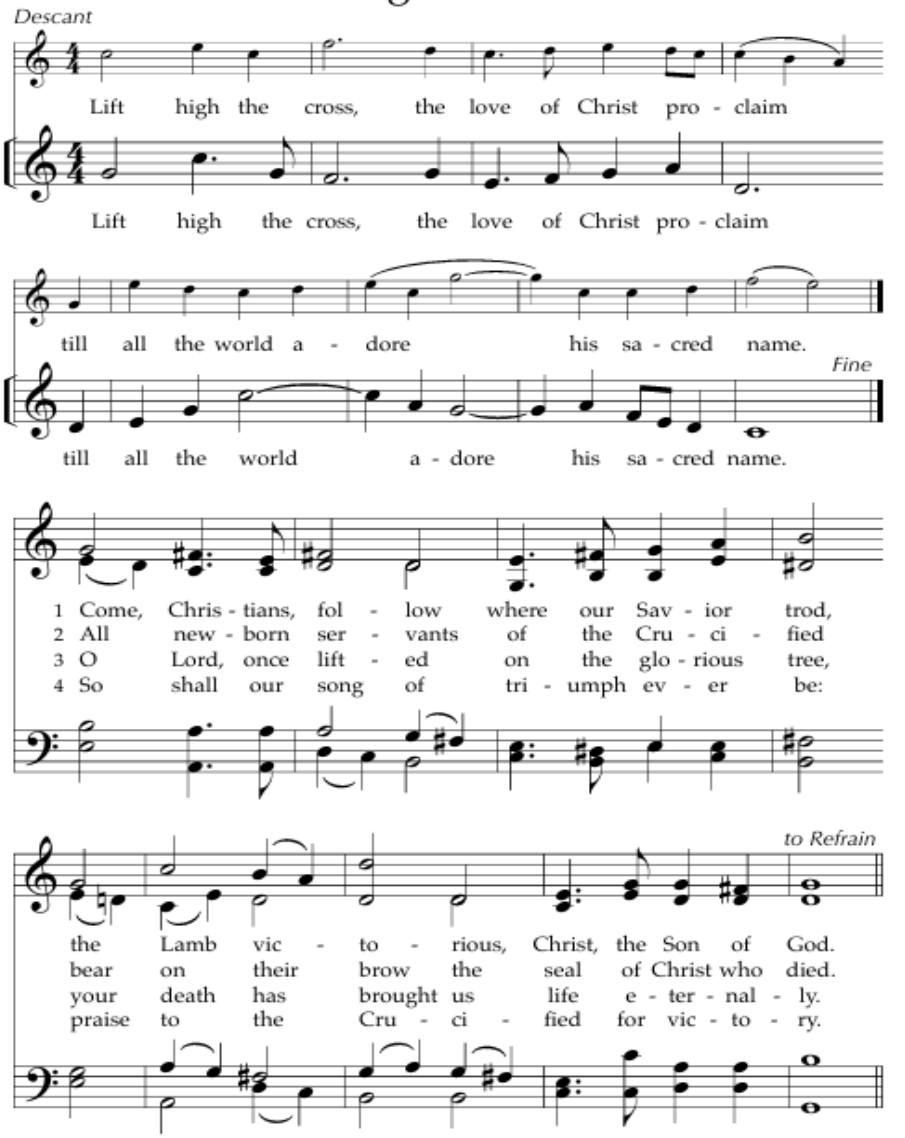


Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This text affirms that Christian unity is not achievement but gift, one renewed each time we gather for the Lord's Supper. Each of us enters as an "I" and leaves as part of "we." The unadorned language of this text is well matched to the simple shape note tune that sets it here.

TEXT: Brian Wren, 1968; rev. 1993
MUSIC: American folk melody; arr. Austin C. Lovelace, 1977
Text © 1971, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company
Music Arr. © 1977 Hope Publishing Company

DOVE OF PEACE
8.6.8.6.6

Lift High the Cross 826



This majestic hymn celebrates the paradox that for Christians a means of painful death has been transformed into a symbol of renewed life; a sign of defeat has become an emblem of victory. With the cross traced on our foreheads at Baptism we are marked as Christ's own forever.

TEXT: George William Kitchin, 1887; rev. Michael Robert Newbolt, 1916, alt.
MUSIC: Sydney Hugo Nicholson, 1916; desc. Richard Proulx, 1985
Text and Music © 1974 Hope Publishing Company
Music Desc. © 1985 Hope Publishing Company

CRUCIFER
10.10 with refrain



Connect with us!

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