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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1100 CALVIN ROAD // ROCHELLE, IL 61068
PHONE: 815-562-7053 WEB: PLACEFORGRACE.COM

WELCOME

December 7, 2025 - 9:00am

Welcome and Announcements - Lizzie Cartwright

Time of Preparation for Worship

Introit: O God, We Do Exalt Your Name

Call to Worship - Psalm 25

Leader: To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; in you I trust, O my God. Do not let me be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

People: No one whose hope is in you will ever be put to shame, but they will be put to shame who are treacherous without excuse.

Leader: Show me your ways, O LORD, teach me your paths; guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.

People: Remember, O LORD, your great mercy and love, for they are from of old.

Leader: Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in his ways. He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way.

People: All the ways of the LORD are loving and faithful for those who keep the demands of his covenant.

All: Guard our lives and rescue us; let us not be put to shame, for we take refuge in you.

Song: Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

God of grace, we confess that we have elevated the things of this world above you. We have made idols of possessions and people and used your name for causes that are not consistent with you and your purposes.

We have permitted our schedules to come first and have not taken the time to worship you. We have not always honored those who guided us in life. We have participated in systems

that take life instead of give it. We have been unfaithful in our covenant relationships. We have yearned for, and sometimes taken, that which is not ours, and we have misrepresented others' intentions.

Forgive us, O God, for the many ways we fall short of your glory. Help us to learn to live together according to your ways through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Choir Anthem: We Want to Be Ready

Scripture: Matthew 14:30-31

Sermon: "Go Be Someone's Todd"

Song of Preparation: Go Light Your World

The Lord's Supper

The Apostles' Creed

Offering and Doxology

Song: Oh How Good It Is

Blessing

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;

he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen

The Deacons are hosting their Annual HOT CHOCOLATE BAR today during Fellowship Hour! Please come and enjoy!

Flowers are given in memory of Russ Good on his birthday, December 6th. From Nan, Shay and Hunter

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

If you would like to help decorate our sanctuary with poinsettias for Christmas, please fill out the form below and return in the offering plate. Faith Commission is requesting red poinsettias wrapped in silver foil with a red and/or green bow. Poinsettias may be ordered from your favorite florist and may be delivered by 12:00 p.m. on Friday, December 19. In order to keep the flowers beautiful for our Christmas services, please do not bring them prior to December 19. Please be sure to mark your poinsettia with your name.

A listing of those being remembered with poinsettias will be printed in the December 21st 9am bulletin. Poinsettias may be picked up any day after Monday, December 29th. Please take care when picking up your poinsettia to be sure you get your own.

YES! I will provide a poinsettia for the sanctuary.

My poinsettia is given Remembering:

My poinsettia is giving Honoring:

With love from:

SUNDAY, December 7
9:00 a.m. Worship Service, Communion
10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour, Adult Ed, Sunday School
6:30 p.m. High School Youth Group
6:30 p.m. Chunko's Small Group
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

MONDAY, December 8
10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study
6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts
6:30 p.m. Middle School Youth Group

WEDNESDAY, December 10
11:00 a.m. Prayer Group
4:00 p.m. American Legion Meeting
6:00 p.m. Choir
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

THURSDAY, December 11
CAN Shopping Trip
7:00 p.m. Tres Dias Meeting

SATURDAY, December 13
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

SUNDAY, December 14
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour, Adult Ed, Sunday School
6:30 p.m. High School Youth Group
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

Adult Sunday School: 2 Peter

This December, join us for a special Adult Sunday School series exploring the letter of 2 Peter. Written as a reminder to stand firm in faith, 2 Peter speaks with urgency about living faithfully in uncertain times. Together, we'll reflect on themes of spiritual growth, perseverance, and hope in Christ's return.

Each week, we'll walk through the chapters, uncovering practical lessons for today's discipleship. Whether you're new to Bible study or a seasoned reader, this class offers encouragement and insight for all.

Come ready to learn, share, and be strengthened by God's Word. Classes meet on Sunday mornings throughout December. Let's grow together in grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ!

If you have a prayer request that you would like to be put on the "Prayer Chain", please send it to Mary Kay Merema. She sends the prayer requests to the texting threads. Mary Kay's phone number is 815-761-3428.

NURSING HOME/ASSISTED LIVING
RESIDENTS

Please keep our nursing home and rehab residents in your prayers. We list them here with their addresses - they would love to get a note or card!!

Franklin Grove Healthcare,
502 N. State Street, Franklin Grove, IL

61031
Teddie Pohl
Gary Williams
Mildred Danekas
Archie Jensen

Hawthorne Inn
2201 Flagg Road, Rochelle, IL 61068

Laura Bunger
Shirley Villa
Judy (Nelson) Messer

Liberty Village
2203 E Flagg Road, Rochelle, IL 61068

Codelle Leonard
Marjorie Hayes
Nancy Detig
Sandi Graber
Jan Hann
Clyda Lamb

The Meadows
510 N State, #113, Franklin Grove, IL 61031

Larry Cleveland

Flagler Heath and Rehab Center

300 Dr. Carter Blvd.
Burnnell, FL 32110
Pearl Fromm

Brighton Gardens of St. Charles
600 Dunham Road Room 326

St. Charles, IL 60174
Bill Frederick

Pastors and Guest Preachers for the rest of the year:

December 7 - Cooper Holmgren
December 14 - Peter Park
December 21 - Peter Park
Christmas Eve Services - Tessa Stouffer
December 28 - Connie Garrison

Thank you to the Faith Commission for your help in organizing our Sunday services during this transitional time!

Office Coordinator/DCE -
Sara Slattengren

Student Ministry Leader - Tessa Stouffer
Secretary/Receptionist - Midge Berg
Financial Secretary - Karen Hauck

Church Web Site: www.placeforgrace.com

E-Mail Addresses:

Sara Slattengren: sara@placeforgrace.com
Tessa Stouffer : tessa@placeforgrace.com
Karen Hauck: karen@placeforgrace.com
Midge Berg: midge@placeforgrace.com
Church Office: info@placeforgrace.com

Office Hours: M-Th 9a-4p
Fri 9a-12Noon

Session has called a congregational meeting for Sunday December 14, 2025 immediately following the 9am worship service for the purpose of approving the nominations of elders, deacons and the 2026 nominating committee.

New Life Library News:

One of our new books for the Christian Living side of the library is Theology for Non-Theologians by James Cantelon. "Throughout his 40-year ministry, he fielded many questions about the nature of God and the relationship between God and believers and nonbelievers alike. They are deep and good questions, and to help people understand God he felt compelled to write a book that discusses theology in a step-by-step and accessible way."

"Here is theology as you have seldom seen it – warm, informal, even humorous – but always respectful and above all true to Holy Scripture. James Cantelon has accomplished the near-impossible, making theology engaging."

Right now you will find this book on the end-shelf as you enter the library.

Judy Schermerhorn of the Library Committee

Thank to everyone who wrote cards for the Deacons Blessing Bags. A special thank you to the 3rd-5th grade youth group who helped put the bags together.

The Deacons appreciate your help!