

ROCK PRAIRIE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Sunday, March 22, 2026*

*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

RICHARD MACDONALD, CLARINET  
SYLVIA O'CONNOR, PIANO

*“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” | Hassler, Lanier*  
*“Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley” | Spiritual, Stevens*  
*“The Old Rugged Cross” | Bennard, Lanier*

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTERLUDE

RICHARD MACDONALD  
SYLVIA O'CONNOR

*“Let All Things Now Living” | Welsh Traditional*

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP –

PSALM 130, JOHN 11

One: We come together in our brokenness, even in the shadows of death.

**All: We seek God’s mercy to make us whole again.**

One: Out of the shadows of grief, we come to the One who calls us.

**All: Called in love, we seek renewal and restoration.**

One: We come to the One whose love is never late.

**All: The who meets us in our sorrow and leads us toward life.**

One: Called out of our complacency and routines, we come to worship

**All: We worship the One, who is the resurrection and the life.**

### \*HYMN

*“God of Grace and God of Glory”*

[528] +HFG

## THE CHURCH CONFESSES AND SEEKS ASSURANCE

### CALL TO CONFESSION

### UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

JOHN 11

**Lord of Love, You know the places where we feel stuck and wrapped in the burdens of life. The disappointments of our past keep us bound in darkness. We confess our struggles to trust your timing. We confess the ways we close ourselves off from hope, from healing, from new beginnings. We confess our need to be set free.**

## TIME FOR PERSONAL PRAYER AND EXAMINATION

God of Mercy, speak your life-giving word to bring us out into the open.

**God of Grace, forgive. Roll away the stones we cannot move. Call us out of fear, out of despair, and into the light of your mercy. Breathe life into our bones and bring freedom to our lives that we might declare with heart and soul and voice that You are our Lord and our God. Amen.**

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON

PSALM 130

One: If God kept track of all our mistakes what chance would we have?  
But with unfailing love, God forgives us, complete forgiveness that erases our sins completely. So be at peace – your sins are forgiven!

**All: Praise the Lord. We are forgiven, loved, and freed! Amen!**

One: The love and peace of Christ be with you!

**All: And also with you!**

### PASSING THE PEACE

**\*RESPONSE**                      *“For the Beauty of the Earth”*                      [1 vs. 1 & 5] +HFG

***“For the beauty of the earth, For the glory of the skies,  
For the love which from our birth  
Over and around us lies:***

***Refrain: Lord of all, to Thee we raise This our hymn  
of grateful praise.***

***For Thy-self, best gift divine, To our race so freely given;  
For that great, great love of Thine,  
Peace on earth and joy in heaven: Refrain***

## THE CHURCH LISTENS FOR GOD’S WORD

### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

JOHN 11

### THE GOSPEL

JOHN 11:1-27

THE DEATH OF LAZARUS

*The raising of Lazarus by Jesus at Bethany provides a powerful "sign" demonstrating Christ's authority over death. This pivotal moment establishes Jesus as "the resurrection and the life." Despite loving Lazarus, He deliberately*

*delays visiting to ensure Lazarus has been dead for four days—a period highlighting a miraculous, rather than coincidental, resurrection—before raising him to declare God’s glory.*

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” But when Jesus heard it, he said, “This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God’s glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.” Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.” The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?” Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.” After saying this, he told them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.” The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.” Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

**KIDS KIRK**      *“The Love Round”*

KATIE BLIJA

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

***“Love, love, love, love, love, Christians, this is your call:  
Love your neighbor as yourself, For God loves us all”***

**SPECIAL MUSIC** “*Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us*” | Thrupp & Raney      **CHOIR**

**THE GOSPEL**                      **JOHN 11:28-45**                      **JESUS, THE RESURRECTION AND LIFE**

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

**One:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God**

**SERMON**      *“Love is Not Too Late”*

**REV. DR. BRUCE A. JONES**



## 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

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## 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

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## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

**Greeters:** Adam & Dawn Hale

**Ushers:**

**Liturgist:** Sandi Fogle

**Kids Kirk:** Katie Blija

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**Connect with us!**

(608) 752-1172

[www.rockprairiechurch.org](http://www.rockprairiechurch.org)

[office@rockprairiechurch.org](mailto:office@rockprairiechurch.org)

Facebook: *Rock Prairie Presbyterian Church*

## 2026 SESSION

**Clerk of Session** – Sharon Krohn -  
rskrohn@litewire.net  
(608) 290-3499

**Building & Grounds Ministry** –  
Ed Hale - eddyphale@gmail.com;  
(608) 774-8603

**Christian Ed Ministry** – Katie Blija –  
kblija@yahoo.com; (608) 921-2551

**Comm & Outreach Ministry** –  
Sandi Fogle – sandiuf@gmail.com;  
(708) 921-4454

**Fellowship Ministry** – Lindi Paull –  
bobandlindipaull@gmail.com;  
(608) 607-1528

**Finance Ministry** – Tom Wolfe –  
tomwolfe1207@sbcglobal.net;  
(608) 921-3950

**Missions Ministry** – Cathy Wagner –  
clw8090@gmail.com; (608) 228-6881

**Personnel Ministry** – Pam Hatfield –  
hatfield.pamela@yahoo.com –  
(608) 201-6675

**Worship Ministry** –  
Pat Rozeboom –  
pkrozeboom@gmail.com;  
(608) 201-0959

**Youth Ministry** – VACANT

### 2026 DEACONS

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

### 2026 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Allison Fish, Rich Johnston,  
Cindy Kuter, Tammy Porsche  
& Jeri Torpy

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## THIS WEEK AT RPPC

### Tuesday, March 24

9:30am ~ Bible Study w/ Rev. Bruce  
6:30pm ~ Session Meeting

### Wednesday, March 25

3:00pm ~ Personnel Committee  
6:30pm ~ Worship Committee  
Fireside Concert

### Thursday, March 26

6:30pm ~ Choir Rehearsal

### Sunday, March 29

9:00am ~ Book Study  
9:15am ~ Sunday School  
9:15am ~ Adult Sunday School  
10:30am ~ Worship/Communion