

ROCK PRAIRIE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Sunday, December 28, 2025

10:30 a.m.



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

“*O, How Joyfully!*” | *Handel, Berry*
“*O Come, All Ye Faithful*” | *Wade, Broughton*
“*Go Tell It on the Mountain*” | *Spiritual, Raney*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTERLUDE

SYLVIA O'CONNOR

“*Reflections on an Ancient Plainsong*” | *Helmore, Ryan*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

1 SAMUEL 3

One: The Lord knows us inside and out and calls us to serve.

All: We often resist God's call. We are hesitant and unsure.

One: The Lord calls us, again and again, until we hear His voice.

All: We wait as servants to listen for the voice of God.

One: God calls us to worship and serve.

All: We come to worship and say, “your servant is listening.”

One: We gather to worship the Lord with faithful obedience.

All: “Here I am Lord,” here to worship and serve You.

*HYMN

“*The Summons*”

[#2130] +StF

THE CHURCH CONFESSES AND SEEKS ASSURANCE

CALL TO CONFESSION

ISAIAH 9

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

PSALM 139, 1 SAMUEL 3

Redeeming God, You call us to follow You and You alone. Yet, we sometimes choose to ignore your voice and listen instead to the desires of our human hearts. Forgive us for those times; when we ignore your voice to serve the needs of others. Hear our personal prayer as we listen for your voice calling us to your holy way.

TIME FOR PERSONAL PRAYER AND EXAMINATION

Loving Lord, forgive us again and shower us with your invitation to know You and your love for us.

Forgive us, Lord when we fail to follow your path; when we allow the earthly voice to distract us from your call to holiness. We hear your voice of love and respond to your call. Together we answer, Here we are Lord. We ask it in the name of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forevermore. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON

ISAIAH 5, PSALM 80

One: The good news of Advent, God's love is sufficient. The Lord hears our cries and comes to save us.

I declare to you, in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and free.

All: **Thanks be to Christ, who loves us. Through Christ, we know the love of God and the forgiveness of our sins.**

PASSING THE PEACE

*RESPONSE *“Lord, Be Glorified”*

[2150] **SF

**In our lives, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
In our lives, Lord, be glorified today.
In Your church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
In Your church, Lord, be glorified today.**

THE CHURCH LISTENS FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

1 SAMUEL 3

THE OLD TESTAMENT

EXODUS 3:1-6

MOSES AND THE BURNING BUSH

God reveals Himself to Moses at the Burning Bush on Mount Horeb. This pivotal moment interrupts Moses' ordinary life as a shepherd in Midian, when God calls Moses to rescue the Israelites from Egyptian slavery. God reveals His holiness as the God of the Patriarchs, transforming Moses from a fugitive to God's chosen leader.

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness and came to Mount Horeb, the mountain of

God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

KIDS KIRK *"Away In The Manger" [185 vs. 3]*

CHRIS ZHE

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

***"Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there."***

THE OLD TESTAMENT 1 SAMUEL 3:1-10

SAMUEL IS CALLED

While the young boy Samuel served the aged high priest Eli in the Tabernacle, is called by God. This pivotal moment marks the beginning of Samuel's prophetic ministry. Mistaking God's voice for Eli's, Samuel runs to the priest three times until Eli realizes God is speaking and instructs Samuel to respond, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening," revealing the need for attentive listening to discern God's voice and purpose.

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was.

Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" and ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. The Lord called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. Therefore Eli

said to Samuel, “Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.”

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

SERMON

“Listening for God’s Call”

ELDER CHRIS ZHE

THE CHURCH RESPONDS IN FAITH

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

RPPC VISION STATEMENT

**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**

“Take My Life”

[458] +HFG

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

INVITATION TO GIVE AND SERVE

***RESPONSE**

“As With Gladness Men of Old”

[202, vs. 3] +HFG

*As they offered gifts most rare, At that manger rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin’s alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ,
to thee, our heav’ly King.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

EXODUS 3

Gracious Lord, You call us to be faithful servants. We bring our tithes and offerings to act on your behalf in our world today. You call us to share our gifts and abilities to serve others in your precious name. Give us courage to step out in faith, to follow where You lead without hesitation or fear, trusting that your presence goes with us, and that You will provide all that we need. Amen.

***HYMN**

“Here I am Lord”

[Insert] //GG

***CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

“There’s a Song in the Air” | Harrington, Berry

SYLVIA O’CONNOR

** 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.



Serve the Lord with Gladness

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 Blij

Church Caretaker: Michael Blij

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Greeters:

Ushers: Tom & Gail Wolfe

Liturgist: Cindy Kuter

Kids Kirk: Chris Zhe

Connect with us!

(608) 752-1172

www.rockprairiechurch.org

office@rockprairiechurch.org

Facebook: Rock Prairie Presbyterian Church

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I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

Here I Am, Lord

G Leader or All Am D G C G D

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
 2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
 3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

G Em C Am7 D G

All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who I have wept for love of them. They turn away. I will I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Fin-est

Am D G C G D

made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
 break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
 bread I will pro - vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

G Em C Am7 C/G D D7

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain

All G C G D G C G D G

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you

Am7 G Am7 D G C G C

call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you

G C G D G Am7 D7 G Am7 G

lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.