

**Order of Service**  
**January 22, 2023**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany**

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*We are so glad you have joined us for worship – either in person or online. You can get the latest information by visiting our website ([www.firstprespalestine.com](http://www.firstprespalestine.com)) and signing up to be on our e-mail list. We know that God is present whenever we gather, whether we gather in person or virtually, and hears the praise and prayers of our hearts. God's peace be with you.*

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

**GATHERING**

**Meditation in Preparation for Worship**

**Gathering Music**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude**

**Call to Worship**

Leader: The Church belongs to Christ; and therefore ought to be united in one harmonious witness.

**People: We know we are Christ's people; but our human nature often interferes. And what ought to be harmony becomes discord.**

Leader: When divisions arise, we need to remind ourselves our differences are various part's of Christ's one church, and pledge our allegiance to him.

**People: May God help us grow into a mature understanding of the unity of Christ's church.**

**\*\*Opening Hymn**

***The Church's One Foundation***

**Blue Hymnal #442 vs. 1,2**

*The Church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ her Lord; She is His new creation  
By water and the word. From heaven He came and sought her  
To be His holy bride; With His own blood He bought her and for her life He died.  
  
Elect from every nation, Yet one o'er all the earth, Her charter of salvation  
One Lord, one faith, one birth; One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses, With every grace endued.*

**Invocation**

**Children's Moment**

**Call to Confession**

Let us pause here to confess the sins that have kept us from recognizing and enjoying God's presence.

## Prayer of Confession

We are many different people who come to worship this day O God, and we celebrate our diversity. But we also admit that we use it as an excuse to disagree, to remain disunited. "Let us agree to disagree" we say, while you call us to be of one mind and one purpose in Christ. Forgive us Lord for taking easy paths, for doing what will cause the least friction, for refusing to do the hard work of unity. Recreate in us a passion for uniting the whole church and all its people in the Body of Christ. Amen.

## Declaration of Forgiveness

Let divisions be erased. Let quarrels cease. Let us set aside our judgements of each other and be united in the same mind and the same purpose: proclaiming the Gospel and spreading God's love. For God, through the foolishness of the cross, forgives you and accepts you. **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.*

## THE WORD

### Scripture 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon "United We Stand, Divided We Fall"

Rev. Tom Akers

### Reflection Hymn

### **Great Is Thy Faithfulness**

### **Blue Hymnal #276 vs. 1,2**

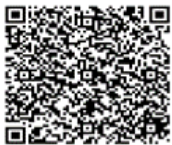
*Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father, There is no shadow of turning with Thee;  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not; As Thou hast been Thou forever will be.*

**Refrain:** *Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided; Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

*Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love. (Refrain)*

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

### Call for the Offering



**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

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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. AMEN.

## SENDING

**\*\*Hymn of Sending      *The Church's One Foundation*      Blue Hymnal #442 vs. 3,4**

*Though with a scornful wonder This world sees her oppressed, By schisms rent asunder,  
By heresies distressed, Yet saints their watch are keeping; Their cry goes up, "How long?"  
And soon the night of weeping Shall be the morn of song.*

*Mid toil and tribulation, And tumult of her war, She waits the consummation  
Of peace forevermore; Till with the vision glorious Her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great church victorious Shall be the church at rest.*

## Benediction

## Postlude

© Presbyterian Outlook, 2022. Liturgy adapted from, Liturgy written Teri McDowell Ott and provided for free distribution.

# PRAYER REQUEST

## Newly Added or Updated:

\***Phoebe Fuller** – Heart Issues

## Our Continuing Care Concerns:

### People of Ukraine

**Sally Shepherd** – At Home with wound vac.

**Marcella Ryan** – Back at BridgePointe.

**Jack Cook** – Eye Surgery

**Nancy Seamon** – Lung Cancer

**Teresa Blackburn** – Diagnosed with Cancer

**Christy (Woodworth) Blickensderfer** - Cancer

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

**David Bennett** – (Samantha Knoblett's Dad) suffered a stroke.

**Blain Loll** – Diagnosed with Leukemia

**Cheryl Mefford** – Blood clot in both legs

**Jim Higgins** – Back Surgery with complications

**Mike Devin (Loretta's Brother)** – Suffered a stroke

**Marilyn Henderson** – Inflamed Pancreas

**Kimberly Harmon** – Undergoing chemo treatments

**Donna Wilson** – Fell and has concussion

**John Hunter** - Cancer has returned

**Letty Homan** – Broken Feet

**Miranda (Inbodden) Waddel** – Breast cancer

**Bob Roberts** – Recovering from Triple Bypass Surgery

**Nick, Lawrence, & Jacob** (Knoblett friend's Children)

**Levi, Samantha Knoblett & Kids**

**Mei Judge** – doing well with treatment

**Brenda Wolfe**

## Remember our college students:

Kendra Biggs – Bellarmine

Lindsay Ryan – EIU

Charlie Catt – LTC

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

### Timber Creek Village

Sharon Biggs, Mary Laughead, Paul Rosenberg  
1302 W Highland Avenue, Robinson, IL 62454

### BridgePointe Health Campus

Cheryl Mefford & Marcella Ryan  
1900 College Ave, Vincennes, IN 47591

### Cotillion Ridge

Richard & Lee Vehling  
600 Robinwood Dr, Robinson, IL 62454

### Sisters of Providence

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

### Arbor Rose of Robinson

Carolyn Ripley  
500 S Reed Street, Robinson, IL 62454

### The Villages at Oak Ridge

Joan Goodwin  
1694 Troy Rd, Washington, IN 47501

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## JANUARY MISSION GIVING: The Clothing Center

### MEETING DATES

### IMPORTANT DATES & EVENTS

- Wednesday, 6:45 p.m. - Choir Practice

### LOCATED AT THE BACK OF THE SANCTUARY

- The Upper Room –January & February
- Presbyterians Today – January & February
- Pictures of wells we donated from Marion Medical
- 2022 Giving Statements

### JANUARY 15, 2023, DONATIONS: \$1,750.00

Our Church Offerings: \$1,725.00

Loose Offerings: \$20.00

Greater Presbyterian Offerings: \$5.00

December 2022 Online Giving: \$1,385.00

**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).**

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**Rev. Tom Akers**  
Cell Phone: (618) 562-0929

## **Session Meeting Highlights – January 16, 2023**

- Kirsten's Closet will be the February Mission Focus. The High School will be sending us a list of needed items.
- The Session elected the following individuals for 1-year terms; Clerk of Session – Lynn Pifer, Treasurer – Dawn Biggs, Commissioner to Presbytery – Jerry Russell, Corporation President – Mark Catt, Corporation Secretary – Lynn Pifer.
- We are grateful for the following individuals willing to serve on committees:

**Building and Grounds** – Session – Mark Catt, Chair. Members at large - Mark Shaw, Marie Davis, Sandy Bryans, Robert York

**Christian Ed/Worship** – Session – Michelle Goodwine, Mindy Evans. Members at large -Janice Fuller, Linda Russell

**Mission Outreach/Benevolence/Memorial** – Session – Lynn Pifer, Mindy Evans. Members at large - Dawn Biggs, Karen Pifer, Jeff Shaner

**Membership & Fellowship** – Session - Michelle Goodwine, Lynn Pifer. Members at large - Pam Reinbold, Cindy York

**Finance, Stewardship, Budget & Investment** – Session – Eric Fulling, Mark Catt. Members at large - Jerry Russell, Mark Shaw, Doug Goodwine

**Pastoral Relations** – Session- David Fulling. Members at large - Jackie Shaw, Diane Nickum

**Administrative Committee** – Pastor Tom Akers, Clerk of Session Lynn Pifer, Chair of Building and Grounds Mark Catt.

**Designated Representative** – Foster Biggs, Lugene Bond

**Deposit Co-counters** – Sandy Bryans, Jan Judge

- An Ash Wednesday service will take place Wednesday, February 22 at 6 p.m.
- Sunday, January 29th will be the Ordination of Mark Catt as Elder and Installation of Mark and Michelle Goodwine for their terms of service.
- The 2017 Record Retention Policy was reapproved.

**The next Session meeting will be March 21, 2023**