



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

January 12, 2022

10:30 am  
Sunday Worship  
[Firstprescf.org](http://Firstprescf.org)



**This Weekend's Worship – The Wedding at Cana**

Sermon: A Kin-dom Celebration

Scripture: John 2:1-11

**Prayer of Preparation**

God of glory, God of joy, God of ordinary wonders, come and usher us toward life. Keep us from losing touch with the miracles all around us: The way love persists. The way the earth holds us. The way it's never too late for new beginnings. Make a way for us, back to the simple truths that sustain. Amen.



**Important Information Regarding COVID-19 Protocol for Worship**

Like you, Session is watching the increased spread of the COVID-19 Omicron variant with equal measures of weariness and caution. Caring for our community is our highest priority. Out of concern related to this latest spike of COVID in Black Hawk County, Session has made some adjustments to our current protocol.

We considered information shared from Presbytery regarding the Covid Omicron variant and guidelines for church leaders for decision making from a presentation given by Lisa Allgood, current Presbyterian of Cincinnati Presbytery and retired Research Immunologist.

To watch a recording of the presentation, click here: [Presbytery COVID Zoom](#).

What we have learned over the last two years is that we must be flexible and fight each variant according to its behavior. What we know about Omicron is that it is highly infectious, spreads quickly and people who are immunized with all three doses of vaccine get milder symptoms or if infected, have no symptoms and can still spread the disease. From Omicron's behavior in other countries, it is expected that it will continue to be active for the foreseeable future.

**Beginning immediately, and until further notice, worship services will continue to be held both in-person and online with the following additions to our current protocol:**

- Seating in pews will be every other pew in all sections of the sanctuary;
- The Praise band will not sing (may play instruments);
- Soloists shall sing with masks on from a greater distance to the congregation;
- Congregational singing will be on hold;
- Renewed attention to physical distancing in Narthex and throughout the building;
- In regard to children's programming: Sunday SHINE will continue with current protocol.

*Continued on page 2 >>>>*

**Church Birthdays**

Jan. 12-Mary McCalley, 15  
-Sue Gerken, 19-Chad Lee, 20-Margaret Clark, 22-Kenadie Courbat

**For your prayers...  
Mel Reimer**

**Sympathy to...**  
Kim Hanna on the death of her grandmother on January 2.

**Notice...**

**Office Closed**, January 17 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

**Annual Reports** are due tomorrow Thursday, January 13.

**ANNUAL MEETING** of the Congregation - Sunday, January 30:

- 9:30 am - Forum on the Annual Reports in the dining room
- 10:30 am - Worship and Annual Meeting in the sanctuary

**Greeter Sign Up:**

[Sign Up Genius: Greeters](#)

**Worship Leader Sign Up:**

[Sign Up Genius: Worship Leaders](#)

### ***Covid Protocol Continued....***

Sunday SHINE and nursery children age two and older wearing masks as well as all teachers and child-care workers.

We all cherish the ability to gather together. Taking these simple steps will help us continue to do so safely. The elders serving on session regularly re-evaluate the safety of church activities with county infection rates, congregational vaccination rates, and hospitalization rates in mind. We appreciate your understanding and compliance when protocol adjustments need to be made.

Yours faithfully,

**The Session of First Presbyterian Church**

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### **HIRING NOW – Begins immediately**

#### ***Children, Youth and Families (CYF) Ministry Leader***

#### ***16 hours a week scheduled over 41 weeks***

*NOTE: This position is a rewarding and unique opportunity to share in the ministry of our church. If you or someone you know would be a good fit for this position, please contact the church office for more information. We encourage you to share this notice with others from the surrounding community and help us actively seek to fill this opening. Advertising materials suitable for posting are available upon request from the church office.*

We are pleased to announce the opening of the staff position for a CYF Ministry Leader. The CYF Ministry Leader provides the leadership and support that engages our children, youth and their families in a sound biblically based faith programming in a safe welcoming environment.

We are seeking an individual who has the ability to excite and inspire children and youth. Someone with a solid foundation of progressive Christian values and beliefs, and education or experience in childhood education with experience in Christian education for children and youth preferred.

This person will be working with our CYF team and church member volunteers to teach children's programming on Sunday mornings September through May, provide leadership in the summer for Bible School activities, and for other seasonal events throughout the year. Additional activities may require evening or occasional week-end time.

The position allows flexible hours for planning including some regular office time and virtual meetings (Zoom), along with an ability to work from home.

Anyone interested in applying for this position, please contact the church office at 319-277-3930 or email the church office for a more detailed description of the position, qualifications and an application form.

We welcome applications from all qualified individuals on an equal opportunity basis as defined in the Equal Opportunity and Accommodations policy of Session (available on request).

### Thanks for serving last week:

**Worship Leader:** Margaret Clark

**Videographer:** Neal Leeper

**Computer Operator:** Carol Dotseth

**Memorial Service Host:** Jane Seeley

**Projector Updates:** Neal Leeper, Gary Clark

**Office Substitute:** Nancy Hoppe

Thanks to everyone who stayed after worship to help take down Christmas decorations.

### Thank You

I would like to thank the Esther Circle for the poinsettia plant, cards and stamps. Also for everyone sending me a card or note during the holidays. I miss you all.

I love to hear from you.

Love you - Vera Brunskill

**2021 Financial Giving Statements are in the narthex. Please pick yours up and save us postage!**

### Found items

In the narthex are a pair of ladies black gloves and a denim tote bag.

### This week's schedule (Zoom and on-site)

#### Wednesday, January 12

10:00 am Working for Justice, Zoom

6:30 pm Worship Team, Zoom

#### Thursday, January 13

3:00 pm ANNUAL REPORTS DUE

6:30pm Deacons Meeting, Zoom

#### Saturday, January 15

9:30 am Sarah Circle, dining room

#### Sunday, January 16

10:30 am Sunday Worship, sanctuary  
-SHINE breakout sessions

#### Monday, January 17

— Office Closed, ML King Jr. Day

#### Wednesday, January 19

10:00 am Working for Justice, Zoom

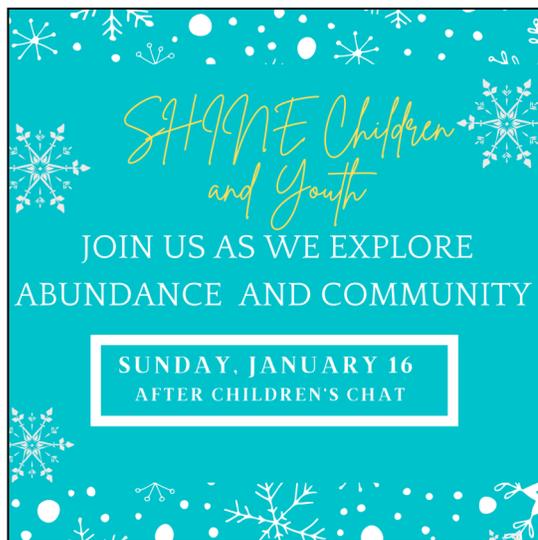
#### Thursday, January 20

5:30 pm Community Ministries, Zoom

### Save the Date for the **ANNUAL MEETING**— January 30.

Our annual meeting will be January 30 during worship. We will be voting on our budget, the pastor's terms of call, and new officers. Copies of the annual report will be made available one week before the meeting.

There will be a **forum to discuss the annual report at 9:30 am** prior to the service that day.



### Working for Justice: Breaking Bias

**Our book discussion for January continues through the 26!**

*To join us for the February session....*

### Reading and Discussion for February 2022

*DEAR CHURCH: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the U.S. by Lenny Duncan*

Part manifesto, part confession, and all love letter, *Dear Church* offers a bold new vision for the future of Duncan's denomination and the broader mainline Christian community of faith. *Dear Church* rejects the narrative of church decline and calls everyone--leaders and laity alike--to the front lines of the church's renewal through racial equality and justice.

### Discussion Schedule:

Discussions are Wednesday mornings at 10 AM on Zoom.

February 2: Introduction and Chapters 1, 2, 3

February 9: Chapters 4 & 5

February 16: Chapters 6, 7, 8

February 23: Chapters 9, 10, 11

Purchase your book, mark your calendars, start your reading, and plan to join us!! All are welcome!

\*\*Contact us to participate.

