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## Order of Service

### Third Sunday in Lent

March 23, 2025

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***Welcome to worship service at the First Presbyterian Church in Palestine, IL. Whether you are here in person, or watching us online, we are honored that you have chosen to worship with us!***

***\*\*INDICATES TO PLEASE STAND IF ABLE TO DO SO.***

**Gathering**

**Gathering Music**

**Welcome And Announcements**

**Prelude**

As our prelude is played, let us quiet our soul with meditation and prayer.

**Call To Worship (Psalm 63)**

O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you;

**My flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.**

So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.

**Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.**

So I will bless you as long as I live;

**I will lift up my hands and call on your name.**

**\*\*Opening Hymn    *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*                      Red Hymnal #338 Verses 1,2 & 4**

*Lord, I want to be a Christian In-a my heart, in-a my heart, Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart.*

***Refrain:*** *In-a my heart, in-a my heart, Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart.*

*Lord, I want to be more loving In-a my heart, in-a my heart, Lord, I want to be more loving in-a my heart.*

*(Refrain)*

*Lord, I want to be like Jesus In-a my heart, in-a my heart, Lord, I want to be like Jesus in-a my heart. (Refrain)*

**Invocation**

**Children's Moment**

**Call to Confession (Isaiah 55:6-7)**

**Prayer of Confession (Unison) (Luke 13)**

**Merciful God, we confess that we have been quick to judge others and slow to make changes in our own lives. We confess that we have focused on others' shortcomings instead reforming our own.**

**Turn us, O Lord, from these ways that lead to perishing. Lead us, O Lord, in your ways that lead to abundant life. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

**Declaration of Forgiveness (Isaiah 55:8-9)**

**Let us find peace in God's ways of mercy and grace knowing that we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

## **\*\*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.*

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## **THE WORD**

**Scripture**     **Psalm 34:15-22; Hebrews 10:19-25**

This is the Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

**Message**     ***“Trusting the Love of the Lord”***     **Rev. Mick Laflin**

## **RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

**Reflection Hymn**

***It Only Takes a Spark***

**Red Hymnal #484 All Verses**

*It only takes a spark to get a fire going, and soon all those around can warm up in its glowing. That's how it is with God's love once you've experienced it; You spread His love to every one; You want to pass it on.*

*What a wondrous time is spring when all the trees are budding, The birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming, That's how it tis with God's love once you've experienced it; You want to sing, it's fresh like spring, You want to pass it on.*

*I wish for you, my friend, this happiness that I've found, You can depend on Him, it matters not where you're bound. I'll shout it from the mountain top- I want my world to know; The Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on.*

## **Call for the Offering**



### **March Giving- Goodwin Girls**

How to Give: you can go directly to our website and use our online giving platform to set up a one-time or recurring gift; you can mail your offering directly to the church (POB 132, Palestine, IL 62451), or you can drop your tithes and offerings at the church office, Mon – Thurs, 10 am – 2 pm.

## **Presentation of Offerings and Song of Dedication**

### **\*\*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (Doxology) (#606)**

*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**

### **Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (1 Corinthians 10)**

**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.**

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## SENDING

### **\*\*Hymn of Sending**

### ***Rejoice, the Lord Is King***

### **Red Hymnal #177 Verses 1,2 &4**

*Rejoice, the Lord is King: Your Lord and King adore! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, And triumph evermore:  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!*

*Jesus the Savior reigns, The God of truth and love; When He had purged our stains He took his seat above:  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!*

*Rejoice in glorious hope! Our Lord the Judge shall come, And take his servants up To their eternal home.  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!*

### **Benediction**

### **Postlude**

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# PRAYER REQUEST

## Newly Added or Updated

**Kathy Lutes**

## Our Continuing Care Concerns

**Brody Keesling** – head injury

**Auggie Martin** – Pulmonary Edema

**Mike Staffey** – Second- and Third-degree burns

**Aaron Earle** -Pray for Guidance

**Pastor Akers**

**Bill Klein** – Prostate Cancer

**Kryton McNair** – Hodgkin Lymphoma, Radiation

**Margo Riker** - Leukemia

**Mike Emmerich & Family** –Son Deployed to Kuwait

**Doris & Bill Powell** – Doris battling lung cancer

**Knoblett Family**

**Jamie Schell (Sandy Ellis's cousin)** –Breast cancer

**Dave Holubek** – Car Accident/Broken Back & Neck

**People of Israel**

**Rita Garrard** – Breast Cancer

**Victims of Hurricanes Helene & Milton**

**Sandy Ellis** – Recovering from Knee Replacement Surgery

**Victims of the Los Angeles Fires**

**Chad Coleman** – Colon Surgery, Undergoing Chemo

**People of Ukraine**

**Larry Quick** – General Health Concerns

**Care Facilities with rises in Covid Cases**

**Jocelyne Ramsey & Family** – Brain Stem Swelling

**Please keep the PNC in your prayers for discernment and patience.**

## Remember those in our church family who are in assisted living or care homes

**BridgePointe Health Campus**

**Sisters of Providence**

**Cheryl Mefford**

**Guileen Manual**

**1900 College Ave, Vincennes, IN 47591**

**1 Providence Pl, St Mary-Of-The-Woods, IN 47876**

**Arbor Rose of Robinson**

**Carle Richland Memorial Hospital**

**Marilyn Henderson and Sharon Biggs**

**Mary Laughead**

**500 S Reed Street, Robinson, IL 62454**

**800 E Locust Street, Suite 304, Olney, IL 62450**

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## MISSION GIVING – MARCH

### Goodwin Girls

## MEETING DATES

- April 7, 6:00 p.m. – Investment Committee Meeting
- April 15, 6:00 p.m., – Session Meeting

## IMPORTANT DATES & EVENTS

- Wednesdays, 6:45 p.m. –Choir Practice

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- Food pantry needs volunteers! Monday 1-3 and Wednesday 5-6. They could use any able-bodied workers!

## LOCATED AT THE BACK OF THE SANCTUARY

- 2024 Annual Report
  - The Upper Room – March & April
  - Lent Devotions
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Get the latest information on worship services, church activities, prayer requests, etc. by signing up to be on our email list. Go to our website, [www.firstprespalestine.com](http://www.firstprespalestine.com) and scroll to the bottom to fill out the subscription form or email the church office at [1stpresby.palestine@gmail.com](mailto:1stpresby.palestine@gmail.com).

### Session Highlights - Monday, March 10, 2025, 4 p.m.

- Holy Communion was served to 20 individuals on Sunday, March 2.
- Lynn Pifer was elected Clerk of Session.
- A Mother's Day Breakfast is planned for Sunday, May 11 at 9:15 a.m.
- Dave is investigating what needs to be done with the elevator.
- March Mission focus will be The Goodwin Girls. April Mission focus will be The One Great Hour of Sharing.
- The PNC continues the search process.
- The meeting adjourned with prayer at 5:15 p.m.