

**February 25, 2024
2nd Sunday of Lent
11:00am — Sanctuary**



“Get Behind Me” artwork from The Roman Catholic Parish of Saint Charles Borromeo | Peoria, AZ



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WEST WAYNE STREET

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church!

Thank you for joining us today! We're grateful for your presence and invite you to take part in our worship, mission, and programs. Please join us after worship for coffee, cookies, and punch in our fellowship hall, called McKay Hall. Just follow the crowd, and you cannot miss it! Livestreaming is available to watch via the website or YouTube, but we know this is no substitute for the community built through in-person connections. We're glad you're here!

-Rev. Dr. Anne Epling (she/her), Rev. Carrie Winebrenner (she/her)
Rev. Dr. Youngsoo An (he/him), and Rev. Ann Pitman (she/her)

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Please silence your cellphone as you enter this worship space.

**Those who are able, please stand*

Congregation responds in bold

GATHERING

Prelude

Chorale Prelude on *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*
Chorale Prelude on *There Is a Green Hill Far Away*

David Schelat
Philip Moore

Tolling of the Hour

Call to Worship

We come from suburbs and cities,
from highways and quiet streets.
We come with joys and concerns,
with expectations and excuses.
We come seeking Christ
to know and follow his way.

***Hymn No. 167** Forty Days and Forty Nights

AUS DER TIEFE RUFTE ICH

***Call to Confession**

Perhaps we have spoken words which harm another. It may be we have failed to honor another of God's children. Maybe we have let our fears, our worries, our desires come between us and God. Whatever we might have done, God waits to listen to us and offers us grace and healing. Join me as we pray together.

***Prayer of Confession**

We hear the words from Jesus: “Take up your cross and follow me.”

These words scare us.

We know what *taking up a cross* meant for him.

We do not feel able to sacrifice our lives.

**We are not even ready on most days to sacrifice smaller things
for the sake of the Kingdom.**

Today, O God, we confess our weaknesses, our fears, and our hesitations.

As we gather today, as we look at the cross in front of us,

as we remember the crosses that marked our foreheads

on Ash Wednesday such a short time ago,

as we think of the Cross that Lent calls us to journey towards,

may we find strength in new places deep within our souls.

May we find courage, hope, and the peace to really follow Jesus.

May worship today help us to continue the Lenten journey towards finding our
crosses and figuring out how to bear them.

(Time for silent prayer)

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

In this place we find God’s word, God’s way, God’s love, God’s forgiveness. What
more do we need to sustain us as we continue as pilgrims along the Way?

**In every wilderness, on every road; in every moment, in every life; in every
journey, in every heart, we receive the daily bread we need – God’s hope, God’s
mercy, God’s joy. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.**

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

*As you are comfortable, we invite you to take a moment to share the Peace of Christ with
those around you with a smile, wave, or other signs of connection.*

***Responsive Hymn No. 579** Lord, Have Mercy KYRIE ELEISON (Orthodox)

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1. Lord, _____ have mer - cy. Lord, _____ have mer - cy.
2. Christ, _____ have mer cy. Christ, _____ have mer cy.
3. Lord, _____ have mer cy. Lord, _____ have mer cy.

Lord, _____ have mer - - - cy.
Christ, _____ have mer mer - - - cy.
Lord, _____ have mer - - - cy.

HEARING THE WORD

Time with Children

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem Lord, for Thy Tender Mercies' Sake

Richard Farrant

Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake lay not our sins to our charge, but forgive that is past, and give us grace to amend our sinful lives: to decline from sin and incline to virtue, that we may walk in a perfect heart, before thee now and evermore. Amen.

Gospel Reading

Mark 8:31-38

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon “Gains and Losses”

Rev. Dr. Anne Bain Epling

***Affirmation of Faith**

We believe in God, Creator of all things, who is the ruler of all that is and all that is to come, who is mystery, yet revealed.

We follow Christ, God's chosen one, who loved and served humbly, healed the broken and included the outcast, chose to suffer rather than harm, who gave his life for our redemption, and who was raised by God to new life.

In his teaching, in his death and resurrection, and in his presence with us in all circumstances, he reveals God to us. He calls us to serve him for the sake of proclaiming God's grace. We trust that he accompanies us and will help us reject that which separates us from God, and will renew and restore us to new life.

We believe the Holy Spirit sustains us, guides us and empowers us as servants of God's grace.

We live as the body of Christ, in the power of forgiveness and the reality of resurrection, and the light of eternal life. Amen.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Hymn 366** Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

Announcements

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

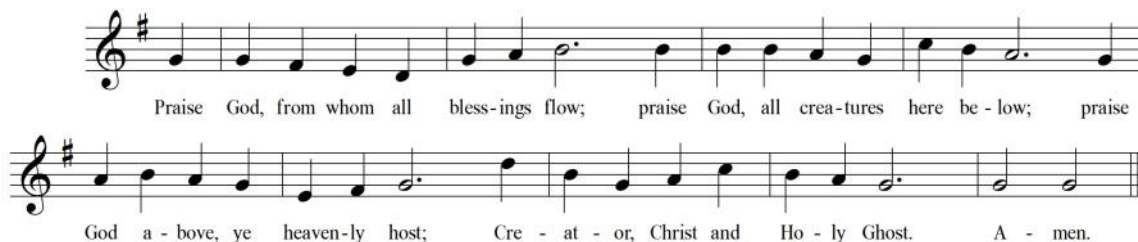
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Wondrous Love

Gilbert M. Martin

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What wondrous love is this, O my soul! What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul! When I was sinking down, O my soul, O my soul! When I was sinking down, O my soul! When I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul! To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing! To God and to the Lamb I will sing! To God and to the Lamb, who is the great I AM, while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing! While millions join the them I will sing! What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What wondrous love is this, O my soul! What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

Responsive Hymn No. 606** Praise God from Whom All Blessings FlowPrayer of Dedication****SENDING*****Hymn No. 618** O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High

DEO GRACIAS

Benediction**Postlude** Andante religioso

Felix Mendelssohn

CHANCEL FLOWERS

The Chancel flowers are given by Denise Davis in loving memory of family and friends dearly departed.

Assisting with Worship this Morning

Pastors: Rev. Dr. Anne Epling, Rev. Carrie Winebrenner

Elders of the Month/Greeters: Terri Lindvall, Vernell Fettig

Ushers: Eric Evans, Anita Wolfe, Linda Yount, David Beer, Ashley Lassiter

Director of Music Ministries & Organist: Brent Neuenschwander

Assistant Organist: Kathryn Miller

Chancel Choir

Live Stream Operator: Dick Florea

Sound Board Operator: Marj Sapp

MINISTRIES FOR OUR YOUNGER DISCIPLES



Join us for Sunday School with Miss Rachel and Friends! We'll all start in worship together, and then head to our SS room as a group. We hope you'll join us for a lesson, craft, and, of course...Bible Bucks! YAY! Grown-ups, please pick your children up after worship.



NURSERY AVAILABLE

FOR CHILDREN 6MO - 5YRS

Jesus loves the little children, and we do, too! But should you decide that today would be a good time to explore the nursery, your child is always invited to drop in. Ask an usher for assistance.



Please return after church,
so it's there next week!

Worship isn't always easy for little hands and minds to focus, so you are invited to "check out" a fidget toy-filled Busy Bag or a book from our Littles' Library, located in the narthex!

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FIRST PRES THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 25, 2024

- 10:00am Chancel Choir, SB
- 11:00am English Worship, SC
- 11:00am KLM Worship, CH
- 11:00am Sunday School, 210
- 12:00pm English Fellowship, MH
- 12:00pm KLM Fellowship, FH
- 12:30pm Green Team Meeting, 302
- 1:00pm KLM Steering Committee, Yoke Rm
- 4:00pm Music Series: Indiana University
Singing Hoosiers, SC

Monday, February 26, 2024

- 1:30pm 3B Exercise Class, MH
- 3:00pm Faith, Fibers, and Fellowship, 302

Tuesday, February 27, 2024

- 10:00am Team Meeting, SR
- 2:00pm Worship Committee Meeting, SR
- 5:30pm Deacons Meeting, 302

Wednesday, February 28, 2024

- 10:00am Table Talk, ZM
- 1:30pm 3B Exercise Class, MH
- 6:00pm Lent Series, MH

Thursday, February 29, 2024

- 5:30pm Handbell Rehearsal, SB
- 6:30pm Choir Social Gathering, PR
- 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, MR

Friday, March 1, 2024

- 10:00pm Men's Bible Study, ZM
- 1:00pm Women's Bible Study, ZM

Sunday, March 3, 2024

- 10:00am Chancel Choir, SB
- 11:00am English Worship Service, SC
- 11:00am Korean Worship Service, CH
- 12:00pm Annual Church Meeting, MH
- 12:00pm KLM Fellowship, CH

Campus Room Abbreviations

CH	Chapel	MF	McKay Foyer	SB	Sanctuary Balcony
CL	Chapel Lounge	MH	McKay Hall	SC	Sanctuary
CN	Chapel Narthex	MR	Music Room	SDR	Small Dining Room
CY	Courtyard	NP	North Parking Lot	SM/O	Stephen Ministry Office
FH	Fellowship Hall	NX	Narthex	SR	Session Room
FO	Finance Office	NR	Nursery	TH	Theater
GL	Gallery	OS	Offsite	YL	Youth Lounge
KT	Main Kitchen	PR	Parlor	ZM	Zoom