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IF I HAVE  
*The gift of*  
 Prophecy  
 ...BUT DO NOT HAVE  
 Love,  
 I AM NOTHING.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:2

**Rev. Dr. Michelle J. Bartel, Preaching**  
**Karen Craig, Liturgist**  
**Stephanie Davisson, Accompanist**

**Welcome  
to  
First Presbyterian Church**  
**219-866-7005**  
www.firstpresrensselaer.org  
www.facebook.com/First-Presbyterian-Church-Rensselaer

Church Mission Statement: We are a Presbyterian church responding to new mission frontiers presented by our changing culture. Guided by our Lord Jesus Christ, we love, serve and embrace all people.

Sunday Offering: \$1,630.00 Attendance: 14  
Pastor: Rev. Michelle J. Bartel, Ph.D.  
Youth Minister: Stephanie Davisson  
Director of Music: Stephanie Davisson  
Office Administrator: Bethany Dodge 219-866-7005  
Maintenance/Housekeeping: Pat McKinney  
Technology Assistant: Andrew Dodge  
Prayer concerns: Jennifer Perez, Margaret Miller, Larry Alexander, Family of Joyce Cady, Carol Geisel, Rick Dragoo, Dawn Jefferson, Rob Jefferson, Trent Jefferson, Kristian Jefferson, Joy Mendenhall, Family of David Courtright, Sharon DeWees, Tony's mother, Family of Richard and Wendy White, and Pat Sheffler.

If you would like a child's folder or a wireless hearing assistance device, let the usher know.

**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, and the power and the glory,  
for ever. Amen.

**Church Calendar**

Sunday, Feb. 2	9:30 a.m.	Worship, Communion, Election of Corp. Officers & Nominating Committee
Monday, Feb. 3	9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.	Church Office Open
Tuesday, Feb. 4	9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.	Church Office open
	3:30 p.m.	Dance Magic
	4:00 p.m.	Bible Study
Wednesday, Feb. 5	9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.	Church Office open
	5:00 p.m. — 6:30 p.m.	Youth Group
Thursday, Feb. 6	9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.	Church Office open
Saturday, Feb. 8	7:00 p.m.	AA – Alcoholics Anonymous (Lounge)
Sunday, Feb. 9	9:30 a.m.	Worship (Sanctuary)

**Announcements**

- The election of the corporation officers will be today immediately following the service.
- Annual giving statements are available to pick up from the table in the back of the sanctuary. Statements not picked up will be mailed.
- The monthly hybrid adult discussion group will be Monday, Feb. 10th at 4pm in the lounge. Articles for discussion can be picked up in the back of the sanctuary. See Pastor Michelle or Bethany for a Zoom link if you would like to join us virtually.

Celebration of Communion

Prayer After Communion

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (we use "debts and debtors" in the prayer)

The Offering

(The Offering plates will not be passed. You may place your offerings in the plates on the pedestals either before or after Worship.)

✠ Doxology #607 *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*

✠ Prayer of Thanksgiving

**As we offer our gifts to you, Holy God, may we remember those who are forgotten by us too many times – the hungry, the lonely, the homeless, the vulnerable – those who are your beloved children and important citizens in your kingdom of grace, justice, and hope. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

✠ Hymn of Sending #547 *Go, My Children, With My Blessing*

✠ Benediction

Congregational Response #765 *May the God of Hope Go with Us*

Postlude

-Prayer of Thanksgiving written by Thom Shuman, adapted.

Rensselaer, IN

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9:30 A.M.

4th Sunday after Epiphany

February 2, 2025

✠ Please stand in body or spirit

Prelude

Welcome

Rev. Michelle Bartel

Call to Worship (based on selections from Psalm 138):

Karen Craig

Leader: Come and worship,

**People: all you who love and serve our God –**

Leader: who surrounds us with unfailing love,

**People: and answers us when we call;**

Leader: who cares for the humble and lowly,

**People: and never abandons those in need.**

Leader: This is our God, worthy of our worship and praise!

**People: Come, let us worship the Lord!**

✠ Hymn of Praise #619 *Praise, My Soul, The God of Heaven*

Call of Confession

Prayer of Confession:

**Almighty God, we acknowledge and confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; we have not loved you with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. Lord, you are full of compassion and gracious, slow to anger, and abundant in mercy; there is always forgiveness with you! Restore to us the joy of your salvation; form us in the depth of your own love for us and for this world. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon (based on Romans 8):

Leader: There is therefore now no condemnation for those in Christ. If God is for us, who is against us? Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**People: And we are loved! Alleluia! Amen.**

✠ Response #581 Gloria Patri

Announcements

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Psalm Reading Psalm 71:1-6 p. 532 OT

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord  
**People: Thanks be to God**

Gospel Reading Luke 4:21-30 p. 61 NT

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord  
**People: Thanks be to God.**

New Testament Reading 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 p. 175 NT

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord  
**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: The Greatest of These is Love

“And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.”

Hymn of the Word # 693 *Though I May Speak*

OUR RESPONSE TO THE WORD

The Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

Invitation

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Eternal God, holy and mighty, it is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, .....Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the heavenly choirs and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Words of Institution

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died,**

**Christ is risen,**

**Christ will come again**