

SERMON OUTLINE Title: A Happy Meal

Scripture Focus: 1 Corinthians 10:16–17,
1 Corinthians 11:23–28

I. Introduction: The Weight of the Table

- Common perceptions of communion: Peace, tradition, routine, or abstract theolgy
- The surprising biblical warning: The Lord’s Supper carries holy weight and divine presence
- Paul’s warning in 1 Corinthians 11: Casual or reckless participation brings judgment, not blessing.

II. Point 1: The Holy Warning—Examine Yourself

- 1 Corinthians 11:27: Eating or drinking in an "unworthy manner."
- What "unworthy" does not mean: Being sinless or having your life completely cleaned up first.
- What "unworthy" does mean: Approaching the table carelessly, harboring unrepentant sin, or treating Christ’s sacrifice as cheap.
- The Wedding Ring Illustration:
 - A ring is a sign and seal of a covenant relationship.
 - Discarding or misusing the sign betrays the covenant behind it.
 - Treating the sacrament lightly treats Christ's sacrifice lightly.

III. Point 2: The Vertical Reality—Look Up Before You Eat

- 1 Corinthians 11:28: Self-examination as the essential step.
- Three vital self-check questions:
 1. Repentance: Am I holding onto secret sin, or am I surrendering it?
 2. Focus: Am I engaged in faith, or just going through the motions?
 3. Reliance: Am I trusting in Christ’s righteousness or my own?

IV. Conclusion & Prayer

- The Lord’s Supper is designed to bring true joy, spiritual nourishment, and church unity.
- When approached with open, repentant hands, the dangerous table becomes our ultimate place of safety and grace.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ROCHELLE

October 4, 2026

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1100 CALVIN ROAD // ROCHELLE, IL 61068

PHONE: 815-562-7053 WEB: PLACEFORGRACE.COM

Welcome and Announcements - Nan Good

Time of Preparation for Worship

Call to Worship - Nan Good

Here in this house of worship today, we invite God to be fully present everywhere we look. May we be attentive to His Word and to His Holy Spirit, alert to one each other, to the oldest and youngest among us. May we leave here today awake to the needs of our world. Let us now worship God!

Song: Nothing But the Blood of Jesus

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon - Mark

Holy and Loving God, what a blessing and privilege we share here in this sacred space and among this loving community. If we have become jealous of your blessing on our brother or sister, forgive us. May we find forgiveness at your table. Forgive us for our reluctance to open our doors, and open our hearts to others. May we find forgiveness at your table. We repent of our hesitation to witness to those we have considered strangers. May we find forgiveness at your table. Help us to even reach out to our enemies, and not fear them, remembering they just might become our friends. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Do not be afraid. For with God there is great mercy to forgive and there is great power to transform. Through the peace and reconciliation Christ brings us, we are forgiven. Amen.

Song: How Deep the Father’s Love for Us

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 10:16–17, 1 Corinthians 11:23–28 - Chuck Roberts

Sermon: A Happy Meal

Song of Preparation: Give Thanks

The Lord’s Supper

The Apostles’ Creed

Offering and Doxology

Song: You are Holy (Prince of Peace)

Blessing/Benediction

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen

On this coming Saturday, October 10th we are having an 80th Birthday Open House for Sue Sevedge at the church. Please come if you're able!
11:00am-2:00pm. Lunch and treats will be provided.

Jeff & Sara Slattengren

Fall Fellowship Hour Breakfast Potluck

Fellowship Commission will be hosting a Fall Continental Breakfast Potluck on October 4th during Fellowship Hour. We encourage you to bring your favorite fall themed treats (apple, caramel, pumpkin, etc.) to share as we FALL more in love with Jesus!

Adult Ed for October
Through the Eyes of the Angels

This study examines the life of Jesus from a unique perspective — through the eyes of the angels. Beginning with the anticipation and arrival of the Messiah and progressing through the trials that Jesus faced, these heavenly warriors fulfilled specific duties on assignment from God. Although they stood in silent obedience as they observed the earthly defeat of Jesus on the cross, they later proclaimed His resurrection and ascension with great joy in victory! Someday, they will return with Him to establish His Kingdom on earth.

- Week 1: In Anticipation
- Week 2: In Trials
- Week 3: In (Earthly) Defeat
- Week 4: In Victory

Please join us in the adult ed classroom after service!
Led by Lydia Roberts

book *review*

Yes, written in 2012, I pulled another oldie but goodie off the shelf. The Reunion, a novel by Dan Walsh. Dan Walsh is an award-winning author, a member of American Christian Fiction Writers, and served as a pastor for 25 years. I read the Author's note at the end of the book; “I wrote this book as a tribute to all the military veterans of this country.... But especially wanted this book to honor Vietnam vets.”

The main character is a man who has lost love, dignity, and chances. A man who had received the highest honor, the president's Congressional Medal of Honor and now, years later lives in a storage room in a trailer park where he works as a handyman.

“But God is a master at finding and redeeming the lost things of life. Unbeknownst to Aaron, someone is searching for him.” “Through tense scenes of war and tender moments of romance, The Reunion will make you believe that everyone can get a second chance at life and love.”

It isn't just about this man. There are other characters in this book who are given second chances: his long lost children, those veterans he saved during the war, a newspaper reporter, and others. A wonderful read and the last chapter had me near tears. I highly recommend!

Judy Schermerhorn of the Library
Committee

Please join us in prayer. Every Sunday at 8:30 in the prayer room a group meets to lift our church in prayer as we go through this time of transition. We are asking God for His will, His way and His almighty favor. Stop in to hold our church in prayer.

Jeremiah 29:12 You will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you.



Sunday school for all junior and senior high school students will begin on Sunday, October 11th with Pastor Mark,

We'll meet downstairs in the youth group room from approx. 10:15 - 10:45am.

On October 10th we are having an 80th Birthday Open House for Sue Sevedge at the church. Please come if you're able! 11:00am-2:00pm. Lunch and treats will be provided.

Jeff & Sara Slattengren



Choir will meet on WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7th at 6:00 in the choir room. Callie Ackland is going to lead the choir this fall!

If you are interested in joining, please reach out to Callie or just show up on Oct. 7th!

CHURCH
calendar

SUNDAY, October 4

9:00 a.m. Worship, Communion
10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour Potluck,
Adult Ed
6:30 p.m. High School Youth Group
6:00 p.m. Chunko Small Group
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

MONDAY, October 5

10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study
6:30 p.m. Middle School Youth Group

TUESDAY, October 6

7:00 p.m. Session

WEDNESDAY, October 7

11:00 a.m. Prayer Meeting
6:00 a.m. Choir
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

THURSDAY, October 8

7:00 a.m. Kiwanis
4:00 p.m. 2-5th Grade Youth Group

SATURDAY, October 10

11:00 a.m. Sevedge Party
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

SUNDAY, October 11

9:00 a.m. Worship
10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour, Adult Ed,
Sunday School
6:30 p.m. High School Youth Group
6:00 p.m. Chunko Small Group
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

Youth Groups

Our youth groups are up and running for
the fall semester!

2nd-5th graders are averaging 25 kids
each week, with many new kids this fall!
We had a scavenger hunt the first week
with the theme of Armor of God - and this
past week we talked about the Prodigal
Son and how we all have been both the
younger and older brother at times.

Our Middle Schoolers are being led by a
team of Mike Koolidge, Emma Turner,
Dylan Etes, Xav & Jeana Valdivieso and
Sara Slattengren. We average about 24
kids for those weekly meetings. The
teaching topic for September was "Faith in
our Modern Culture" We've talked about
things like- how to keep your faith in your
sporting/extra curricular activities and
how to share your faith at school.

Our high school group is still finding its
rhythm, but we keep praying that the
Lord will continue to lead and guide that
group.

We have printed off a few copies of
Pastor John Hamilton's book of
prayers. If you would like a copy, we
have them in the office for \$20 (just
the printing cost)

**NURSING HOME/ASSISTED LIVING
RESIDENTS**

Please keep our nursing home and rehab
residents in your prayers. We list them here
with their addresses - they would love to get
a note or card!!

**Franklin Grove Healthcare,
502 N. State Street, Franklin Grove, IL 61031**

Teddie Pohl
Mildred Danekas
Gary Williams

**Hawthorne Inn
2201 Flagg Road, Rochelle, IL 61068**

Shirley Villa
Judy (Nelson) Messer
David Guest

**Liberty Village Manor Court
2203 E Flagg Road, Rochelle, IL 61068**

Codelle Leonard
Nancy Detig
Jan Hann
Clyda Lamb
Doyle Curtis
Arlyn VanDyke

**Flagler Heath and Rehab Center
300 Dr. Carter Blvd.**

Burnnell, FL 32110
Pearl Fromm

**Brighton Gardens of St. Charles
600 Dunham Road Room 326
St. Charles, IL 60174**

Bill Frederick

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

Feeding kids. Feeding spirits. Empowering communities.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21
in Aurora, IL

- Leave the church at 3:45pm
- Our shift is 5:00-6:30pm
- Plan to return between 9-10pm
- We will go to Portillos for dinner afterwards, with everyone being on their own ticket.

{if you can drive a carload of kids,
please let Sara or Mark know}

EVERYONE going needs
to sign up on their site



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1100 Calvin Road
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815-562-7053

Interim Pastor - Mark Hughey
Pastoral Care - Xav Valdivieso
Office Coordinator/DCE - Sara Slattengren
Secretary/Receptionist - Midge Berg
Financial Secretary - Karen Hauck

Church Web Site: www.placeforgrace.com

E-Mail Addresses:

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Sara Slattengren: sara@placeforgrace.com
Karen Hauck: karen@placeforgrace.com
Midge Berg: midge@placeforgrace.com
Church Office: info@placeforgrace.com

Office Hours: M-Th 9a-4p
Fri 9a-12Noon