

# First Presbyterian Evanston

February 25, 2024 – 9:30 a.m.

*Second Sunday of Lent*

## FOCUS

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### **Prelude**

*Offertoire from Heures Mystiques, Op. 30*

*(Léon Boëllmann, 1862-1897)*

## EXALT

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**Welcome & Call to Worship** *(from Psalm 22:23, 29-31)*

Leader: You who fear the Lord, praise him!

**People: All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;  
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!**

Leader: All the ends of the earth shall remember  
and turn to the Lord;

**People: and all the families of the nations  
shall worship before him.**

Leader: For dominion belongs to the Lord,  
and he rules over the nations.

**People: Future generations will be told about the Lord,  
ALL: and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,  
saying that he has done it.**

**We worship God together!**

### **Opening Hymn**

How Firm a Foundation\*

*(Words: "K" in "A Selection of Hymns," 1787; Music: American folk melody, arr. Crofton Coleman,  
2024; CCLI Song #107816)*

Lord, You give us Firm foundation.

All our fears are Now forsaken.  
Lord, You give us Firm foundation.  
Won't you fill us, Fill us with light!

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in His excellent word.  
What more can He say than to you He hath said  
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

“Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,  
For I am thy God and will still give thee aid.  
I'll strengthen thee, help thee,  
And cause thee to stand,  
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.”

Lord, You give us Firm foundation.  
All our fears are Now forsaken.  
Lord, You give us Firm foundation.  
Won't you fill us, Fill us with light!

“When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,  
My grace all-sufficient shall be thy supply.  
The flame shall not hurt thee, I only design  
Thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine.”

“The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose  
I will not, I will not desert to its foes.  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake  
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake.”

Lord, You give us Firm foundation.  
Won't you fill us, Fill us with light!

Lord, You give us Firm foundation.  
Won't you fill us, Fill us with light!

Lord, You give us Firm foundation.  
Won't you fill us, Fill us with light!

Lord, You give us Firm foundation.  
Won't you fill us, Fill us with light! Amen!

### **Prayer of Confession**

Leader: In our scripture passage for today, Peter is out on a boat with the disciples when a storm hits. Instead of cowering in fear, Peter spots Jesus on the water and bravely crawls out of the boat to move closer to Christ. Friends, I think the prayer of confession is one way that we do the same; it's one way that we can crawl out of our boats. And here's what I mean: In the prayer of confession, we are honest about the storms that rage within and around us. In this prayer, we speak with honesty in an effort to move closer to God. This is our moment to crawl out of the boat. So friends, let's be like Peter.

Join me in being courageous.

Join me in truth-telling.

Join me in prayer.

It's time to get our feet wet.

Let us pray together:

**ALL:**

**Gracious God,**

**There are days that threaten to swallow us,  
days when the storms of life feel too big.**

**In those moments,**

**we often cling to the sides of our ships in fear,  
spending more energy hiding from storms than looking for you.  
Forgive us for doubting ourselves.  
Forgive us for doubting and disobeying you.  
Rescue us from the storms of today  
and from the fears that trap us.  
With hope in our hearts we pray,  
Amen.**

*(Silent Prayer)*

**Response in Song**            Return to You

*(Words: Sarah Speed; Music: Can Olgun; A Sanctified Art, used by permission)*

Help me return to you  
There's nothing I'd rather do.  
Than return to you  
There's nothing I'd rather do.  
The storm may rise, the trumpet sound,  
the curtain tear, and even now,  
Return to you  
There's nothing I'd rather do  
Than return to you.

**Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: Family of faith,  
You could get out of the boat and walk on water like Peter,  
or fall to your knees and stay in one place.  
No matter what you do,  
Christ's love for you is unchanging.  
Fearful or brave,  
faithful or doubting,  
Christ is always walking toward you.  
So hear and believe this good news:

God's love is stronger than any storms.

**All: On our best days,  
and on our worst days,  
we are seen, forgiven, and loved.**

Leader: God is always walking toward you.

**All: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## **Hymn of Response**

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

*(Words & Music: Thomas Andrew Dorsey, 1938; CCLI Song #7205306)*

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand.

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.

Through the storm, through the night,

Lead me on to the light.

Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near.

When my life is almost gone,

Hear my cry, hear my call,

Hold my hand, lest I fall.

Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When the darkness appears, and the night draws near,

And the day is past and gone,

At the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.

Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

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## **ENCOUNTER**

### **Children's Moment**

### **Passing the Peace of Christ**

## Scripture

Matthew 14:22-33

<sup>22</sup> Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. <sup>23</sup> And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup> but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. <sup>25</sup> And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake. <sup>26</sup> But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, 'It is a ghost!' And they cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup> But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.'

<sup>28</sup> Peter answered him, 'Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.' <sup>29</sup> He said, 'Come.' So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus. <sup>30</sup> But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me!' <sup>31</sup> Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?' <sup>32</sup> When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. <sup>33</sup> And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'

## Sermon

"Rescue Me from Danger"

*Rev. Dr. Tassie Green, Interim Senior Pastor*

## RESPOND

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## Sharing of Tithes and Offerings

## Anthem

Out of the Deep, from *Requiem*

*(Words: Psalm 130; Music: John Rutter, 1985)*

*Out of the deep have I called unto thee, O Lord:*

*Lord, hear my voice.  
O let thine ears consider well the voice of my complaint.  
If thou, Lord, wilt be extreme to mark what is done amiss:  
O Lord, who may abide it?  
For there is mercy with thee: therefore shalt thou be feared.  
I look for the Lord; my soul doth wait for him: in his word is my trust.  
My soul fleeth unto the Lord: before the morning watch,  
I say, before the morning watch.  
O Israel, trust in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy:  
and with him is plenteous redemption.  
And he shall redeem Israel: from all his sins.*

### **Doxology & Offering Prayer**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (*Blue Hymnal* #592)  
(*Words: Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709; Music: Genevan Psalter, 1551; CCLI Song #56204*)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### **Prayers of the People & 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;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.  
Amen.

## Closing Hymn

## Cornerstone

*(Words & Music: Jonas Myrin, Reuben Morgan, Eric Liljero, 2011, original lyrics by Edward Mote, 1834, tune "Solid Rock" by William Batchelder Bradbury, 1863, arr. FPCE Praise Band, 2021; CCLI Song #6158927)*

My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name.

My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name.

Christ alone, Cornerstone,  
Weak made strong in the Savior's love.  
Through the storm,  
He is Lord, Lord of all.

When darkness seems to hide His face,  
I rest on His unchanging grace.  
In ev'ry high and stormy gale,  
My anchor holds within the veil.  
My anchor holds within the veil.

Christ alone, Cornerstone,  
Weak made strong in the Savior's love.  
Through the storm,  
He is Lord, Lord of all.

Christ alone, Cornerstone,  
Weak made strong in the Savior's love.  
Through the storm,  
He is Lord, Lord of all.



When He shall come with trumpet sound,  
Oh, may I then in Him be found.  
Dressed in His righteousness along,  
Faultless stand before the throne.

### **Sending & Benediction**

**ALL: God, we lift our situation to you with our prayers.**

**Please do what we cannot do ourselves.**

**Change what we cannot change ourselves,  
including your changing us—without limits! Amen.**

### **Postlude**

#### **My Lighthouse**

*(Words & Music: Chris Llewellyn & Gareth Gilkeson, 2013, CCLI Song #7002032)*

*In my wrestling and in my doubts, In my failures You won't walk out. Your great  
love will lead me through. You are the peace in my troubled sea, You are the  
peace in my troubled sea.*

*In the silence You won't let go, In the questions Your truth will hold. Your great  
love will lead me through. You are the peace in my troubled sea, You are the  
peace in my troubled sea.*

*My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse, Shining in the darkness, I will follow You. My  
Lighthouse, my Lighthouse I will trust the promise You will carry me safe to  
shore, Safe to shore, safe to shore, safe to shore.*

*I won't fear what tomorrow brings, With each morning I'll rise and sing. My  
God's love will lead me through. You are the peace in my troubled sea,  
You are the peace in my troubled sea. My Lighthouse...*

*Fire before us, you're the brightest, You will lead us through the storms...  
My Lighthouse..*

Today's Worship Service Leaders

**Charles Kintner**, Guest Organist, Prelude, Doxology

**Melissa Bach**, Cello

**Carol Smith**, Organ

**Crofton Coleman**, Worship Band Director, Keyboard, Vocals

**Angel Samuel**, Vocals; **Fred Bryant**, Guitar; **Daniel Allen**, Guitar & Vocals; **Erwin**

**Yasukawa**, Bass; **Waldo Ocaña**, Drums; **Tina Laughlin**, Percussion

**Chancel Choir**

**Hannah McConnell**, Dir. of Worship & Music, Chancel Choir Director, Piano, Vocals

**Rev. Dr. Tassie Green**, Interim Senior Pastor, Welcome & Call to Worship, Peace, Sermon, Offering Invitation & Offering Prayer, Sending & Benediction

**JJ Ivaska**, Confession, Prayers of the People

**Kalysta Witwer**, Children's Message

**Joel Bregman**, Scripture Reader

All prayers are adapted from prayers by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

**Jim Teague**, Director of Communications, Live Audio

**Keith Jacobson**, A/V Volunteer, Projection

**Jacob Collins**, A/V Volunteer, Video Switcher

**Juan Rios**, Building Team

**Tony Brown, Stephanie Keene**, Ushers

**Kaci Smith**, Greeter

**Bob Hecker, Sally Ivaska**, Prayer Companions

Christian Education & Childcare

**The Nursery will be open from 9:30 a.m. to noon.**

**Youth/Children's Christian Education Classes meet at 11 a.m.**

K-4th Grade: 3rd Floor East Room

5th - 7th Grade: 3rd Floor Center Room

8th - 12th Grade: Room 206

**Youth Group meets SUNDAY from 4 to 6 p.m.**

**Adult Education Classes meet at 11 a.m.**

Pillars of Reformed Christian Faith meets in Room 213 (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)

The Book of Acts meets in the Parlor (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)

NEW: Christians in the Age of Anxiety meets in the Choir Room (1<sup>st</sup> Floor)

NEW: Global Missions in a World Gone Awry meets in the Dining Room (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)

**First Presbyterian Church**  
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E-mail address: [info@firstpresevanston.org](mailto:info@firstpresevanston.org)  
[www.firstpresevanston.org](http://www.firstpresevanston.org)

Mission Statement:  
***First Presbyterian Church of Evanston  
exists to know Christ and to grow in him  
as we serve and make disciples in Evanston, the Chicago area,  
and the world.***



*This QR code will take you to a web page with links for giving and recording your attendance at today's service via the Connect Card.*

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**Welcome!** We're glad you are here. We ask everyone to complete and return this page. Please tear it off from the stapled bulletin, to slip to the offering basket every week. February 25, 2024

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Your Name

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Family members' names/ages

---

Street Address, City, State, Zip

---

Phone:     Cell         Home

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Email address

- Send me the weekly E-newsletter
- First time visitor
- Occasional attendee
- Regular attendee/member
  
- Single
- Married
- Have children at home
- Junior/High School student
- College student/Graduate student

I'm interested in:

- Knowing Jesus better
- I need prayer or support
- I would like to speak with a pastor
- Joining a Small Group
- Joining the Welcome Team
- Worship Music Team
- Sound/AV/Video Team
- Prayer Team
- Becoming a Member
- I need a Stephen Minister
- Communion at home suggested for  
\_\_\_\_\_ (name)

Please pray for:  
*(This is shared with pastors & confidential prayer team)*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Devotional Small Group has Formed

First Pres has formed a short-term small group for the season of Lent through Easter. Using the beautiful devotional book *Wandering Heart: Figuring out Faith with Peter*, this group is following along with our sermon series. Led by members Betsy Newenhuyse and by Kim Klamm, the group is open to up to 10 people--and meets Wednesday nights offsite, ending the week after Easter. Contact Kim at [kklamm@hey.com](mailto:kklamm@hey.com) and/or Betsey at [elizabethnewenhuyse@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethnewenhuyse@gmail.com).



### New Adult Ed Options Begin Today

Beginning today and running through April 28, two new Adult Education classes are being offered on Sunday mornings at First Pres. These classes will meet at 11 a.m.

### Christians in the Age of Anxiety - Choir Room

This new adult ed class will be led by Dr. Greg Lewis, Clinical Director of The Counseling Center here at the church, and several guest leaders. We will explore what anxiety is, why we feel anxious, how we cope with anxiety, the role of prayer, the role of medications, anxiety in the age of digitalization, social media, and AI, along with what the Bible has to say about anxiety.

### Global Missions in a World Gone Awry - Dining Room

What does Global Missions look like in a world that seems to have gone awry? This new Sunday class, led by Rev. Dr. Peter Lee, will meet in the Dining Room. It introduces the topic of global missions for the local congregation, given the context of history, the Bible, and so much more.

### Wednesday Prayer Gathering on Zoom

Our regular prayer gathering will take place on Zoom next Wednesday, February 28, at 7 p.m. Visit the calendar online to register.

### Syrian Mothers' Day Tea on Friday, March 8

Join us as we plan, prepare, serve, host, and clean up for our Syrian Mothers' Day Tea on Friday, March 8 at 11 a.m. We can use any and all volunteers! Please visit <https://firstpresevanston.org/tea> to sign up or contact Bridgette Gilchrist at [BridgetteGilchrist@hotmail.com](mailto:BridgetteGilchrist@hotmail.com) for more information.

### Sign up to provide rides to church for Syrian Family

Welcome a recently arrived Syrian family to the U.S. by providing rides to and/or from church on Sunday mornings. They have minimal English, but are eager to learn about Christianity and be part of our church family. Two cars will be needed. Visit <https://firstpresevanston.org/rides> for details & to sign up.

LEARN MORE AT [HTTPS://FIRSTPRESEVANSTON.ORG](https://firstpresevanston.org).

## Online Registration & Giving - Scan Here



Scan this QR code with your smartphone camera for links to online attendance registration AND online giving.

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FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
EVANSTON

WELCOME TO

# Sunday Worship

February 25, 2024 – 9:30 a.m.  
Second Sunday of Lent

Prelude

**Offertoire from Heures Mystiques, Op. 30**  
(Léon Boëllmann, 1862-1897)

Welcome

Call to Worship (from Psalm 22:23, 29-31)

Opening Song

**How Firm a Foundation\***

(Words: "K" in "A Selection of Hymns," 1787; Music: American folk melody, arr. Crofton Coleman, 2024; CCLI Song #107816)

Prayer of Confession

Response in Song

**Return to You**

(Words: Sarah Speed; Music: Can Olgun; A Sanctified Art, used by permission)

Assurance of Pardon

Hymn of Response

**Precious Lord, Take My Hand\***

(Words & Music: Thomas Andrew Dorsey, 1938; CCLI Song #7205306)

Children's Moment

Passing the Peace of Christ

Scripture

**Matthew 14:22-33**

Sermon

**Rescue Me from Danger**

Rev. Dr. Tassie Green, Interim Senior Pastor

Sharing of Tithes and Offerings

Anthem

**Out of the Deep, from Requiem\***

(Words: Psalm 130; Music: John Rutter, 1985)

Doxology & Offering Prayer

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn

**Cornerstone\***

(Words & Music: Jonas Myrin, Reuben Morgan, Eric Lijero, 2011, original lyrics by Edward Mote, 1834, tune "Solid Rock" by William Batchelder Bradbury, 1863, arr. FPCE Praise Band, 2021; CCLI Song #6158927)

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\*Please stand as you are able