



**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: \$40.00

Attendance: 16

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, Kelly 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, Ron Sheffler and family, family of Phil Nagel, Ed & Barb Michael, the family of Larry Huhn, Carol Hoover, the family of Bill Gehring, and Deb & Jen H.

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, April 6	9:30 a.m.	Worship, Communion
Monday, April 7	9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Church Office Open
Tuesday, April 8	9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Church Office open
	3:30 p.m.	Dance Magic
	4:00 p.m.	Bible Study
Wed., April 9	9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Church Office open
	5:00pm - 6:30 pm	Youth Group
	6:30pm - 7:30 pm	Choir Practice
Thursday, April 10	9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Church Office open
	3:00pm	Session Meeting
Saturday, April 12	7:00 p.m.	AA - Alcoholics Anonymous (Lounge)
Sunday, April 13	9:30 a.m.	Worship (Sanctuary)

**Announcements**

- If you'd like to purchase an Easter lily in honor/memory of a loved one, please call the office. Lilies will arrive Thursday, April 17th.
- There will be a Maundy Thursday Service on Thursday, April 17 at 6pm at Trinity United Methodist.
- There will be a Good Friday Service at 6pm here in the FPC sanctuary on Friday, April 18.
- The One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be collected on Palm Sunday (April 13) and Easter Sunday (April 20).
- Choir practice will meet this Wednesday April 9 at 6:30. We will sing in the service on Easter Sunday.
- Session meets this Thursday, April 10th at 3pm.

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

**Loving Father, thank you for the privilege of partnering with you and each other in the work of the ministry. We know that you will bless our efforts and contributions for the proclamation of the gospel and the building up of your church. Let us continue to give with cheerfulness and full trust that you will never fail us in our time of need. Amen.**

✠ Hymn of Sending #767 *Together We Serve*

✠ Benediction

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

Postlude

5th Sunday in Lent

April 6, 2025

✠ Please stand in body or spirit

Prelude

Welcome

Rev. Michelle Bartel

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 134):

Bethany Dodge

Leader: Come, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord,

**People: We long to stand day and night in the house of the Lord!**

Leader: Lift up your hands to the holy place

**People: We bless the Lord!**

Leader: May the Lord bless you, who made heaven and earth!

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

✠ Hymn of Praise #630 *Fairest Lord Jesus*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

**Almighty God, you who freely pardons all who repent and turn to you, now fulfill in every contrite heart the promise of redeeming grace; forgiving all our sins, and cleansing us from a rebellious conscience; through the perfect sacrifice of Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon (based on Romans 8):

Leader: If God is for us, who can be against us? Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger 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, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

**People: Alleluia, Amen.**

Announcements

**THE SERVICE OF THE WORD**

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 43:16, 18-21 p. 672 OT

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

Psalm Reading Psalm 126 p. 572 OT

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

Gospel Reading John 12:1-8 p. 78 NT

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

Sermon

The Fragrance of the Perfume

“ Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.”

Hymn of the Word #629 *Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee*, verses 1-3 and 5

**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**