

*McKinley Memorial Presbyterian Church*  
*March 9, 2025, 10:30am 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent*



Zoltan Tasi, Unsplash

GATHERING TONES

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

*enfleshed, from Deut. 26:7-11*

We cry out to the Holy, the God of our ancestors,  
**and She hears our voices; She sees our suffering, toil, and anger.**

She brings us out of oppression  
**with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm,  
with great terror and with signs and wonders.**

God restores us to right relationship with the land  
**that all may be nourished—milk and honey for body and spirit.**

We bring Her gratitude,  
**holding the gifts of the land with open hands, for they belong to Her web of  
reciprocity.**

Thanks be to God, our **deliverer and our nourisher.**

## LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

I invite you to join me in lighting candles of hope for the world.

**May our prayers for peace shine through our lives and into the world.**

*All are invited to come forward and light candles representing prayers for peace.*

VOLUNTARY

Heinlein

*Peter Christian Lutkin (1858 - 1931)*

MOMENT FOR MISSION

One Great Hour of Sharing

*Isaiah 58*

HYMN # 581

Lead Us from Death to Life

*WORLD PEACE PRAYER*

A READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Luke 4:1-13 NRSVue, adapted

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tested by the devil. Jesus ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were done Jesus was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him,

**"It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.' "**

Then the devil led Jesus up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to Jesus, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered him,

**"It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only God.' "**

Then the devil led Jesus to Jerusalem and placed Jesus on the pinnacle of the temple and said, "If you are the Holy One of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, 'God will command the angels concerning you, to protect you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus answered, **"It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' "**

When the devil had finished every test, he departed from Jesus until an opportune time.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Almighty God, your Son fasted forty days in the wilderness,  
and was tempted as we are but did not sin.**

**Give us grace to direct our lives in obedience to your Spirit, that as you know our  
weakness, so we may know your power to save;**

**through Jesus Christ our redeemer, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the  
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

ANTHEM

City Called Heaven

Josephine Poelinitz

I am on a pilgrim of sorrow. I'm left in this whole wide world, this wide world alone.  
I ain't got no hope for tomorrow, I'm trying to make it, make Heaven my home.  
Sometimes I'm tossed and I'm driven, Lord. Sometimes, I just don't know which way to turn.  
I heard of a city called heaven, I'm trying to make it, make heaven my home.

READING FROM THE PSALMS

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 NRSVue, adapted

PSALM RESPONSE # 775

On Eagle's Wings, *refrain*

ON EAGLES WINGS

*Response:* **And God will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,  
make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of God's hand.**

You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,  
will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust."

*Response: And God will....*

Because you have made the Lord your refuge, the Most High your dwelling place,  
no evil shall befall you, no scourge come near your tent.

*Response: And God will....*

For to God's angels was given this command concerning you – to guard you in all your  
ways. On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a  
stone.

*Response: And God will....*

Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name.

When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble;

I will rescue them and honor them. With long life I will satisfy them and show them my  
salvation.

*Response: And God will....*

REFLECTION

Rev. Heidi M. Weatherford

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Goodness is Stronger Than Evil

**Goodness is stronger than evil; love is stronger than hate;  
light is stronger than darkness; life is stronger than death.  
Victory is ours; victory is ours, through God who loves us.  
Victory is ours, victory is ours, through God who loves us.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of God be with you! **May the peace of God be with us all!**

(During the passing of the peace the congregation is invited to gather around  
the communion table for the prayers of the people. Please take your bulletin with you.)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Prayer of Intercession from The PCUSA Book Of Common Worship

*To provide a safe space for those worshipping in person, we will mute online audio as we share our prayers out loud. For those worshipping online, please use this time of silence to join us in prayer.*

A time of silence may be kept after each petition.

**Holy One, who came as a child, we pray for your children everywhere.**

**For those who are hungry, we pray for nourishment. . . .**

**For those who are fleeing, we pray for safety. . . .**

**For those who are ill, we pray for your healing. . . .**

**For those who are grieving, we pray for your peace. . . .**

**For those who are suffering, we pray for your presence. . . .**

**Holy Three, who patterns community, we pray for communities everywhere.**

**For those who are divided, we pray for unity. . . .**

**For those who are isolated, we pray for connection. . . .**

**For those who are afraid, we pray for your courage. . . .**

**For those who are frustrated, we pray for new hope. . . .**

**We pray especially for those in our own community who suffer this day . . .**

**Holy Three-in-One and One-in-Three, bless us in the work of faith, that we might be truly faithful. Nourish us in the labor of love, that we might show your love.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

*(Maori, from the New Zealand Book of Common Prayer)*

**Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,**

**Source of all that is and that shall be,**

**Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven:**

**May the hallowing of your name echo through the universe!**

**May the way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!**

**Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!**

**Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.**

**With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.**

**From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us.**

**For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.**

OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND OUR LIVES

*Let us return to God the offerings of our life and the gifts of the earth. Please pass the offering plate down the pew. When it gets to the end, turn around and give it to the person immediately behind you.*

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

*enfleshed*

Our ethics, our politics, our practices, our words—they do not have to be perfect in order to extend care to one another. We—humbly, practically, learning-as-we-go—gather our offerings for the work of liberation and love in our communities. Come, beloveds, community-over-perfection awaits.

OFFERTORY A Sonnet

*Enrique Granados (1867 - 1916)*

\*Doxology

*LASST UNS ERFREUEN*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise God all creatures here below. O praise God! Alleluia!  
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts! Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost!  
O praise God! Alleluia! O praise God! Alleluia! Allelu—ia!**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*enfleshed*

**Sometimes the sorrow of the world rests heavy and makes it hard to move. Holy Agitator, Divine Tenderness—point is in a direction of care, reveal what is ours to do today, take our gathered offers and bloom your Sturdy Love. Amen.**

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Postlude on "Old 124th

*Karen Beaumont (1965)*

#### **Assisting in Today's Service**

Liturgists, Barbara England

Director of Children's Education, Sara McHenry

Organist, Andrew Woodruff

Pastor, Rev. Heidi Weatherford

Director of Music, Dr. Alonza Lawrence

Worship Techs, Josh Harris and Lara Hebert



COMMENTARY BY THE ARTIST: Cara B. Hochhalter; *Three Temptations*, Luke 4:1-13

"It seemed the perfect place to create this image while on retreat at The Monastery of Christ in the Desert, near Abiquiu, New Mexico. The three temptations are depicted as the devil challenges Jesus to turn stone into bread, to become a ruler over all, and to test the angels' protection. My image of Jesus did not look as anguished as I imagined when faced with temptations that would lure him away from his being in God. With a separate block depicting the Cholla cactus that grow along the paths in New Mexico, I created an overlay print. Someone told me, "Now it looks 'prickly'!" What a good description of those times when we are tempted to use our own power and gifts for selfish reasons."

Permission for NON-COMMERCIAL CONGREGATIONAL PRINTING: Cara B. Hochhalter, *Three Temptations*.

<http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=59025>

## How to Contact Church Staff

All church staff may be contacted through the McKinley website at [www.mckinleycu.org](http://www.mckinleycu.org).

## How to Give

Online contributions and pledges are accepted at [tithely.com/give?c=2133263](https://tithely.com/give?c=2133263) or by mailing your donations to: McKinley Presbyterian Church, 410 E. Daniel St., Champaign, IL 61820



## Coming this Week:

<b>Sun Mar 9</b>	10:20 am	Sunday Worship
	2:00 pm	Session
<b>Mon Mar 10</b>	11:30 am	Staff Meeting
	4:00 pm	Worship Committee
<b>Tues Mar 11</b>	1-3 pm	Garden Hills Food Pantry – packaging
	3:30-6 pm	Garden Hills Food Pantry – distribution
	5:45-6:15pm	Garden Hill Food Pantry – clean up
<b>Wed Mar 12</b>	7:00pm	Choir
<b>Sat March 15</b>	1-2:30 pm	Student Food and Fellowship
<b>Sun Mar 16</b>	10:30 am	Sunday Worship

**Silent Prayers of the People for those viewing Online.** For the indefinite futures, we will be muting in person prayers of the people and offering a written / visual version for those watching online. This will allow those in person to maintain privacy in their prayers. If you have questions or concerns about this change, feel free to reach out to Pastor Heidi.

**More cans needed for McKinley kids!** Thanks to everyone who donated aluminum cans for our Monarch Fair project. Everyone loved making bee garden decorations! We have decided to make more bees for the McKinley gardens as our April service project. Please continue to bring your cleaned out aluminum cans to the back of church throughout the month of March.



## Scholarship Opportunity for Local High School Seniors

Know any high school seniors in need of a scholarship? The McKinley BLM Scholarship is provided in support of the Black Lives Matter movement and our commitment to engage in racial justice.

Three \$500 scholarships will be awarded to one Black or African-American student from each of these three area high schools: Champaign Centennial HS, Champaign Central HS, and Urbana HS.

The deadline to apply is April 15. Speak to Paula Hancock if you are interested

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT  
OF COUNTRY / FIRST  
PEOPLES**  
*(An act towards  
reconciliation)*

For thousands of years, Indigenous people have walked on this land, in their own country. Their relationship with the land is at the center of their lives.

We recognize and acknowledge that we are on the lands of the Peoria, Kaskaskia, Piankashaw, Wea, Miami, Mascoutin, Odawa, Sauk, Mesquaki, Kickapoo, Potawatomi, Ojibwe, and Chickasaw Nations, past, present, emerging.

We are grateful for their stewardship of this land throughout the ages. These lands continue to carry the stories of these Nations and their struggles for survival and identity.

**McKinley Presbyterian Church is a community of faith  
Offering genuine welcome,  
Working for reconciliation, and  
Daring to speak words of abundant hope to a world in pain.**