

July 19, 2020
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR MEDITATION

Genesis 28:10-19a

Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24

Romans 8:12-25

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

“Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go,
and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I promised you.”
Genesis 28:15

The Church Gathers To...

Welcome and Announcements

Rev Mark Galbraith

Preparation for Worship

Worshippers are invited to meditate silently during the following prelude.

Prelude

Prelude in C Major, BWV 545

J. S. Bach

Praise Almighty God

Call to Worship

Leader: Surely, God is in this place,
People: **and calls us to worship in spirit and in truth.**
Leader: Surely, the Lord is in this place
People: **receiving our songs and praise.**
All: **Surely, God is in this place! Let us praise the Lord!**



1. I sing the might - y power of God That made_ the moun-tains rise;
2. I sing the good-ness of the Lord That filled_ the earth with food;
3. There's not a plant or flower be - low But makes Thy glo - ries known;



That spread the flow - ing seas a - broad And built the loft - y skies.
God formed the crea-tures with a word And then pro-nounced them good.
And clouds a - rise, and tem-pests blow, By or - der from Thy throne;



I sing the wis-dom that or - dained The_ sun to rule the day;
Lord, how Thy won-ders are dis-played, Wher - e'er I turn my eyes;
While all that bor-rows life from Thee Is_ ev - er in Thy care,



The moon shines full at God's com-mand, And all the stars o - bey.
If I sur - vey the ground I tread, Or gaze up - on the skies!
And ev - ery - where that we can be, Thou, God, art pres-ent there.

Confess to a Forgiving Creator

Call to Confession - Sing “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” one time.



Prayer of Confession

Leader: Creating and transforming God,

People: you call us to spread the joy of your kingdom and live as agents of your renewal in the world. We confess that we are content to locate your kingdom in some other place, some other time, some other reality. We have been unwilling to welcome your ever-present Spirit, to strive for your justice in this world, or to recognize the risen Christ in the face of others. Forgive us. Open our hearts, our minds, and our lives to see the truth right in front of us. Free us from our foolishness, and teach us to live by your wisdom, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Following the Prayer of Confession, please sing “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” one time.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Surely, God is here, reconciling us through the gift of grace.

People: Surely, Christ is here, bringing the Good News of our salvation.

Leader: Surely, the Spirit is here, leading us to share this gift with others.

All: Thanks be to God, God is always with us.

Listen for God's Word

Scripture Readings

Genesis 28:10-19a

The Old Testament page 25

Matthew 13:31-33

The New Testament page 14

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Brian Ellison, Executive Director of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians

Respond to God's Word

Hymn

I Will Never Leave You Orphaned

STUTTGART



1. "I will ne - ver leave you or - phaned," Je - sus, you once told your own.
2. Thank you for the Ho - ly Spir - it who is pre - sent e - very day,
3. In a - fflic - tion, we find com - fort through our Friend and Help and Guide.
4. Then, in com - fort, we find chall - enge As you call your church to be
5. Christ, in com - fort and in chal - lenge, May the church hear what you say"



When we're ov - er whelmed and fright - ened, show us that we're not a - lone.
gi - ving love that we might share it, gi - ving us the words to say.
When we're sad and can - not bear it, you are with us by our side.
mer - cy - bear - ers, jus - tice - seek - ers in your new com - mun - i - ty.
"I will ne - ver leave you or - phaned." May we trust your word to - day.

Affirmation of Faith

Leader: God has made us God's people through our baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope we confess our faith:

People: We believe in God: omnipresent, in every time, and in every place, generating and sustaining all life, nurturing relationship with Creation. We believe in Jesus, the Christ, who lived and loved, taught and died; the One who conquered death and who surprises us with grace, when we least expect or deserve it. We believe in the Holy Spirit, who journeys with us and makes our faith possible, in every situation and every circumstance. We believe that every place we pause to recognize the mystery of our Triune God, is a sacred place, from sanctuaries in Iowa to sunrises over the Atlantic Ocean and sunsets over the Pacific. Surely, God is with us in every time and in every place, and we are grateful.

Prayers of the People

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

The Lord's Prayer - (Traditional) Page 16 in the hymnal.

Offering Our Gifts and Lives to God

In the gift of money, we offer something of our work and selves to God.

To donate, please visit the church website, fpcdavenport.org, and click on "Donate Now," use the link: <https://bit.ly/2V8nEgm>, or mail your check in to the church office

Presentation of Our Gifts and Lives to God

Please sing the Doxology - Hymn Tune: Old Hundredth, 592 in the hymnal.

Prayer of Dedication

Leader : Together we pray:

People: Generous God, you have provided for us in ways we cannot even imagine. As we return to you a portion of your many gifts, we give you thanks and praise. Bless these offerings, and multiply them into blessings for your people in this place and around the world. In the name of Jesus the Christ, who offered his very life, we pray. Amen.

Go To Serve With God's Blessing

Charge and Blessing

Postlude

Now the Flowers Are Blooming

Naji Hakim

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Prayers are Welcome for: Mary Katherine and family of Ben (*friends of Don Wood*); Carlen Brinser; Nancy Buening (*mother of Rebecca Buening-Ferris*); Nancy Hagen (*mother of Colleen Dueñas*); family of Nancy Hoffman; Don Hultgren (*hospice*); Jolene Keeney; Betty Nelson (*mother of Tim Nelson*); Don Pedersen and family (*death of wife and mother, Marsha*); Phil Schwister; Wilton Retirement Community; families and victims of abuse, addiction, violence, loss, suicide, COVID-19, and all recent natural disasters.

From Mark Jones, Clerk of the Congregation

Thank you for attending the video conference Annual Meeting and submitting your ballots on those items needing congregational approval. The results are reported below for all ballots received on or before Wednesday, June 7.

- Motion to approve minutes for the 2019 Annual Meeting and the September 22, 2019 Specially Called Meeting: **Yes: 107 / No: 2**
- Motion to approve the 2020 Corporate Officers: **Yes: 105 / No: 4**
- Motion to receive the 2019 Financial Report and the 2020 Budget as approved by Session: **Yes: 108 / No: 1**
- Motion to approval changes is the Terms of Call for Pastor Katie Styrt: **Yes: 105 / No: 4**

Special Congregational Meeting: "The Way Forward" - Sunday, July 26, 2020, 10:30 AM

The Session of FPC-D has scheduled a special congregational meeting, **Sunday July 26, at 10:30 AM**, following the online worship service. Entitled "*The Way Forward*", the sole purpose of this meeting is informational. Representatives of the Presbytery of East Iowa will present information on next steps in the transition and reconciliation process. There will be no official business transacted during this meeting.

You can join the meeting at <https://zoom.us/j/93354201472?pwd=QWxBZHZjTFovZzdMOE85UGZuT3FZUT09> on your computer, or by dialing 312-626-6799 and entering the meeting ID (933 5420 1472) and password (807515). For tech support during the meeting, please contact Matt Bishop at bishop@fpcdavenport.org.

Other Ways to Experience Worship

We know that not everybody is comfortable with sharing worship services digitally. If you would prefer to receive a DVD of Sunday worship, please contact the church office with your information. If you would prefer a written transcript instead, let the church office know. We want everybody to be able to praise God during this strange time!

Cherubs and Musikgarten Have Gone Virtual! – Sundays, 8:45-9:30 AM

We will continue our Zoom classes until we can get back to seeing each other in person. We'll meet for Cherubs at 8:45 AM on Sunday mornings and continue right into Musikgarten from 9:00-9:30 AM. You can stay on for both classes or choose the one you want to attend. If you are reading this and have young children who would like to join us but are not on my email list, reach out to me and I will add you so I can send you the link each week. It's probably going to be noisy, we'll probably have a glitch here and there and it will undoubtedly be a little chaotic but that's ok! We all need to see each other and talk and laugh with each other. For more info, contact Kathy Middleton, kathrynbl5@gmail.com.

Worship Watch Party - Sundays, 9:30 AM

Our worship services are pre-recorded so that they can have closed captions and higher video quality. However, we miss praying with you all at the same time! If you do too, join us on Facebook every Sunday at 9:30 AM. Go to our church Facebook page and join our worship video watch party - you'll be able to chat with other people and know that we're worshipping together. Be with you then!

Virtual Coffee Hour - Sundays, immediately following Worship Watch Party

Join fellowship immediately following the Worship Watch Party by clicking on the ACE link below!

ACE Lecture Series: *Under-Representation in Black Art* – Sunday, July 19, 10:45 AM

Director of Music Matt Bishop will continue his lecture series over Zoom focusing on Black musicians, artists, and writers and the obstacles they face as a result of their skin color. The series will examine historical and living figures, and why representation in Black art has been and continues to be problematic.

Today: Under-Representation in Black Visual Art

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89703356963?pwd=d1pPUHkrQW1PQWJrNXpvWmowZSt4QT09>

Meeting ID: 897 0335 6963

Password: Wiley

Dial-in number: +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Adult Christian Education in August – Sundays, August 2, 16, 23, 30 10:45 AM

Racial justice – it is a daily part of the evening news and in every newspaper. Do you feel overwhelmed? How should you respond? This may be a place you can start to learn more. You are invited to participate in the **21-Day Racial Justice Challenge** from August 2-August 30. This challenge will be the basis for discussion when we gather by video conference at 10:45AM on Sundays August 2, 16, 23 and 30. This version of the 21-day challenge comes from the PC-USA Matthew 25 church movement, of which FPC is a participant. It is an incomplete study, but it is a start. Are you up to the challenge?

Yes, you will have homework! You will receive resources to study each day. Some may take 30-60 minutes, others as little as five minutes.

In 2016, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) approved a church wide anti-racism policy called “Facing Racism: A Vision of the Intercultural Community.” The policy states:

Racism is a lie about our fellow human beings, for it says that some are less than others. It is also a lie about God, for it falsely claims that God favors parts of creation over the entirety of creation. Because of our biblical understanding of who God is and what God intends for humanity, the PC(USA) must stand against, speak against and work against racism. Anti-racist effort is not optional for Christians. It is an essential aspect of Christian discipleship, without which we fail to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ.”

This policy will be the basis for our opening discussion on August 2, 2020. You can find a link to the policy on our e-news. You are encouraged to read the policy prior to our first gathering. You are not required to pre-register to attend our Sunday morning discussions, but it would be helpful if you indicated your intention to participate **by clicking this link to RSVP:** <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUkf-ivrzMqHdSy9GSdaXqVT0NeUC6eLM-9>. You can click on the same link to enter the Zoom meeting, or call and enter the Meeting ID (919 8171 8070) and password (ACE).

Virtual Synod School 2020 – Monday, July 27 – Thursday, July 30

Synod School has moved online! From July 27-30, there will be Zoom classes on topics from the Gospel of Mark to white privilege to gardening. Each day will also include evening worship, family activities, and speakers sharing good news for the church today. This event is a lot more fun in person, but will be a quick, easy, and free way to brighten up your summer. To learn more and register, go to <https://engagingleaders.org/virtual-synod-school-2020/>.

Online Harpsichord Recital - Tuesday, July 21, 12:00 PM

Matt Bishop will offer a free online harpsichord recital on Facebook on Tuesday, July 21 at noon. This will be a 30-minute recital featuring works by Georg Philipp Telemann and Domenico Scarlatti on the church's Lindholm harpsichord. The video will be available on the church's Facebook page. Enjoy some Baroque music with your lunch!

Midweek Prayer – Wednesdays, 12:00 PM

Join us on Facebook live for a brief time of prayer and scripture! Go to the church's Facebook page at noon on Wednesdays for community prayer. Post your prayer requests in chat during our time together, or watch the video devotional anytime. If you don't have a Facebook account, you can still watch these devotional videos at any time by going to <https://www.facebook.com/fpcdavenport/live>.

Bible Basics 201 – Wednesdays, 6:15 PM

As a brief departure from our regular programming, we'll do a four-week study on Rev. Dr. King's "Letter from a Birmingham Jail." This letter is being considered as an addition to the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s Book of Confessions. Everyone is welcome to join this study, not just Bible Basics regulars! Join us on Zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/96343292274?pwd=RmttNUc2aXcrSENjeTJyRFB6eER4dz09>, or call 312-626-6799 and enter Meeting ID: 963 4329 2274 and Password: 597055. We'll meet on Wednesdays from 6:15-7:15 PM.

Our schedule:

July 22 - Looking Forward - Pages 12:11-14 and 1 John 1

Stump the Organist! – Fridays, 12:00 PM

Join us Friday at noon on Facebook Live for Stump the Organist! FPC Principal Organist Alex Gilson will take your requests for sacred hymns and work his improvisatory magic. Tune in from the comfort of your home to test the knowledge and creative prowess of your organist.

The Upper Room Online Devotional

During COVID-19, *The Upper Room* is now available online to print or read from the safety of your home. The July and August devotionals are available in the weekly e-news.

Need a Mask?

Need a mask? The CDC recommends wearing a cloth mask for times when it is difficult to keep a six foot distance, such as grocery shopping. If you need a mask, please contact Pastor Katie.