



Sunday, December 14, 2025
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Third Presbyterian Church
Rev. Dr. Forrest 'Frosty' Krummel
Interim Pastor

1030 North 7th Street; Springfield, IL 62702
(217) 528-0457

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SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Thank you for silencing your phone and other electronic devices.

Please complete prayer requests, as legibly as possible, and place them on the offering plate.

WELCOME

Pastor Krummel

Welcome to Third Presbyterian Church this morning. We ask that you please sign the attendance pad at the end of each pew and pass it along to your neighbors.

PRELUDE

"Carol of the Bells"

Praise Team Bell Ringers

(Written by: M. Levontovich/Arranged by: R. Groth)

LIGHTING OF ADVENT WREATH

Dee Cook, Debbie Gill, & Marilyn Rhoades

The Light of Joy

RESPONSE

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" (v.1)

#244

ADVENT PRAYER

Leader: We gather joyfully because the Lord is here among us and in every heart. As we prepare ourselves to make room for the Spirit, we join with heaven and nature to sing our praises. Our joy is repeated throughout creation--growing fields, rushing rivers, and mighty hills all proclaim God's arrival.

People: We freely exchange our sorrows for blessings which are for all creation. Let truth and grace ring through all the world, wondering at Love which is for all people, all nations, and all life itself. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

1 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;
behold, the King of glory waits;
the King of kings is drawing near;
the Savior of the world is here!

2 Fling wide the portals of your heart;
make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heaven's employ,
adorned with prayer and love and joy.

3 Redeemer, come, with us abide;
our hearts to thee we open wide;
let us thy inner presence feel;
thy grace and love in us reveal.

4 Thy Holy Spirit lead us on
until our glorious goal is won;
eternal praise, eternal fame
be offered, Savior, to thy name!

United Methodist Hymnal, 1989

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Pastor Krummel

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Pastor Krummel

Leader: Lord God, who made heaven and earth:

People: We confess the ways we have taken Your creation for granted--the land, the sea, and all that is in them.

Leader: Lord God, who seeks justice for the oppressed:

People: We lament the times we have forgotten to feed the hungry--those who seek food for both body and soul.

Leader: Lord God, who sets the prisoners free:

People: We repent the ways we have built up walls and excluded others, favoring our own comfort over our neighbors, near and far.

Leader: Lord God, who lifts up the lowly:

People: Forgive us for missing your invitations to heal and restore wholeness. Teach us again to love righteousness.

Leader: Lord God, who watches over strangers:

People: We confess the ways we have failed to uphold the orphan and the widow and those who have been pushed to the margins of our society and this world.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Pastor Krummel

***GLORIA PATRI**

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

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Pastor Krummel

CHOIR ANTHEM

“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”

Chancel Choir

(Arranged by: Susan Naylor Callaway)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pastor Krummel

All: “Prepare our hearts, O God, to accept your Word. Silence in us any voices but your own, so that we may hear your Word and also do it; through Christ our Lord. Amen.”

SCRIPTURE LESSON (Matthew 11:2-11)

Rev. Dr. Forrest Krummel

²Now when John heard in prison about the things the Christ was doing, he sent word by his disciples to Jesus, asking, ³“Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?” ⁴Jesus responded, “Go, report to John what you hear and see. ⁵Those who were blind are able to see. Those who were crippled are walking. People with skin diseases are cleansed. Those who were deaf now hear. Those who were dead are raised up. The poor have good news proclaimed to them. ⁶Happy are those who don’t stumble and fall because of me.” ⁷When John’s disciples had gone, Jesus spoke to the crowds about John: “What did you go out to the wilderness to see? A stalk blowing in the wind? ⁸What did you go out to see? A man dressed up in refined clothes? Look, those who wear refined clothes are in royal palaces. ⁹What did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.

¹⁰ He is the one of whom it is written: Look, I’m sending my messenger before you, who will prepare your way before you. ¹¹“I assure you that no one who has ever been born is greater than John the Baptist. Yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

PRAISE SONG

“Let There Be Peace on Earth”

Praise Team

(By: Sy Miller & Jill Jackson)

SERMON

“What Are You Looking For?”

Pastor Krummel

HYMN

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

1 In the bleak midwinter
frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron,
water like a stone:
snow had fallen,
snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter,
long ago.

2 Our God, heaven cannot hold him,
nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away
when he comes to reign:
in the bleak midwinter
a stable place sufficed
the Lord God Almighty,
Jesus Christ.

3 Enough for him whom cherubim
worship night and day,
a breastful of milk
and a mangerful of hay:
enough for him
whom angels fall down before,
the ox and ass and camel which adore

4 Angels and archangels
may have gathered there
cherubin and seraphim thronged the air,
but only his mother, in her maiden bliss,
worshiped the Beloved with a kiss.

5 What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb,
If I were a wise man, I would do my part,
yet what I can I give him,
give my heart.

Church Hymnary (4th ed. (2005)

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

Pastor Krummel

Leader: Jesus once said, "To whom much has been given, much is expected." (Luke 12: 48)

We return to the Lord a percentage of that which we have been entrusted.

PRAISE SONG

“The Hope of Christmas”

Praise Team

(By: Matthew West & Andrew Jacob Pruis)

*DOXOLOGY

#815

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below. Praise Him above, Ye Heavenly Host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

What Can I Give Him”

#263

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ JOYS & CONCERNS

Pastor Krummel

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

Pastor Krummel

LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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.

*CLOSING HYMN

“Good Christian Men (and Women), Rejoice”

#273

*CHARGE

Leader: Go out into the world in Peace

People: Have courage; hold onto what is good; return no one evil for evil; support the weak; help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

*BENEDICTION

Pastor Krummel

*POSTLUDE

“Carol of the Bagpipers”
(Traditional Sicilian Carol)

Helen Ely, Organist

***Please stand in body or in spirit**

This church welcomes you, no matter who you are, where you are from, or why you are here. We are Christ's people, and this is Christ's place with its doors open. If you are passing through Godspeed; if you are looking for a home, please stay; if you need instruction, learn from us as we learn from you. We invite visitors to join us, but most of all, to return often. We are so glad you are here!



Below is a list of the ongoing prayer requests for this week. Certainly, God knows each person and each request and simply calls upon us to lift the name in prayer. Call the Church Office, 217-528-0457, to have a name added or removed.



All people experiencing natural disasters and other devastating weather events...may God ease their pain, loss, and feelings of uncertainty as they rebuild their lives and homes, All those experiencing conflict in their homeland...for peace, Those suffering from food inequity, Citizens of Our Country, State, and City, All those who helped with the Restroom Remodel, Third Presbyterian Church and its Members, Ted Bishop, Margaret Black, Janet Bottoms, Cory, Lucy Collebrusco, Michelle Davidson, Chuck Davis, Julie Dirksen, Linda Farley, Urlis Farley, Linda Fisher, Kristin Fletes, Wanda Sue Freeman, Damaris Fritz, Sharon Funderburk, Marilyn and Shelia Garst, Jeanne Hanson, Gary Havey, Art Heinold, Marilyn Houston, Toney Jackson, Jacob, Lou Jordan, Rachel Krause, Mary Lou Landreth, Liam, Bill Lohman, Shirley McConnaughay, Dream McDevitt, Jo Etta, Blake Roderick, Jim Rominger, Dorothy Rutherford, Wanda Saccaro, Rev. Steve Smith, Dequan Stamps, Tom Turnbull, Vickie & Family, Wayne, Dagmar West, and Those who spread God's word.

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you

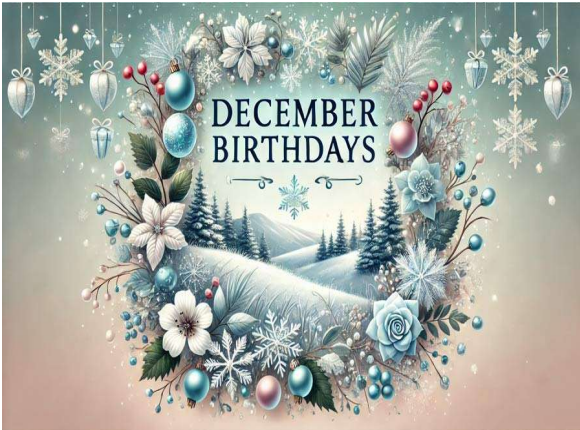
The Interior Life Committee is pleased to announce that this year's Cookie Walk proceeds amounted to a total of \$1,380.00. This will be added to our operating fund.

Special Thanks to all who helped by donating the items to be sold, the people who so graciously helped in any way they could, and the committee members.

To GOD be the Glory!!

Dee Cook

Interior Life Chair



- 1 – Kathy Harrison
- 3 – Dawn Hollis
- 6 – Bill Bermel
- 10 - Linda Pease
- 11 – Carol Hood
- 12 – Dee Cook
- 14 – Debra Krick
- 15 – Sean Davidson
- 20 – Zack Whitlow
- 26 – Andy Wilson
- 30 - Karen Geever, Edward Hafer,
Scott Houston

2026 PER CAPITA

Per capita is a set amount of money per member that congregations pay to the larger Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Because every Presbyterian shares in the benefit of the PC (USA)'s system of government, the expenses associated with coordinating and performing the functions of that system are shared.

Congregations pay an annual amount of money per church member to their respective presbyteries. The amount requested from a congregation is a combined total of requests from that congregation's presbytery, the synod in which the presbytery is located, and the General Assembly.

This year's per capita is \$39.00 per member. Whether you contribute monthly or weekly, your contribution envelopes should contain a per capita envelope.

2026 Contribution Envelopes

Contribution envelopes for 2026 have been received and will be distributed on Sunday, December 28th. Please plan to stop by the table in the Narthex on that Sunday to pick yours up.

2025 Contributions

Please plan to bring your contributions with you on Christmas Eve or mail them to the Church Office. Contributions dated after December 31st, cannot be posted to your 2025 giving. End of Year Statements will be mailed the first week of January.

A Congregational Meeting was held November 23, 2025 for the purpose of electing new officers for 2026.

Congratulations to the following:

Session: Class of 2028: Debbie Gill, Susan Mudd, and Marilyn Rhoades

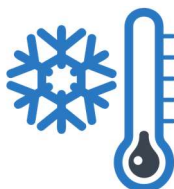
Session: Class of 2027: Stephanie Geyston

Deacons: Class of 2028: Darcy Contri, Judy Graves and Stephanie McDevitt

Deacons: Class of 2027: Rhonda Davenport

Trustees: Class of 2028: Louis Marcy, Patsy Rader, and Jerry Davenport

With the winter weather upon us...
STAY WARM and BE SAFE!



WHITE GIFT OFFERING

Sunday, December 21

Each year we observe White Gift Sunday, when the Sunday School Classes and other groups give special offerings. Several people have asked "What is White Gift Sunday, and why do we do it?"

Mrs. Louise Hildebrandt wrote the following in the December 1932 Beacon.

"This strange country is called Cathay, and the ruler thereof is one Kublai Khan, a mighty warrior, who, by reason of his strong will and trusty sword, has made himself lord of the whole land. His government is both wise and just, and is administered for rich and poor, alike, without fear or favor. On the king's birthday the people observe what is called the White Feast. Then are the king and his court assembled in a great room of the palace, which is all white, the floor of marble and the walls hung with curtains of white silk. All are in white apparel and they offer unto the king white gifts, to show that their love and loyalty are without stain. The rich bring to their lord pearls, carvings of ivory, white chargers, and costly embroidered garments. The poor present white pigeons and handfuls of rice. Nor doth the great king regard one gift above another so long as all be white. And so do they keep the king's birthday."

Restroom Renovations are done!

A big THANK YOU to everyone who worked so hard
contributing their time and talents to paint, clean, and
put on all the finishing touches to complete a job
well done!



Wednesday, December 24 at 5:30pm

This service is a cherished tradition, combining scripture readings, traditional Christmas Hymns and Carols, prayer and candle lighting, and concludes with the lighting of the Christ Candle and

the congregation singing "Silent Night", as the light is passed from person to person, gradually filling the room with light.

The effect of this service on individuals is often deep and lasting and is reflective of Jesus being the Light of the World. We hope you will be able to join us for this special service.

Attention Committee Chairs:

**If you haven't already done so,
please send:**

2026 Budget Requests

and

2025 Annual Reports (due 12/31/25)

If you know of anyone who is in hospital and would like visitors or to be placed on the prayer list, please pass this information along to another church member or call the church office at 217-528-0457 as the hospitals can no longer share this. Thank you.

Calendar/Announcements

Today, Sunday, December 14th

9:00am—Worship Service (Sanctuary)

10:15am—Sunday School Class-LLL (Hanahan Room)

Monday, December 15th

Church Office Closed

4:00pm—Personnel/Session Meeting (Hanahan Room)

Tuesday, December 16th

2:30pm—MOCN Parenting Class (Hanahan Room)

6:00pm—MOCN Family Activity Night (Fellowship Hall)

6:30pm—Session Meeting (Hanahan Room)

6:30pm—Deacon's Meeting (Off Site)

Thursday, December 18th

1:30pm—Club Compass (Various)

4:00pm—Praise Team Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

5:00pm—Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Sunday, December 21st

9:00am—Worship Service (Sanctuary)

10:15am—LLL Sunday School Class (Hanahan Room)



To Reach Office Staff:

Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 8am-4:30pm (Subject to change without notice).

Email: thirdpres1030@gmail.com

Phone: 217-528-0457