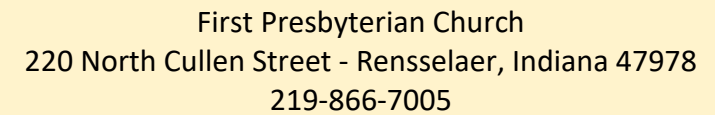


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January 5, 2025



Rev. Dr. Michelle J. Bartel, Preaching
Rick Comingore, 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: \$400.00
Attendance: 10
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, 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, Jan. 5	9:30 a.m.	Worship (Communion),
Monday, Jan. 6	9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Church Office open
Tuesday, Jan. 7	9:00a.m. - 4:00 3:30 p.m.	Church Office open Dance Magic
	4:00 p.m.	Bible Study
Wednesday, Jan. 8	9:00 a.m – 4:00 p.m.	Church Office open
Thursday, Jan 9	9:00 a.m – 4:00 p.m.	Church Office open
	4:00 pm	Session Meets
Saturday, Jan. 11	7:00 p.m.	AA – Alcoholics Anonymous (Basement)
Sunday, Jan. 12	9:30 a.m.	Worship (Sanctuary)

Announcements:

The church office will be open Mon.-Thurs. from 9am-4pm.
Bible study will meet on Tuesday at 4pm .
Youth Group will not meet this week.
Our annual congregational meeting is Sunday, Jan. 19th following the service.
The annual free Talk-to-a-Lawyer Day will be on MLK, Jr. Day, Mon. January 20th from 9am-3pm in the lounge. See flyer on the hallway bulletin board for more information.

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

**Gracious God, accept these gifts, and with them our lives, to be used in your
service; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

✠ Hymn of Sending #612 *We Praise You, O God*

✠ Benediction

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

Postlude

-Prayer of Confession posted on the Ministry Matters website
-Assurance of Pardon (adapted) written by Nathan Nettleton

2nd Sunday of Christmas
January 5, 2025
✠ Please stand in body or spirit

Prelude

Choir: Introit

WelcomeRev. Michelle Bartel

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 149):Rick Comingore

Leader: Praise the Lord!
People: Sing to the Lord a new song,
Leader; Let us praise God with dancing,
People: making melody to the Lord with tambourine and lyre.
Leader: For God takes pleasure in the people of the Lord!
People: Let the faithful exult in glory;
Leader: let them sing for joy on their couches.
People: Let the high praises of God be in their throats.
Praise the Lord!

✠ Hymn of Praise #134 *Joy to the World*

Call of Confession

Prayer of Confession (based on Isaiah 40):

**God of tenderness and love, breathe your grace into our lives. Forgive our
wandering ways, and guide us along your paths of peace. When we lose
our way, and forget the reason and purpose of this season, carry us back
to you. Lead us up to that high mountain of faith and hope, that we
might truly proclaim: "Here is our God!" In your holy name, we pray.
Amen.**

Choir Anthem: Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Assurance of Pardon:

Leader: God hears the cries of the brokenhearted and renews the strength of those who trust in his mercy. In Jesus Christ, God has taken us by the hand, forgiving our sins and lifting us up to new life. Sisters and Brothers, in Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven; be at peace.

People: Alleluia, Amen.

☩ Response #581 Gloria Patri

Announcements

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Reading Ephesians 1:3-14 p. 192 NT

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

Gospel Reading John 1:1-18 p. 91 NT

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

Old Testament Reading Jeremiah 31:7-14 p. 734 OT

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

Sermon: Mourning into Joy

“A great company...I will turn their mourning into joy;
I will comfort them and give them gladness for sorrow.”

Hymn of the Word #39 Great is Thy Faithfulness

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