



**STATED MEETING of the Presbytery of Great Rivers**  
**COMPLETE DOCKET**  
 April 20, 2024

The Mission of the Presbytery:  
*"We are called to share Christ's love  
 by partnering in service, uniting in worship, and risking in ministry"*

Please pre-register at <http://www.greatriverspby.org/assembly.html>

**ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME**

- 9:00 Donuts, coffee, juice in Fellowship Hall
- 9:30 Sign-in to Zoom/Meeting site opens
- 10:00 Call to Order with Prayer Moderator MWS F. Krummel
- 10:05 Acknowledging Native American Heritage of Gathering Sites MWS Elissa Bailey
- 10:10 Welcome from Host Church MWS Katie Styr
- 10:15 Welcome and Instructions from Moderator Moderator MWS F. Krummel
- 10:20 Adoption of the Docket

**UNITING IN WORSHIP**

- 10:25 Worship Service Vice Moderator TE Carol Sleeth

**Call to Worship**

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
***Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.***  
 Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.  
***Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.***  
 Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.  
***Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.***  
 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

**Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

**Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.**

### Opening Prayer

**Holy God, by your Word and Spirit, come and transform your church to be a living sign of your love for the world—where the poor are filled with good things, the dividing walls are broken down, and the dead are raised to new life; through Jesus Christ we humbly pray. Amen.**

### Opening Hymn

*Jesus Be with Us*  
(A hymn for Matthew 25 churches)

Gambrell

*Jesus, be with us. Help us each to follow the gospel and live as we pray.  
Send us your Spirit and show us your way. Jesus, be with us today.  
Where there is hunger and thirst in the land, scatter the systems of greed.  
Jesus, be with us; make use of our hands. Lift up your people in need.*

*Jesus, be with us. Help us each day to follow the gospel and live as we pray.  
Send us your Spirit and show us your way. Jesus, be with us today.  
Where there are valleys of bones, dry as dust, build up the body of Christ.  
Jesus, be with us, and help us to trust. Teach us a new way of life.*

### Prayer of Confession

A voice crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord." Trusting in God's grace, join your voices in our Prayer of Confession.

***Creating God, and you love moved over the waters of chaos and separated seed from dry land. And yet we cling tightly to rigid boundaries of our own making. You claim us in the waters of baptism and declare us dead to sin and alive in Christ. But too often we deny that call, conforming ourselves to the whims of culture. At Pentecost, you released your wild and transforming Spirit to flow through church and world. But we want to tame that wilderness, channeling your spirit through banks of ordered safety. Transform us, we pray, soften the unyielding edges of our hearts. Loosen our grip on "the way it has always been" and prepare us for "the joy of the way it still can be," through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen***

### Assurance of Pardon

God's strength is sufficient for us. God's power is made perfect in our weakness. Believe the good news of the gospel revealed. In Christ, we are forgiven. **Amen.**

### Scripture

Isaiah 43:16-21 (CEB)

### Sermon

*Changing the Conversation*

### Sacrament of Communion

MWS Katie Styrts and MWS Ann Schwartz

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

May God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**Here are our hearts, open to God's presence.**

Let us give thanks to the God who created us all.

**Our hearts sing your praises, Holy God.**

Almighty God, you created order out of chaos and set time in its path. . . . We praise you, joining our voices with believers in every time in place as we sing:

*Holy, Holy, Holy (#559 in Glory to God)*

Gracious God, over the ages you have invited us to share in your love for the world, but we let sin hold us back. . . . We praise you for this amazing gift. Great is the mystery of faith:

*Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen (#560 in Glory to God)*

Holy God, pour out your Holy Spirit on those gathered here . . . Give us the strength to care for your children in this world.

We ask these things in your son's name. . . . May we love like Christ loves us, with humble sacrifice. Amen.

*Amen (#561 in Glory to God)*

Words of Institution

Sharing the Meal

Hymn

*Jesus Be with Us*

**PARTNERING IN MISSION, RISKING IN MINISTRY**

11:00 Omnibus Motion

Enter Financial Reports (pages x-x), Commissioned Pastor Coordinator Report (page x), and all other written reports into the permanent minutes.

11:05 Administration Team (pages x-x)

MWS Jonathan Warren

11:20 Committee on Ministry (pages x-x)

MWS Laura Reason

11:25 Lead Presbyter

MWS Ann Schwartz

11:35 Moderator (page x)

MWS F. Krummel

11:40 Living Out Matthew 25 in PGR

MWS Debra Avery

11:55 Meal Instructions & Lunch

MWS Katie Styr

12:40	Returning Prayer	Moderator MWS F. Krummel
12:45	Board of Pensions	MWS Ann Schwartz
1:00	Visioning Team	MWS C. Roland
1:10	Personnel Committee (pages x-x)	MWS Joyce Chamberlin
1:20	Nominating Committee (pages x-x)	MWS Cheyanna Losey & RE Gary Terpstra
1:25	Governance Task Force (page x)	Moderator MWS F. Krummel
1:30	Sharing Good News	
1:40	Announcements	
1:45	Closing Hymn	<i>I Sing a Song of the Saints of God (#730 Glory to God)</i>
1:50	Adjournment and Closing Prayer	

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Upcoming Assemblies:

- Saturday, August 24 – Second Presbyterian, Bloomington, in-person with Zoom option
- Saturday, November 9 – United Presbyterian, Peoria, in-person with Zoom option