

August 30, 2020
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR MEDITATION

Exodus 3:1-15
Romans 12:9-21

Psalm 105:23-26, 45c
Matthew 16:21-28

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.
Mark 10:45

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 on "When Morning Gilds the Sky"

Peter C. Lutkin

Praise Almighty God

Call to Worship

One: Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here.

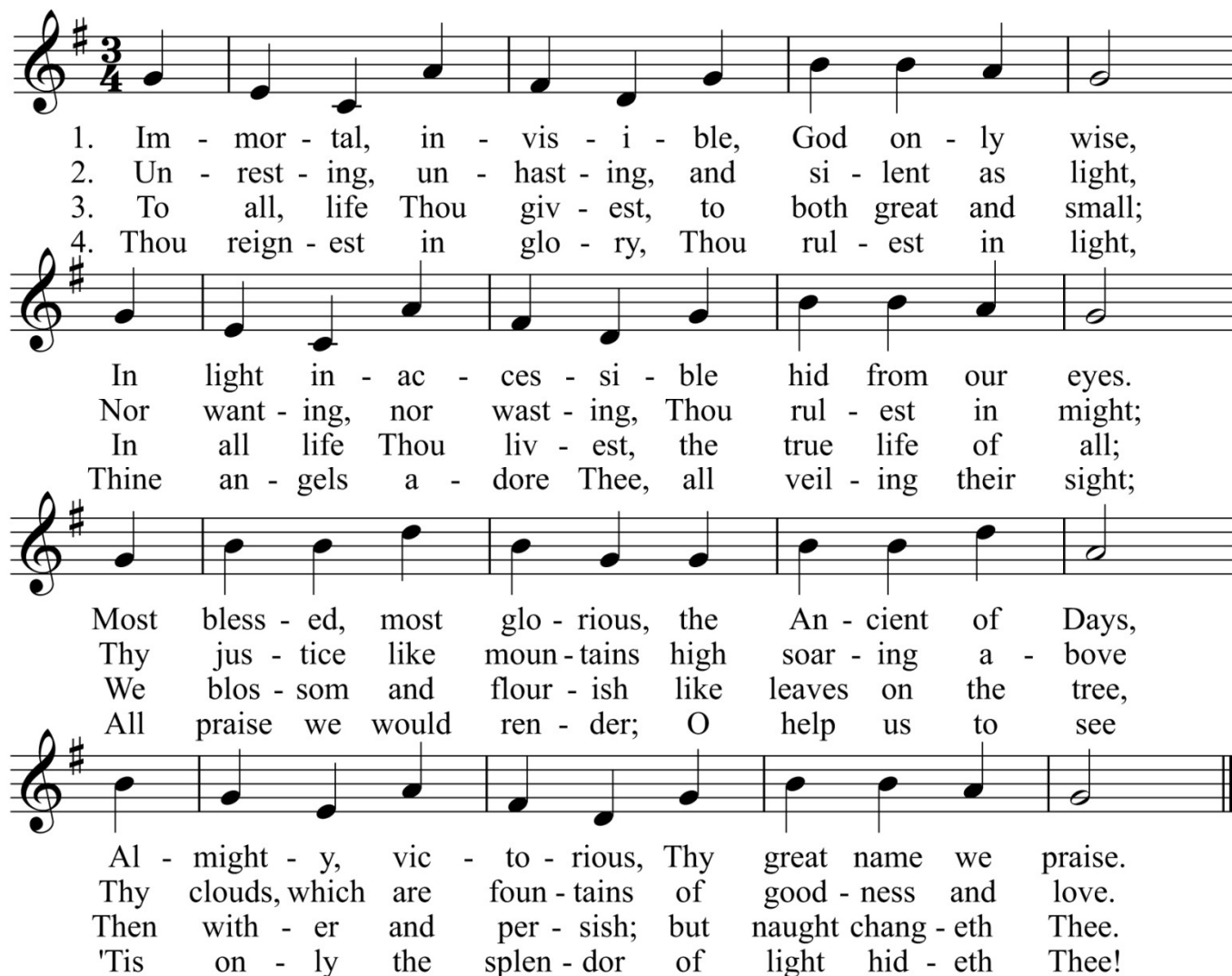
All: We come before God with praise and thanksgiving, we stand on holy ground.

One: Be still, for the presence of the Lord is shining all around.

All: Holy fire, splendor, radiance are here, lighting our way and setting us on fire with love as we stand on holy ground.

One: Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.

All: God comes to cleanse and heal, to fill us with grace overflowing, as we stand on holy ground.



1. Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2. Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3. To all, life Thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4. Thou reign - est in glo - ry, Thou rul - est in light,
 In light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes.
 Nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, Thou rul - est in might;
 In all life Thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 Thine an - gels a - dore Thee, all veil - ing their sight;
 Most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 Thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see
 Al - might - y, vic - to - rious, Thy great name we praise.
 Thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 Then with - er and per - sish; but naught chang - eth Thee.
 'Tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth Thee!

Children's Message

Sarah Greim

Confess to a Forgiving Creator

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



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing. Lord, send your Spir-it in this place.
 Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing. Send us love; send us power; send us grace.

Prayer of Confession -

L: Together, we pray:

C: Speaking God, your name echoes through creation, bringing all things into being. We confess that we often act as if we can get along without you, and insist on getting our own way. We confess that we think of ourselves more highly than we ought, and also that we consider ourselves unworthy of your call—mostly so we can get out of following where you lead. When we are hard hearted and selfish, forgive us, and transform us into your likeness. When we make excuses and ignore you, forgive us and keep calling, Lord. Give us courage to answer faithfully.

~silence~

L: Gracious God,

C: speak your healing word into our lives again, that we may turn and follow you. Amen.

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

Assurance of Pardon

L: Who has the right to judge us? Only Christ. Yet Christ died for us, Christ was raised for us, Christ reigns in power over us – Christ even prays for us!

C: This is the love which binds us to God forever. There is nothing in this world, or beyond, which will keep us from being God’s children. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Listen for God’s Word

Scripture Reading

Mark 10:35-45

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“The Purpose-Driven Church: Service”

Rev. Mark Galbraith

Respond to God's Word

Hymn

Lord Speak to Me That I May Speak

CANONBURY



1. Lord, speak to me, that___ I may___ speak In
2. O lead me, Lord, that___ I may___ lead The
3. O teach me, Lord, that___ I may___ teach The
4. O fill me with Thy___ full - ness,___ Lord, Un -



liv - ing ech - oes of Thy tone; As Thou hast sought, so___
wan - dering and the wa - vering feet; O feed me, Lord, that___
pre - cious things Thou dost im - part; And wing my words, that___
til my ver - y heart o'er flow In kin - dling thought and___



let me___ seek Thine err - ing chil - dren___ lost and lone.
I may___ feed Thy hun - gering ones with___ man - na sweet.
they may___ reach The hid - den depths of___ ma - ny'a heart.
glow - ing___ word, Thy love to tell, Thy___ praise to show.

Affirmation of Faith

I believe in God the Father Almighty. Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried: he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge both 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.

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

La Procession
David Bowles Edwards, tenor

César Franck

Translation from the French: God advances through the fields!
 Across the moors, the meadows, the green stand of beech trees.
 He comes, followed by the people and worn by the priests:
 Human hymns, birds, blend your songs!
 They stop. The crowd, around an ancient oak,
 Bows, in worship, under the mystical monsternace:
 Sun! Cast on it your long rays of sunset!
 Human hymns, birds, blend your songs!
 You, flowers, exhale your fragrance into the incense!
 Oh, holy feast! Everything shines, everything prays, and everything is censured!
 God advances through the fields.

Presentation of Our Gifts and Lives to God

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

Prayer of Dedication

L: Together, we pray...

C: God of abundant mercy, you have fed us with the bread of redemption and set us free to share our lives with the world for Jesus' sake. Therefore we dedicate the offering we have presented, and the gifts we share, for the sake of your service. Through our lives, may we make your promises real and offer your hope to all, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Go To Serve With God's Blessing

Charge and Blessing

Postlude

Toccata on “How Firm a Foundation”

Claude Murphree

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Prayers are Welcome for: Carlen Brinser; Nancy Buening (*mother of Rebecca Buening-Ferris*); family of Nancy Hoffman; Family of Don Hultgren; Jolene Keeney; Betty Nelson (*mother of Tim Nelson*); Phil Schwister; Florabelle Smith (*mother of Jim Smith*); Wilton Retirement Community; families and victims of abuse, addiction, violence, loss, suicide, COVID-19, and all recent natural disasters.

Drive-In Communion and Evening Prayer - Wednesdays at 7:00 PM

It's been far too long without sharing communion, so please join us for a drive-in communion service Wednesdays at 7:00 PM! To make this prayer service as safe as possible, it'll be very different from our Sunday morning services. The service will only last about 15 minutes, so that attendees can comfortably keep their car windows up (you are encouraged to turn off your car engine). The service will be broadcast over FM radio. There will be no printed bulletins - instead, the order of worship will be sent out via the e-news each week. Each household will bring their own bread and juice, so that we can't spread disease via communion elements. There will also be a box for depositing offerings on the way out of the parking lot. We'd love to see you at the service, this Wednesday or any Wednesday after!

Christian Education for Youth (CEFY) Fall 2020

Teachers Needed

We are in need of adults to teach Sunday school, which begins on September 13 at 10:30-11:00 AM via Zoom. Teachers are scheduled at your convenience; every Sunday, twice a month, even once a month. We can use you! Don't care to teach regularly but still want to help? Subs are needed as well. We will start the year with online classes and move to in-person when we can. If interested, please contact Paula Hartmann (ppelhartmann@aol.com.) You can also call the church office.

Sunday School Begins September 13!

Attention parents! Sunday School begins September 13 at 10:30-11:00 AM via Zoom! We will start online but hold in-person activities as allowed. We are currently ironing out a schedule to include the choirs. A registration form will be emailed to parents. Paper copies of the registration will be available in the church office. Please register your child so we know who to invite to the online meetings. Please check the Facebook page and weekly e-News for updates. Please contact Rev. Styrt or the church office if you have questions.

A Letter from Pastor Mark

God's beloved people at First Presbyterian Church:

I am announcing that the way has been made clear for me to accept a new call to serve as interim pastor out west closer to home. Given the needs of FPC-D that have surfaced during our time together, I am in full support of the call for a bridging pastor to assist FPC-D with next steps towards reconciliation and healing in this interim and transitional journey. This announcement thus serves as my 30 day notice, per contract agreement.

My last Sunday with you will be Sunday, September 6.

It has been my pleasure to partner with you as Interim Pastor, Head of Staff, and Moderator of the Session.

I am pleased with all we've accomplished in our time together. The "Divine Drama overview of the Bible and Christian teaching" class was highly successful, with faithful attendance. The Personnel Committee defined and sharpened its identity and tasks, as well as established a staff review process. The mission study groups were well attended, highly positive, and broadly-stated mission goals for the next chapter of ministry were articulated and presented.

I was very happy to see that much needed beachheads in reestablishing a positive relationship between the congregation and Presbytery have begun. The groundwork for a much-needed reconciliation process was laid. We negotiated through staff re-organization and staff stability was re-established.

You have been through a very difficult and challenging time, but already you are on the road towards reconciliation and healing. I'm confident that as the Presbytery Of East Iowa, your bridging pastor, the Session, the staff, and of course, you the great and holy people of FPC-D, join hands together, you will be successful into preparing yourselves to be in the best position of strength and health to interview for your next called and installed lead pastor and head of staff.

I wish to thank first of all the staff for their collegiality, support, and teamwork. Thanks also of course to the Session leadership and deacons, and the congregation for your love, care support, and prayers.

The Presbytery and I have already been in conversation about additional short term pastoral help until you have called and installed your bridging pastor. The Presbytery will continue to work aggressively with your session to help fill the short term need.

Please know that you'll continue to be in my prayers. Please keep me in yours as well.

The grace of our Lord Jesus the Christ, the love of God, and the communion of God's Ever-Active Presence be with you all.

Respectfully and with Thanksgiving, Mark Galbraith
Interim Pastor, Head of Staff and Moderator of the Session

Pastoral Statement

Dear Partners in Ministry at First Presbyterian Church:

For your convenience and review, here is a statement from Dr. Rebecca Blair, Stated Clerk of the PEI, following up from the Congregational Meeting July 26:

What is a Bridging Pastor?

The bridging pastor process allows carefully selected pastors and churches to be matched through the partnership of the Ministers and Congregations Commission and a special search committee working on behalf of the church. The Bridging Pastor is an experienced pastor with a particular skill set, contracted in a Temporary Pastoral Relationship, who serves in complex or conflicted transitional ministry settings. This pastor's role is to serve as a bridge following the early phase of the interim process in which conflicts and church cultural features are identified and engaged by an interim pastor and the church session, and working through the later phase of the interim process that focuses on systemic renewal and relational reconciliation. The aim of this service is to complete the preparation process for the congregation to call an installed pastor.

In accord with the PEIA policy on Temporary Pastoral Relationships, the Bridging Pastor relationship shall be established by contract between the session of the church to be served and the pastor, as full-time pastoral service, reviewed on a yearly basis by the session in partnership with the MCC with the contract to be approved by the MCC before the contract becomes effective.

What is the Process to Call a Bridging Pastor?

The process for selecting a Bridging Pastor begins with the selection of a Bridging Pastor Search Committee for the specific task of selecting a Bridging Pastor only. The Presbytery's Ministers and Congregations Commission provides guidance to the Bridging Pastor Search Committee concerning the essential skill set of the Bridging Pastor articulated in the documentation to be shared with potential candidates. The MCC and the Bridging Pastor Search Committee partner to carefully consider 2-3 candidates whom the MCC has identified. Only these candidates may be considered.

In choosing to use the Bridging Pastor option, the session is agreeing to select one of the candidates offered by the Presbytery's MCC. Once established, this relationship will be reviewed by the MCC for renewal annually to ensure that the agreed-upon activities are taking place, the ministry is benefitting the church, and the terms of contract are agreed upon.

Temporary Pastoral Relationships are defined by G-2.0504b and c in the Book of Order. These relationships shall be established by contract between the session of the church to be served and the pastor for one-year increments and shall be approved by MCC on behalf of the Presbytery before such contracts become effective. Any extension of such contract may be entered into by the session and the pastor and shall be approved by MCC before becoming effective. Such approval shall not be granted by MCC until after an acceptable review of the ministry is conducted.

*In Partnership,
Pastor Mark*

Sunday Sermon Series:

During Sunday worship, August 30 and Sept. 6, Pastor Mark will continue to present a sermon series "The 5 Purposes of the Church." Based on Dr. Rick Warren's *The Purpose-Driven Church*, the 5 purposes of the Church, i.e., **worship, evangelism, learning, fellowship and service** will be explored. This teaching sermon series is a follow-up and expansion of the Mission Study PowerPoint presentation.

Mission Study PowerPoint presentation available online

On Sunday, August 9, during the ACE Education hour, Pastor Mark presented a PowerPoint highlight reel of the Mission Study Small Groups. A video recording of the presentation is available for review or first-time viewing on FPC website and Facebook page. Please note, that due to technical glitches that occurred during the presentation, some of the introductory slides were not seen. Pastor Mark re-recorded the intro segment, and it was edited on the rest of what was presented. Any further questions or discussion may be directed to Pastor Mark!

Highlights from the August Session Meeting

- Approved plans for a drive-in style weekly communion service in our parking lot.
- Our Sunday services in July averaged 130 watches each week.
- Amended our re-opening policy to provide guidance for church-sanctioned activities off campus.
- Expenses exceeded income for the 5th consecutive month. Please keep up on your pledges and non-pledge donations.
- Approved expenditures from the Capital Maintenance Endowment Fund to repair the elevator motor in the CE building.
- Reviewed items related to the transition from Pastor Galbraith to the Bridging Pastor. Rev. Pat Halverson has agreed to serve in worship and pastoral care. Rev. Pam Saturnia, First Presbyterian Church, Muscatine, will provide leadership to the staff and Session.
- Received information from the Presbytery of East Iowa regarding disaster relief efforts related to the recent wind storm. Volunteer and donation information can be found at <https://peia.org/disaster-assistance-information/>
- Approved and forwarded to the congregation a slate of candidates for the Bridging Pastor Nominating Committee.
- Approved and forwarded to the congregation changes in the call of Pastor Katie Styrt to assume duties as the Associate Pastor of Christian Education.

Join Us for These Weekly Events Online!

For more information, see the e-news, church website or Facebook:

Worship Watch Party - Sundays, 9:30 AM

Virtual Coffee Hour - Sundays, immediately following Worship Watch Party

Stump the Organist! – Every other Friday, 12:00 PM

Join the fun on Friday, August 28!

Adult Christian Education ACE Series in August: 21-Day Racial Justice Challenge

Sundays, August 30, 10:45 AM

Join us on Sunday, August 30, at 10:45 AM for our discussion of the Week 3 lessons in the 21-day Racial Justice Challenge. Even if you aren't able to join our discussion, you can still download the lessons and do the 21-day challenge on your own at any time.

Here is the link for the Zoom call

<https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJUkf-ivrzMqHdSy9GSdaXqVT0NeUC6eLM-9>.

You can also join the call by entering the Meeting ID (919 8171 8070) and password (ACE).

Class materials will be available in the E-news.

Online Harpsichord Recital - Tuesday, September 1, 12:00 PM

Matt Bishop will offer a free online harpsichord recital on Facebook on Tuesday, September 1 at noon. This will be a 30-minute recital featuring works by Bernardo Storace and George Frideric Handel on the church's Lindholm harpsichord. The video will be available on the church's Facebook page. Enjoy some Baroque music with your lunch!

Bible Basics 201: Romans – *Tuesdays, 6:15 PM – please note new day*

Paul's letter to the Romans is an in-depth example of the early church's struggles with religious tradition and civil authority. As always, anyone is welcome to join us! *We'll meet on Tuesdays from 6:15-7:15 PM on Zoom:*

<https://zoom.us/j/98965381440?pwd=TUdyMXltRTMrRXdFWnBEZ0NEKzBYUT09>.

If you'd like to call in, you can call 312-626-6799 and enter 989 6538 1440 for the ID and 240979 for the password.

Tuesday, September 1: Romans 13-16**Attention Gardeners, or Those Who Want to Get Outside and Play in the Dirt!**

The neighborhood garden is planted and needs weekly maintenance (weather providing). The Deacons are asking anyone to adopt a week – you can pick whenever in that week to weed or water if needed.

Weekly availability: 8/30 – 9/5

Please contact Debbie Keenan (815-621-8009; dkeenan0912@gmail.com) to get on the schedule! Thank you for your part in watching our garden grow to feed our community!

Financial Summary for the Month of July 2020

	July 2020		July 2019	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
General Fund Income	50,907	57,210	62,876	65,185
Custodial Accounts Income	5,720	-	11,786	-
Compensation Expenses	48,693	48,037	43,509	58,754
Non Compensation General Fund Expenses	9,071	17,855	16,039	23,880
Custodial Accounts Expenses	5,720	-	11,786	-
Surplus (Deficit)	(6,857)	(8,682)	3,328	(17,449)
	2020 Year-To-Date		2019 Year-To-Date	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
General Fund Income	519,256	549,948	539,135	526,750
Custodial Accounts Income	99,532	-	59,773	-
Compensation Expenses	343,191	348,614	324,606	354,605
Non Compensation General Fund Expenses	95,802	136,905	136,366	184,725
Custodial Accounts Expenses	99,532	-	59,773	-
Surplus (Deficit)	80,263	64,429	78,163	(12,580)

All numbers are rounded.

