

January 31, 2021
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR MEDITATION

Deuteronomy 18:15-20, 10
1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Psalm 111
Mark 1:21-28

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding.
God's praise endures forever.

Psalm 111:10

The Church Gathers To...

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Katie Styr

Preparation for Worship

Worshippers are invited to meditate silently during the following prelude.

Prelude

Prelude on "I Am Thine, O Lord"

arr. Monte Thomas

Praise Almighty God

Call to Worship

We have joined together on this holy day.

To God we offer thanks and sing praise and pray

This is the time we have set apart

It is a time to look to God for a sustaining word and renewal of faith

May the Lord speak to us and shine his light within each heart

May God be honored in all things.

1. From all that dwell be - low the skies let the Cre - a - tor's praise a -
 2. In ev - ery land be - gin the song; to ev - ery land the strains be -
 3. E - ter - nal are they mer - cies, Lord; e - ter - nal truth at - tends thy

rise:
 long: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Let the Re - deem - er's
 word: Thy praise shall sound from In cheer - ful sound all

name be sung through ev - ery land, in ev - ery tongue.
 voic - es raise and fill the world with joy - ful praise.
 shore to shore, till suns shall rise and set no more.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Children's Message

Rev. Katie Styr

Confess to a Forgiving Creator

Prayer of Confession

Holy and loving God, we live in a world where deeds of darkness are in the headlines daily. In this time where racism continues and political differences lead to sin, forgive us for the sins we have committed. Forgive us if we have lost our sense of holy fear before you, and trivialized your name in some way. May our thoughts, words and deeds reflect your holiness, righteousness and grace. In Christ we pray, amen.

Assurance of Pardon

The Lord is compassionate and gracious; slow to anger, abounding in love. In Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

Listen for God's Word

Scripture Readings

Psalm 111:1-10

Mark 1:21-28

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

The Fear of the Lord

Rev. Pat Halverson

Respond to God's Word

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

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 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.

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

Go Down, Moses

Arr. Harry T. Burleigh

Ted Brown, Bass; Alex Gilson, piano

Presentation of Our Gifts and Lives to God

Please sing the Doxology.

Prayer of Dedication

God of Heaven and Earth, you call us to leave behind our preoccupations and to follow you into the future. May these offerings help us serve you, and may we continue to follow where you lead. 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

Go To Serve With God's Blessing

Hymn

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

LIEBSTER JESU



1. Bless - ed Je - sus, at your word we have come a -
2. All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est
3. Glo - rious Lord, your - self im - part, Light of Light, from



gain to hear you; let our thoughts and hearts be stirred
dark - ness shroud - ed, till your Spir - it breaks our night,
God pro - ceed - ing. Touch our lips and ears and heart;



and in glow - ing faith be near you. By your gos - pel
fill - ing us with light un - cloud - ed. All good thoughts and
help us by your Spir - it's plead - ing. Hear the cry your



true and ho - ly, teach us, Lord, to love you sole - ly.
all good liv - ing come but by your gra - cious giv - ing.
church now rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

Benediction

Rev. Pat Halverson

Postlude

Go Down, Moses

Arr. W.C. Handy and Walter C. Simon

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JOYS AND CONCERNS

Deaths: Jean Marie Steffenson, June 15, 1938 – January 16, 2021;

Dean Edwin Taylor, Sr., May 4, 1931 – January 25, 2021

Prayers are Welcome for: Sharon Boron; family of Jacqueline Mae Butcher; Judy Fritz and family (*death of mother Madelyn Tornquist*); family of Harold W. Jackson; Bev Koos; Rebecca Koos (*daughter of Bev and Dick Koos*); Cindy and Mark Meinert and family (*death of father and grandfather, Dean Taylor, Sr.*); family of Barbara Melby; Mike Steffenson and family (*death of wife Jean*); 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 others receiving the COVID.

A Letter from Pastor Katie

Dear Friends,

As your Associate Pastor, I've worked with you through tremendous changes in our church. We've started new programs, gotten creative during COVID restrictions, and served our community. These years have helped me learn and change as a pastor quite a bit. After much prayer and consideration, I have accepted a position as a solo pastor at Milan Presbyterian Church. I believe this larger leadership role will be a better fit for my skills.

These past few years have brought tremendous upheaval to our church, our nation, and in my own life. Together, we've worked through staff transitions and all the changes COVID brought. You've shepherded me through pregnancy loss, Helen's birth, and my mother's death. You've helped me move, brought me meals, cracked jokes, and recommended good coffee shops. I am grateful for the ways we have been church together, and know you will be just as compassionate to your next pastors, just like you are to each other.

I want to make sure that my transition out of leadership here is as smooth as possible. I will begin serving at Milan on March 1st, and am currently planning for February 14th to be my last Sunday here. If you have questions about my new call, the transition process, or just want to talk, please contact me! When I leave ministry here at First Pres, there will have to be some space - I want to make sure that your pastors can jump in and start serving without interference, and that I can completely focus on the congregation in Milan. But we'll still be living in the Quad Cities; even when I'm not your pastor, I'll still be your neighbor.

I am extremely grateful for the kindness, patience, and camaraderie you have shown me. Thank you for serving God with me. May God continue to bless and keep all of you as First Pres plans for its future.

In Christ,

Pastor Katie

Purse for Katie Styrt

In gratitude for Katie's service to the congregation, a purse will be collected as an appreciation and recognition gift for her. Please make your checks payable to First Presbyterian Church, note "Katie Styrt gift" on the memo line, and bring or mail to the church office by Friday, February 19, 2021.



Welcoming Our New Bridging Pastor, Rev. Dr. Kathy Stoner-Lasala, to FPC!

FPC is pleased to welcome Rev. Dr. Kathy Stoner-Lasala as our new Bridging Pastor. Rev. Kathy has enjoyed a distinguished and successful career serving congregations in transitional and transformational ministry in Minnesota, New Jersey, Delaware, Colorado, and Illinois. She holds a Doctor of Ministry degree from Drew Theological Seminary, later teaching in Drew's D.Min. program. Rev. Kathy is married to Dr. Frank Lasala, who recently retired as a physician in Monmouth, where the two currently live. Aside from her passion for restoring historic homes, Rev. Kathy is an avid sports fan. Rev. Kathy's call at FPC begins March 1.

As she wrote in her application, Rev. Kathy is eager to serve in a congregation full of people who will "seek God's Word in the words of Scripture; find our stories in the story of Jesus; bear His story beyond ourselves; expect the Gospel to change lives; respond to what Jesus has done for us with heartfelt worship, rest, service, growth, play, and generosity; know the 'News' is too 'Good' to remain inside the church's walls; welcome searchers longing for significance and purpose in their lives; search out, affirm, and

develop the unique gifts by which the Spirit enriches each believer's life; embrace the adventures and struggles of discipleship; train and equip each member for ministry; trust the Gospel to heal racial, cultural, and class divisions; hunger for justice and authentic community; and live by prayerful commitment, safe in the arms of God's love and mercy."

Dick Koos, co-chair of the search committee, writes of Rev. Kathy, "When the search committee talked with her it wasn't long before we felt as though we had known her for a long time—and her energy is quite obvious. The congregation will enjoy her time with us. She is very engaging."

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

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!

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

Cherubs and MusikGarten meet on Zoom 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.)

Join us on Zoom at 10:45 AM:

<https://zoom.us/j/91539050753?pwd=b2JYN0VyOW52N0ZESHQ2YUhyelhtUT09>

Meeting ID: 915 3905 0753

Passcode: ACE

Stump the Organist – Friday, February 5, noon

Available online: <https://www.facebook.com/fpcdavenport/>!

ROOTS: A Two-part ACE Series - Today and Sunday, February 7, 10:45-11:45 AM

QC Interfaith is excited to partner with ACE for a two-week series with guided discussion and collective action plan for us to embody racial justice values. ROOTS (Radical Observations of Truth and Struggle) is about understanding the root causes of inequality, our implicit bias, and the pervasiveness of white supremacy. This is for anyone who wants to deeply understand racial justice and the ways our thoughts, values, behavior, and actions can align for a more just world. We hope it will give you the tools needed to bring in others to this movement towards racial justice in the church.

To make the most of our time, please fill out this survey before the January 31:

<https://forms.gle/fsjsbDnzbLCKtUeW9>. It will inform the way our discussion will be structured.

Bible Basics 201 - Tuesdays, 6:15 pm

Perfect Strangers: Unnamed People in the Bible

We'll explore the stories of nameless people in the Bible, and celebrate their faithfulness.

February 2: A Widow, 2 Kings 4

February 9: A Gentile, Matthew 15 and Mark 7

Great Reformers in the Church: stay tuned for a month-long series studying reformers in our church history!

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

Bible Basics 101 - Wednesday, February 3, 6:15 PM - Ruth

This 9-week class is designed for those wanting to revisit many of favorite childhood Sunday school stories or even hear about them for the first time. All are welcome. Join in anytime. The discussion on February 3 will be on the Old Testament story of Ruth (four chapters). For more information or study outlines, please contact Mark Jones (mkjones@mchsi.com).

Zoom information for Bible Basics 101:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/93804817828?pwd=S1R3ZlB2Ly9zeGh3YnJoNEhDaVBjQT09>

Meeting ID: 938 0481 7828

Passcode: Jonah

Ash Wednesday Virtual Services – Wednesday, February 17, noon and 7:00 PM

The Ash Wednesday services will be virtual this year, available on Facebook and Vimeo at noon and at 7:00 PM. You may pick up a bag of ashes from the church that you can impose on yourself or on family members at the appointed time in the service. Pick-up times are Sunday, February 14 from noon until 2:00 PM, and Monday, February 15 from 4:00-6:00 PM; park on Iowa Street just outside the entrance to the church office building, and a masked volunteer will bring the bag of ashes to your car. For the service, you will need the ashes, a kitchen oil (such as vegetable or canola), and communion elements.

Christian Education for Youth (CEFY) Spring 2021

Youth Events - Grades 6-12

Until COVID rates go down, ACT and EPIC will be meeting monthly for games and activities. Save the dates 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 on February 21, March 28, and April 18.

Kirkwood Club - Grades 1-5

Save the dates for our upcoming Kirkwood Club activities! We'll meet on Wednesdays from 6:00-6:45 PM on February 24, March 24, and April 28. Hope to see you there! To get Kirkwood Club updates, email Katie at styrt@fpcdavenport.org, or text @fpcdkids to 81010.

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

The tentative Kirkwood Choir Early Spring 2021 schedule is listed below. The Club meets on scheduled Wednesdays from 6:00-6:30 PM via Zoom. Please contact Linda Bengfort for further information.

February 3 February 10 February 17 – IN RECESS March 3 March 10 March 17 – IN RECESS

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