



Sunday, February 8, 2026
Third Presbyterian Church
Sue Sawers, CRE
Guest Pastor
1030 North 7th Street; Springfield, IL 62702
(217) 528-0457
Facebook: Third-Presbyterian Church
Email: thirdpres1030@gmail.com

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

Sue Sawers, CRE

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.

Please welcome Sue Sawers, CRE to the pulpit this morning.

PRELUDE

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”
(By: Roger House)

Cory Brown, Pianist

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Sue Sawers, CRE

Leader: You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored?

People: You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden.

Leader: Christ calls us to be both salt and light in this world.

People: Let us prepare ourselves for this call today.

All: Let us worship God in humbleness and joy. Amen.

***MORNING PRAYER**

All: Blessed God, we yearn to see your vision of justice, love, and peace made real for us today. Open our eyes to the way of love that we may see your brilliant light, shining into the hidden places of our hearts and the darkened corners of the world. Help us receive your commandments as grace and live as your obedient children shining in the world. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

#682

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Sue Sawers, CRE

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

All: Almighty God, we have asked for your righteous judgment against others, but we have not acknowledged the sin in our own lives. We have worshiped you with our lips but have dishonored you with our actions. We have prayed for you to end the suffering in our world, yet we have not practiced compassion and generosity toward others. Our religion has become the source of quarreling rather than a testimony to your grace. Forgive our self-righteousness and give us integrity of heart, that we may shine forth the light of your salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Sue Sawers, CRE

***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

Sydney Geyston

CHOIR ANTHEM

“Forgiven, Forgotten, Forever”

Chancel Choir

(Words & Music by: Kevin Stokes, Paula Carpenter, and Pete Carlson)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Sue Sawers, CRE

SCRIPTURE LESSON (Matthew 5: 13-20)

Sue Sawers, CRE

¹³ “You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. ¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. ¹⁷ “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

PRAISE SONG

“The Father’s House”

Praise Team

(Words & Music by: Cory Asbury, Ethan Hulse & Benjamin Hastings)

SERMON

“Fans or Followers?”

Sue Sawers, CRE

MERCY Communities Representative

Amy Voils, Executive Director

HYMN

“Blessed Jesus, at Your Word”

Music Attached

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

Sue Sawers, CRE

Leader: Like a spring whose waters never fail, God calls us to share what we have received. Let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

PRAISE SONG

“Blessed Be Your Name”

Praise Team

(Words & Music by: Matt Redman & Beth Redman)

***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**

Sue Sawers, CRE

Leader: Loving God, we give thanks for all you have given to us and praise you for your astounding goodness. Receive this dedication of our hearts, minds, and bodies for the ministry of your church. Bless our offering for the work of your kingdom and give us wisdom for the right use of all you have provided, through Christ our Lord. Amen

SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS

Sue Sawers, CRE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE 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**

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

Music Attached

***CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

Sue Sawers, CRE

Leader: As you go from God’s house into God’s world, strive to be a Follower of Jesus, not just a Fan. Jesus called us the salt of the earth and light of the world. Let your light shine before others so they may see your good works through Christ and give glory to your Father in heaven. May Christ, the true light, shine upon you, that you may walk in righteousness all your days. Amen.

***POSTLUDE**

“10,000 Reasons”

Cory Brown, Pianist

(By: Matt Redman)

***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!

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.



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, Citizens of Our Country, State, and City, The Citizens of Minneapolis, Third Presbyterian Church and its Members, Ted Bishop, Janet Bottoms, Lucy Collebrusco, Michelle Davidson, Janice Dawson, Linda Farley, Wanda Sue Freeman, Damaris Fritz, The Garst Family, Art Heinold, Marilyn Houston, Lou Jordan, Rachel Krause, Mary Lou Landreth, Bill Lohman, Shirley McConnaughay, The McDevitt Family, The Moss Family, Jo Etta, Denny Pope, Jim Rominger, Dorothy Rutherford, Wanda Saccaro, Andrew, Dagmar West, and the Worthy Family.



Please Welcome Pastor Sue Sawers who will be the guest pastor at TPC today, February 8.



BLESSINGS
ON YOUR
BIRTHDAY

- 1 – Sharen Bucari
- 2 – Louella Jordan
- 6 – Peggy Williamson
- 16 – Jimmy Carter
- 19 – Dagmar West
- 21 – Michelle Davidson
- 23 - Nancy DiDonato; Darrell Wells
- 24 – Wayne Lilly

I want to thank my TPC family for helping me celebrate my 90th birthday. The flowers the church sent, and each of the many beautiful, lovely, and funny cards will always be special to me!! Being 90 is not the end...as my old friend, Bob Kochmann, used to say, "If the Good Lord is willing," It's only the beginning!!

*Love and Blessings,
Urlis Farley*



Special Envelope for MERCY

Today, please find attached to the bulletin, a special envelope for a contribution to the MERCY Communities. More information about this local mission is included in the bulletin.
Thank you!

After years of serving the children and families of the Northend, the NCCL Library Board has had to make the difficult decision to close the library.
Thank you to all who were a part of it during that time.



****VOLUNTEERS NEEDED****

The Communion Preparation Team is looking for volunteers to help in setting up for Communion, the first Sunday of each month. This typically takes about an hour on the Saturday before and then cleaning up on Sunday after Worship.
Any assistance is greatly appreciated. Please contact Mitchell McDevitt at 217-761-9067.

A big THANK YOU to all who generously contributed to the Souper Bowl. These donations will be given to the local food pantries that help our neighbors in need.



Today, February 8 there will be a representative from a local mission
MERCY Communities

Here's a brief synopsis of MERCY:

MERCY Communities (Mentors, Empowerment and Resources for Change in Young families) mission is to provide housing and supportive services to foster the independence of homeless and at-risk families. The agency fulfills its mission with two primary programs: a two-year employment and education-oriented transitional living program to assist homeless women and their children to achieve stability and self-sufficiency in their lives by providing a stable home and intensive supportive services; and permanent housing programs, including permanent supportive housing for homeless families with dependent children in which the head of the household or the child has a documented disability and are currently homeless, providing housing and supportive services to allow the family to live as independently as possible. Also included in permanent housing is MERCY's rapid rehousing program which provides tenant-based rental and utility assistance and supportive services to homeless families in an affordable unit to enable them to achieve long-term healthy stability.

This year, MERCY will be able to provide housing and supportive services for up to 48 families at any time, with 10 families in the transitional living program and 38 families with permanent supportive housing and rapid re-housing. In the fiscal year 2025, MERCY provided housing and comprehensive supportive services to 46 households consisting of 54 adults and 99 children.

Amy Voiles, Executive Director, 217-753-1358

MERCY Communities also accepts donations of essential household items and other new or gently used items. Please check the website mercycommunities.org or call the number above for more information.

Calendar/Announcements

Today, Sunday, February 8th

9:00am—Worship Service (Sanctuary) MERCY Communities Representative with Special Mission Offering

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

Monday, February 9th

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, February 10th

3:00pm—MOCN Parenting Class (Hanahan Room)

6:00pm—Discipleship Life Committee Meeting (Hanahan Room)

Wednesday, February 11th

5:00pm—MOCN Family Activity Night (Fellowship Hall)

Thursday, February 12th

1:30pm—Club Compass (Various)

4:00pm—Praise Team Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

5:00pm—Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Sunday, February 15th

9:00am—Worship Service (Sanctuary)

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

Reminder: The Church Office will be closed Monday, February 16 in observance of President's Day



To reach office staff

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

Email: thirdpres1030@gmail.com

Phone: 217-528-0457