



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORMAL

WE ARE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

NEW? SEE THE WELCOME CENTER FOR YOUR GIFT!



15 FEB
2026



START AT
8:30 AM

2000 E College Ave, in Normal, IL

www.firstpresnormal.org

We affirm that all people are children of God and are created in the image of God. Believing this, we welcome all individuals into the life, community, and ministry of First Pres. This includes people of every age, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, physical or mental ability, economic status, political belief, background, and past experience. No one is excluded, marginalized, or held outside the warm welcome of this congregation. You can find our full statement of affirmation & inclusion on our website.

8:30AM ORDER OF WORSHIP

(When you see the * please stand, if you are able)

PRELUDE Prelude and Fugue in D minor (BWV 554) Louie Jones, organ

INTROIT Come with the Vision (Sursum Corda) Chancel Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP Becky Mentzer

The Voice calling long ago; ***The Voice calling today.*** The Voice compelling Jonah, Ananias, and us, to go; ***The Voice compelling Jonah, Ananias, and us to share the good news of God's redemptive love:*** With those who would be enemies; ***With those who could be friends.*** The people of then, now, and in the future, beloved of God; ***The people of here, there, and everywhere, beloved of God.*** The Voice calling long ago; ***The Voice calling today.***

***HYMN #443** O Christ, the Great Foundation

CALL TO CONFESSION Becky Mentzer

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy One, what a blessing and privilege we share here in this sacred space and among this loving community. We know that others are longing and thirsting for what we know and experience. Forgive our reluctance to open our doors and our hearts to others, whether or not they are like us, and whether or not we would have chosen them. We repent of our hesitations and unwillingness to witness to those we have considered strangers and even enemies, for fear they just might become friends.

SILENT CONFESSION

CHORAL RESPONSE Come, Pray in Me (A. M. Smith) Chancel Choir

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS Becky Mentzer

***HYMN #579** Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

SCRIPTURE Jonah 1:1-4; 3:1-5,10; 4:1-2 Becky Mentzer

TIME WITH CHILDREN Ken Doss

ANTHEM Follow Me (D. Schwoebel) Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE Acts 9:10-19a Pastor Karol Schilling

MESSAGE Incoming Call: Pass It On

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Adapted from The Second Helvetic Confession)

We teach that truly good works grow out of a living faith by the Holy Spirit and are done by the faithful according to the will or rule of God's Word. ***These same works ought not to be done in order that we may earn eternal life by them, for eternal life is the gift of God. Nor are they to be done for show or for gain, but for the glory of God, to adorn our calling, to show gratitude to God, and for the profit of the neighbor.***

For our Lord says, "Let your light so shine before others, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." ***And the apostle Paul says, "Let each of you look not to his own interests, but to the interests of others."***

*HYMN #324 Open My Eyes That I May See

COMMUNITY PRAYER God in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

Ken Doss

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Hymnal, pg. 16)

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

Becky Mentzer

OFFERING Liturgical Prelude II. (G. Oldroyd)

Phil Enge, organ

*HYMN #592 Doxology

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Becky Mentzer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Becky Mentzer

*HYMN The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve (see music on the next page)

*BLESSING

Pastor Karol Schilling

POSTLUDE Grand jeu (Pierre Du Mage)

Phil Enge, organ

Today's liturgy is adapted from the following sources: Call to Worship: Katherine Hawker. Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness: Rev. Madison Shockley. Invitation to the Offering: Rev. Kathryn Matthews Huey & Rev. Susan A. Blain. Prayer of Dedication: Joanna Harader.

THE FLOWERS ARE GIVEN BY:

Sharry Zimmerman & family, in loving memory of Jim Zimmerman's birthday.

INCOMING CALL

Pass It On

ACTS 9:10-19A

The Main Point

(A quick summary of the sermon.)

Ananias was reluctant to follow his call because of what he had heard about Saul. He was tempted to trust human knowledge over divine wisdom. His call was not easy, but it was central to God's plan for the future of the church. We too may be hesitant to answer a call to reach out to others because of fear, dislike, or other thoughts or feelings about them (whether an individual or a group). Even so, God calls us to help others see and follow Jesus, giving us everything we need to be obedient to that call.

One Question

(A single question to carry with you this week.)

Who are you reluctant to talk to about your faith based on something you perceive or know about them? (This could be an individual or a group.)

What Now?

(A clear, simple next step.)

Think about people who guided you in your faith journey, and reasons they could have chosen not to be involved. Then choose someone you've been reluctant to engage with in faith conversation, and ask God to show you an opportunity to reach out to them this week.

Introit

Come with the Vision) Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ

Come with the vision and the strength I need
To serve my God, and all humanity;
Fulfillment of my life in love outpoured
My life in you, O Christ, your love in me.

Words: Frank von Christierson (1900-1996) ©1974 The Hymn Society (Admin. Hope Publishing Company) Music: Alfred Morton Smith (1879-1971) ©1941 Historic Church of the Ascension, Atlantic City, NJ) Reprinted here and livestreamed with permission from OneLicense.net #A-711651.

Prayer Response

Come, Pray in Me

Come, pray in me the prayer I need this day;
Help me to see your purpose and your will,
Where I have failed, what I have done amiss;
Held In forgiving love, let me be still.

Words: Frank von Christierson (1900-1996) ©1974 The Hymn Society (Admin. Hope Publishing Company) Music: Alfred Morton Smith (1879-1971) ©1941 Historic Church of the Ascension, Atlantic City, NJ) Reprinted here and livestreamed with permission from OneLicense.net #A-711651.

Anthem

Follow Me

I am the Light of the World, follow me. (repeat)
You will see truth that the world cannot see;
Live a life that will help them see Me.
Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness.
I will be the light in their life.

I am the Light of the World, follow me. (repeat)
You will see truth that the world cannot see;
Live a life that will help them see Me.

Follow, follow, follow Me. Follow, follow, follow Me.

Words: Terry W. York. Music: David Schwoebel. ©2014, 2021. Celebrating Grace Music. Reprinted here and livestreamed with permission from OneLicense.net #A-711651.

O Christ, the Great Foundation

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AURELIA 7.6.7.6 D

Timothy Tingfang Lew, 1933; alt.
Trans. Mildred A. Wiant, 1966

Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864

1. O Christ, the great founda - tion On which Your peo - ple stand
2. Bap - tized in one con - fes - sion, One church in all the earth,
3. Where ty - rants' hold is tight - ened, Where strong de - vour the weak,
4. This is the mo - ment glo - rious When He who once was dead

To preach Your true sal - va - tion In ev - ery age and land:
We bear our Lord's im - pres - sion, The sign of sec - ond birth:
Where in - no - cents are fright - ened, The righ - teous fear to speak,
Shall lead His church vic - to - rious, Their cham - pion and their head.

Pour out Your Ho - ly Spir - it To make us strong and pure,
One ho - ly peo - ple gath - ered In love be - yond our own,
There let Your church a - wak - ing At - tack the powers of sin
The Lord of all cre - a - tion His heav - en - ly king - dom brings,

To keep the faith un - bro - ken As long as worlds en - dure.
By grace we were in - vit - ed, By grace we make You known.
And, all their ram - parts break - ing, With You the vic - tory win.
The fi - nal con - sum - ma - tion, The glo - ry of all things.

Text: Copyright © 1977 from *Hymns of Universal Praise*, revised edition. By the Chinese Christian Literature Council Ltd., Hong Kong.

Open My Eyes That I May See

Psalm 119:18 

Clara H. Scott, 1895

OPEN MY EYES 8.8.9.8 with refrain

Clara H. Scott, 1895



1. O - pen my eyes, that I may see Glimps - es of truth Thou hast for me;
2. O - pen my ears, that I may hear Voic - es of truth Thou send - est clear;
3. O - pen my mouth, and let me bear Glad - ly the warm truth ev - ery - where;



Place in my hands the won - der - ful key That shall un - clasp and set me free.
 And while the wave notes fall on my ear, Ev - ery - thing false will dis - ap - pear.
 O - pen my heart, and let me pre - pare Love with Thy chil - dren thus to share.



Refrain

HOLY SPIRIT



Si - lent - ly now I wait for Thee, Read - y, my God, Thy will to see;



O - pen my eyes,
 ears, il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!
 heart,



The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve 2241



1. The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we
2. We go to com - fort those who mourn and
3. We go to be the hands of Christ, to
4. Then let us go to serve in peace, the



go in Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings
set the bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to
scat - ter joy like seed and, all our days, to
gos - pel to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -



to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.
share a dream and help the blind to see.
cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.
pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

WORDS: Delores Dufner, OSB

MUSIC: U.S.A. folk melody

LAND OF REST

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Words © 1993 Delores Dufner. Published by OCP Publications

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mark you calendars and get plugged in!

TODAY | ALL-GENERATIONS TRIVIA NIGHT

Trivia is back at a new time: 4pm today! Bring your random knowledge. Snacks and prizes will be provided! Contact Kelli with questions.

SUNDAYS | A LONG OBEDIENCE LENTEN STUDY

Join us Sunday mornings, 9:45am-10:45am, during Lent for engaging conversations on discipleship and what it looks like to follow Jesus in everyday life.

SUNDAYS | THE WIRED WORD ADULT DISCIPLESHIP STUDY

The Wired Word class considers a weekly current event or cultural topic and explores how it relates to Scripture, encouraging thought-provoking discussions on how we can apply God's Word to our everyday lives. With each week's lesson being independent of the others, feel free to come any time. Each week's article will be posted on Friday afternoon at firstpresnormal.org/adults if you would like to see it in advance. Join us 9:45-10:45am on Sunday mornings.

MARCH 21 | BLESSINGS WOMEN'S MINISTRY GOES TO COMMON GROUND

Meet us at 9:30am in the church parking lot to carpool to Gridley, Illinois, to have brunch at Common Grounds on Saturday, March 21. Homemade pie and specialty drinks are available! If you plan to come, please RSVP on the website.

APRIL 3 | EASTER EGG HUNT

Please note that our Easter Egg Hunt this year is on Good Friday, April 3, at 6pm. We will plan to have it outside, as the weather permits. We will move indoors if the weather is inclement. Please have your kiddos bring their Easter baskets. If you don't have a basket, we will provide you with a bag. This year, we will have toys inside the eggs instead of food.

APRIL 3 | GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

You are invited to join us this Good Friday on a journey together along the Via Dolorosa, the Way of Suffering, on April 3 at 6:30pm. This reflective, visually-centered service will be an invitation to travel along the Stations of the Cross, inviting our own personal reflection on the final hours of Christ's life and preparing our hearts for the wonderful celebration of Easter.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mark you calendars and get plugged in!

MOWERS ARE NEEDED

The Property Committee is seeking volunteers to join their mowing team for the upcoming season. Each volunteer will be responsible for mowing and trimming during a two-week period assigned to them. The church will provide a John Deere riding lawn mower, a push mower, trimmers, and fuel. We try to schedule volunteers on dates that work best with their personal schedules. Please contact Dave Seyller or John Anderson and include the dates you won't be available. Thank you!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sun. March 15	9:30am 9:45am 9:45am 11am 12pm 4pm	Coffee Fellowship Great Hall Hallway Sunday School & Adult Discipleship Hour Knit-Crochet Ministry Chapel Contemporary Worship Service Sanctuary Confirmation Class Lounge Trivia Night Great Hall
Mon. March 16	10am 6pm	Thresholds (Arts & Faith) Small Group Library Women's Blessings Bible Study Lounge
Tue. March 17	2:45pm 5:30pm 6:30pm	PASS After School Program Fellowship Hall Property Committee Library Handbells Rehearsal Sanctuary
Wed. March 18	4:30pm 5pm 6:30pm	Worship Band Rehearsal Sanctuary Deacons Library Chancel Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary
Thu. March 19	9am 2:45pm 6pm	Book Group Library PASS After School Program Great Hall New Women Book Study Library
Fri. March 20	11:15am	Worship Band Rehearsal Sanctuary
Sat. March 21	9:30am	Blessings Brunch Carpool Common Grounds

CONTACT OUR CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor - Matt Wilcox.....mwilcox@firstpresnormal.org
 Associate Pastor - Karol Schilling.....kschilling@firstpresnormal.org
 Director of Music - Phil Enge.....penge@firstpresnormal.org
 Director of Family Ministry - Kelli Owens.....kowens@firstpresnormal.org
 Director of Playmates Preschool - Robin Schaefer.....rschaefer@firstpresnormal.org
 Childcare Coordinator - Tristan Bishop.....tcb.bishop@gmail.com
 Financial Coordinator - Mark Briggs.....mbriggs@firstpresnormal.org
 Administrative Assistant - Anne Lunt.....alunt@firstpresnormal.org
 A/V Technician - Tyler Gatto.....tgatto@firstpresnormal.org
 Property Manager - John Anderson.....janderson@firstpresnormal.org

Bulletin Folders 	Stuff Newsletters 	Be A Liturgist 	Be An Usher 	Welcome Center 	Time With Children 
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