

Confess to a Forgiving Creator

Prayer of Confession

Bob Nolan

adapted from *A Sanctified Art*

So family of faith, let us pray together our prayer of confession:

God of today and tomorrow, we know that your fingerprints are all over this world. And we know that those who dream cannot keep silent. So today we pray, give us eyes to see you. Give us courage to trust you. And give us lips to speak of you in our midst. Gratefully we pray, Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Bob Nolan

Listen for God's Word

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:22-40 (NRSV)

Marta Pumroy

Sermon

“Bold for God's Glory”

Marta Pumroy

Respond to God's Word

Affirmation of Faith

Heather Hayes and youth from First Presbyterian Church, Cedar Rapids

adapted from *A Sanctified Art*

We believe in telling the story—

The story of a loving and merciful God,

Who will not let God's people go;

The story of a baby who grew up and changed the world;

The story of our faith.

We believe in speaking up—

For our neighbors,

For the oppressed,

For the overlooked

And marginalized.

We believe in speaking out—

Against violence,

Greed,

Abuse,

Fear,

Scarcity mindset,

And bigotry.

We believe in passing the mic—

So that we are not the only ones speaking,

So that we can lift up the voices of those around us,

So that we too might listen and learn.

We believe in the good news of the gospel.

We believe that this good news is too good to keep to ourselves.

We believe that those who dream cannot keep silent.

Speak to us, Holy God.

Speak through us, Holy God.

May it be so, amen.

Prayers of the People

Created by PEIA Congregations and Katie Styr

"Prayers of the People"

Ben Johnston-Krase

Bob Nolan, voice

Lord's Prayer

"Hallowed"

Jennifer Knapp

Sarah Hegar, voice

Offering

Anni Thorn

Invitation

Prayer of Dedication

Doxology

"Old Hundredth"

Matt Bishop, piano

Go to Serve with God's Blessing

Closing Song

“Canticle of the Turning”

Rory Cooney

Julia Andrews, piano; Marie Riechers, voice

1: My soul cries out with a joyful shout
that the God of my heart is great,
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things
that you bring to the one who waits.
You fixed your sight on the servant's plight,
and my weakness you did not spurn,
So from east to west shall my name be blest.
Could the world be about to turn?

2: Though I am small, my God, my all,
you work great things in me.
And your mercy will last from the depths of the
past to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame,
and those who would for you yearn,
You will show your might, put the strong to flight,
for the world is about to turn. (Refrain)

Refrain:

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears,
For the dawn draws near,
And the world is about to turn.

3: From the halls of power to the fortress tower,
not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears
every tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more,
for the food they can never earn;
These are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed,
for the world is about to turn. (Refrain)

4: Though the nations rage from age to age,
we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us
from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forbears heard
is the promise that holds us bound,
'Til the spear and rod be crushed by God,
who is turning the world around. (Refrain)

Charge and Blessing

Marta Pumroy

Postlude

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

arr. Julia Andrews

Julia Andrews, Piano

NOTES ABOUT THIS SERVICE

Giving Thanks: This service is a collaboration between members of the Congregational Development and Vitality Team and the Mission and Social Justice Team Of the Presbytery of East Iowa. Worship leaders include Heather Hayes, Jennifer Jennings, Kerry Jennings, Grace Jennings, Bob Nolan, Marta Pumroy, youth from First Presbyterian Church, Cedar Rapids, and Anni Thorn. Participating musicians include Rebecca Blair, Alex Gilson, David Bowles Edwards, Matt Bishop, Sarah Hegar, Bob Nolan, Matt Butler, Marie Riechers, and Julia Andrews. Special thanks to Katie Styr for her work on producing the service, Jim Bonewald for his photography, and to Julia Andrews for administrative and communication support.

Giving Credit: Several elements of today's service are adapted from A Sanctified Art, LLC. an online multimedia resource used by several churches in the presbytery. Through visual art, poetry, liturgy, curriculum, graphic design and more, A Sanctified Art seeks "to bring scripture and theological these to life." Please visit their www.sanctifiedart.org to learn more. Materials used with permission given by the creator.

Be Thou My Vision: Words and music covered by Public Domain. Prayers of the People: Unpublished Words and music: Ben Johnston-Krase used with permission from the composer. Please visit Ben's ministry website www.practiceresurrection.com. Hallowed: Words and music by Jennifer Knapp; song, projections and internet streaming covered under CCLI #1230385, One License #A-726567, and CVLI #504291376. Doxology: Words and music covered by Public Domain. Canticle of the Turning: Words and music: Rory Cooney, © 1990 Gia Publications, Inc.; All rights reserved. Songs, projections and internet streaming covered under ONE LICENSE #737644-A.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Death: Cathie Nichols, December 17, 2020

Prayers are Welcome for: Sharon Boron; family of Jacqueline Mae Butcher; Judy Fritz and family (*death of mother Madelyn Tornquist*); family of Rose Galitz (*death of mother of Marianne Marcek*); family of Harold W. Jackson; family of Barbara Melby; family of Cathie Nichols; Judith Wade (*death of brother John William Gerst*); Jim Woods (*death of mother*); families and victims of abuse, addiction, violence, loss, suicide, COVID-19, and all recent natural disasters; FPC members and all other healthcare professionals receiving the COVID vaccine – Marty Bowles Edwards, Nate Curl, Jeff Gomez and Julie Grothusen. We give thanks for the more widespread availability of the vaccine to come in the new year.

With Thanks to the First Presbyterian Church Family

The staff of First Presbyterian Church would like to thank our congregation for the love, prayers, and support throughout this unusual year. We appreciate it and look forward to being able to see you again soon!

Church Offices (Mostly) Closed – Monday, December 28 - Friday, January 1

Our amazing Finance Director Kristine Olson will be available during the week, but all other church offices will be closed. Please call Kristine to schedule an appointment.

Congregational Meeting – Sunday, January 3, 11:00 AM - updated

The Session has called a special Congregational Meeting for Sunday, January 3, 2021 at 11 AM. The purpose of the meeting will be the election of officers. Those being nominated to serve as Elders are Mike Ferris, Ruth Ann Tobey Brown, Jim Woods, Patrick Downing, David Edwards, Jeff Ehrmann, and Jim Dereus. Those being nominated to serve as Deacons are Ted Brown, Matt Hennes, Siobhan Wood, Katrina Williams, Erin Sodawasser, John Gere, and Al Frolich. The nominees for the 2021 Nominating Committee include Heather Calvert, Karla Ruitter, Theresa Jacobsmeier, Kathy Yoke, and Cathy Pratscher-Woods.

The meeting will be held over Zoom. You must be present at the meeting to vote. Sixty (60) members are needed for a quorum.

Topic: FPC Davenport Congregational Meeting

Time: Jan 3, 2021 11:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96501005951?pwd=Nlc5dEVMNzRoT1FTei9iaHBqclhZQT09>

Meeting ID: 965 0100 5951

Passcode: 883275

You can also join by phone by dialing 312-626-6799 and entering the meeting ID and Passcode

Bible Basics 201 - Tuesdays, 6:15 pm

In January, we'll share a three-part study of the Book of Hebrews. This letter was written to Jewish Christians living in Jerusalem, and is an elegantly-written exploration of Christ's role in the world.

January 5: Hebrews 1-4

January 12: Hebrews 5-8

January 19: Hebrews 9-13

January 26: The Jordan River

We'll meet 6:15-7:15 PM on Tuesdays over Zoom until further notice. The Zoom address will stay the same.

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

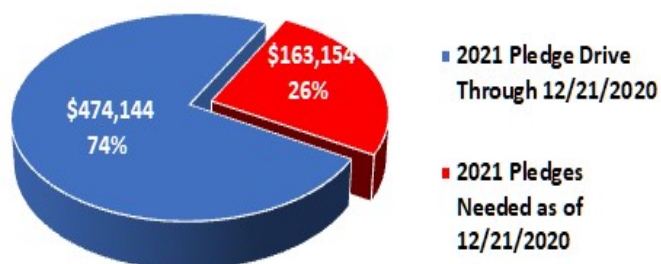
Meeting ID: 989 6538 1440

Passcode: 240979

Church Officer Training – Sunday, January 10, 1:00 PM

It's official – we're sharing officer training with three other churches, and doing it over Zoom. We're still planning the event, but it'll be on Sunday, January 10 at 1:00 PM.

Amount Pledged as of 12/21/2020



2021 Stewardship Update

A sincere thank you to everyone who has returned their 2021 Stewardship Cards or set-up their online pledges! Your generosity and commitment to the many missions of FPC has resulted in a total of \$474,144 confirmed pledges as of December 21, 2020. This is a great start, but we are still \$163,154 short of matching the 2020 Pledge drive. There is still time to turn in your card or set-up your online pledge. Please contact Kristine Olson, Finance Manager, at olson@fpdavenport.org or (563) 326-1691 x219 if you have any questions.

Sunday School is Online!

Attention parents! Join us on Zoom for Sunday School! We meet from 10:30-11:00 AM every Sunday for Bible stories, sharing, and learning together. For security, the Zoom link is being emailed - please be sure to register for Sunday school (or contact Pastor Katie) so we can get your kids involved! There will be no Sunday School on December 27.

Cherubs and MusikGarten – Sundays, 10:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Cherubs and MusikGarten continue to meet this fall on Zoom at new times to coincide with our Sunday School schedule. MusikGarten will meet from 10:30-11:00 AM. Infants through three year-olds and their parents are invited to come to MusikGarten. Cherubs will meet from 11:00-11:15 AM following their Sunday School class that begins at 10:30 AM. Cherubs are in pre-school and Kindergarten. If you have questions about either group, contact Kathy Middleton (kathryn15@gmail.com; 563-505-0471.)

Christian Education for Youth (CEFY) Spring 2021

Kirkwood Choir Schedule – Wednesdays, 6:00-6:30 PM

Kirkwood Choir meets on scheduled Wednesdays from 6:00-6:30 pm via Zoom. Please contact Linda Bengfort for further information.

December 30 – IN RECESS

Kirkwood Club Schedule

Save the date for our upcoming Kirkwood Club activities! We'll meet on Wednesdays from 6:00-6:45.

January 27	March 24
February 24	April 28

Hope to see you there! To get Kirkwood Club updates, email Katie at styrt@fpcdavenport.org, or text @fpcdkids to 81010.

Youth Group Schedule Update

Until COVID rates go down, ACT and EPIC will be meeting monthly for games and activities.

Save the date for youth group fellowship activities! Everyone is welcome. We'll also have service activities, time and date *To Be Announced* depending on the project. We'll meet Sundays from 1:00 - 1:45 PM.

January 24	March 28
February 21	April 18

To get youth group updates, email Katie at styrt@fpcdavenport.org, or text @612thgra to 81010 (or add @612thgra on the Remind app).

Join Online!

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

Worship Watch Party - Sundays, 9:30 AM

Midweek Prayer - Wednesdays, 12:00 PM, via Facebook

2021 Per Capita - \$38 per member

Per Capita is the annual contribution each Presbyterian makes to support our denomination's local, national, and international ministries. 2021 Per Capita due is \$38 per member, which is the same amount due for 2020. A member is one who has been confirmed or has been welcomed into the congregation by confession of faith, letter of transfer from another congregation, or reaffirmation of faith. If you wish to pre-pay your 2021 Per Capita prior to December 31, 2020, please indicate as such with your payment. You can submit your annual Per Capita by mail or you can pay online.

Session Highlights – December 2020

- Approved the membership of David Bowles Edwards by letter of transfer.
- Received a report from the Nominating Committee which included a full slate of Elders and Deacons to begin their service in 2021. We are thankful for those accepting these nominations. Election of officers will be done at a Congregational Meeting on January 3, 2021.
- Received an early report from the Synod Administrative Review Committee (ARC). It included the recommendation that a team be established to identify a potential facilitator(s) for a reconciliation process. The team will include the Co-Moderators of the Presbytery of East Iowa (Rev. Lori Wunder and Rev. Dan Jessop), three elders from FPC, and our current Moderator, Rev. Pam Saturnia. The Session selected Elders Tom Spitzfaden, Mike Ferris, and Diane Roebuck to serve on this team. A recommendation on a facilitator is to be forwarded to the Synod ARC no later than January 15, 2021. The full report from the ARC is expected by the end of January.
- The Session approved the following statement: "The Session of First Presbyterian Church Davenport condemns the vandalism and expressions of hate directed toward Temple Emanuel on Thursday, December 10, 2020. The use of Christian scripture to attack a Jewish community is shameful. We stand in support of the members of the Temple Emanuel congregation."
- Financially, the church will end the year with income exceeding expenses. Much of this is due to a marked reduction in expenses (no sanctuary worship and current vacancy of the head of staff). We have also been using more money from custodial funds and have received income from sources that are not expected in 2021.
- Projections are that 2021 will be a difficult year financially. Pledges are significantly below a year ago. If you have not pledged for 2021, please consider doing so. Current pledges represent only 72% of 2020 pledges.
- The Session prayed for and thanked those Elders who are completing their service to the congregation this year. We are grateful for the contributions of Elders Pam Paulsen, Samantha Crow, Barbara Ehrmann, Dick Koos, and Matt Hennes. Matt Hennes is resigning from the Session in order to serve on the Board of Deacons.



Christmas Flowers 2020

The poinsettias that grace the chancel and surround the Nativity figures in the narthex are given in memory or honor of the following loved ones who are held in grateful affection.

In Loving Memory Of

John Bates, Greg Bates, Q. & Mildred Wallace, and Ruth & Harvey Bates, given by Jo Bates

Paul Eckert, given by Beverly Eckert

Robert Francois and Jeffrey Francois, given by Mary Ann Francois

Christine Johnson and Kathy Price, given by Brian, Kathlynn, Aidan, and Keian Price

Lois & Orv Kahler and Jim DeKalb, given by Alan & Lynnell Havercamp

Kenneth & Dorothy Kinney and Henry & Miriam Lamb, given by Rob & Kathy Lamb

Alice & Alfred Magnusson, given by their daughter, Jane Magnusson

Don Magnusson, given by his sister, Jane Magnusson

Ken & Joan McCay, given by their Loving Family

John Norton, given by Vivian Norton

Lola J. Paulsen and Rachel J. D' Auben, given by Pam Paulsen

Ronald & Alice Ruiter, John & Martha Ruiter, Alvin & Helen Stueland, and Amos & Helen Folkedahl, given by Karla R. Ruiter

Nancy Van Hook, given by Craig Van Hook

LeGene Vaughn, given by her daughter, Nancy Foster

Grandma & Grandpa Oswald and Grandpa Sodawasser, given by Kristine, Erin & Patrick, and Ian

In Honor Of

Matt & Caitlin Bishop for their heart and dedication to the Music Ministry of First Presbyterian Church! From The Sanctuary Choir

The Chancel Guild wishes to thank all those who through their donations made it possible to beautify the sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church this Christmas Season. Due to pre-recording of services, families may arrange to pick up a plant by 2:00 PM on Wednesday, December 23 to enjoy at home this unforgettable Christmas Season.