

January 17, 2021  
Second Sunday after Epiphany

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR MEDITATION

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20)  
1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18  
John 1:43-51

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

“O Lord, you have searched me and known me.... Lead me in the way everlasting.”  
Psalm 139:1a, 24b

### The Church Gathers To...

**Welcome and Announcements**

Rev. Katie Styr

**Preparation for Worship**

*Worshippers are invited to meditate silently during the following prelude.*

**Prelude**

Lift Every Voice and Sing  
Organ – Alex Gilson

### Praise Almighty God

**Call to Worship**

Our God, you are continually present and aware  
We welcome you into our midst  
**Make yourself known to us**  
We bring to you our gifts  
**Receive them as worship**  
We lift up our hearts and hands  
**Use us for your good**  
We open our arms  
**Embrace our family of faith.**



1. Come, Chris-tians, join to sing: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 2. Come, lift your hearts on high: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 3. Praise yet our Christ a - gain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



Loud praise to Christ our King: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 Let prais - es fill the sky: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 Life shall not end the strain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



Let all, with heart and voice, be - fore his throne re - joice;  
 He is our guide and friend; to us he'll con - de - scend;  
 On heav - en's bliss - ful shore his good - ness we'll a - dore,



praise is his gra - cious choice: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 his love shall nev - er end: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 sing - ing for - ev - er - more: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

## Children's Message

Rev. Katie Styr

## Confess to a Forgiving Creator

### Prayer of Confession

Faithful God, we come with genuine faith and believe you are with us always. But we confess, you are not always central in our thoughts, actions, our relationships, our use of free time, and our work. Forgive us if we put you aside, if we go our own ways and not yours. Remind us of your nearness and may we find great comfort and strength in your presence with and within us. Amen.

### Assurance of Pardon

We believe "The Lord is near to the contrite heart." In Christ we are forgiven completely.  
**Thanks be to God.**

# Listen for God's Word

## Scripture Readings

John 1:43-51

Psalm 139

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon

The Pervasive Presence of God

Rev. Pat Halverson

# Respond to God's Word

## Ordination and Installation of Officers

### Affirmation of Faith *(from the Belhar Confession)*

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end. We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family. We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ; that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells. To the one and only God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be the honor and the glory for ever and ever.

### 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](http://fpcdavenport.org), and click on "Donate Now," use the link: <https://bit.ly/2V8nEgm>, or mail your check in to the church office

Arietta

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor

### **:Presentation of Our Gifts and Lives to God**

*Please sing the Doxology.*

### Prayer of Dedication

**Ever-present God, in gratitude we offer to you these gifts. May they be used to make known your holy and loving presence to those near and far. Through Christ our Lord, 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

You Are Before Me, Lord

SURSUM CORDA



1. You are be - fore me, Lord, you are be - hind,  
2. Then from your Spir - it where, Lord, shall I go;  
3. If I should take my flight in - to the dawn,  
4. If I should say, "Let dark - ness cov - er me,  
5. Search me, O God; search me and know my heart;



and o - ver me you have spread out your hand;  
and from your pres - ence where, Lord, shall I fly?  
if I should dwell on o - cean's far - thest shore,  
and I shall hide with - in the veil of night,"  
try me, O God; my mind and spir - it try;



such knowl - edge is too won - der - ful for me,  
If I as - cend to heav - en you are there,  
your might - y hand will rest up - on me still,  
sure - ly the dark - ness is not dark to you:  
keep me from an - y path that gives you pain,



too high to grasp, too great to un - der - stand.  
and still are with me if in hell I lie.  
and your right hand will guard me ev - er - more.  
the night is as the day; the dark - ness light.  
and lead me in the ev - er - last - ing way.

Benediction

Rev. Pat Halverson

Postlude

Were You There

Arr. Uzee Brown, Jr.

### **Copyright Information**

Closing Hymn Text:

“You Are Before Me, Lord” (Ian Pitt-Watson, ©1973). Music used by permission of Estate of Doris Wright Smith.

Postlude:

Uzee Brown, Jr., “Were You There” (GIA Publications, Inc., ©2008).

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### **JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**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; 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.

## **Ordination/Installation of Church Officers – Today**

Church officers being ordained or installed this year include: **Elders Class of 2023:** David Bowles Edwards, Jim DeReus, Patrick Downing, Jeff Ehrmann, Michael Ferris, RuthAnn Tobey-Brown, and Jim Woods. **Deacons Class of 2023:** Ted Brown, Al Frohlich, John Gere, Matthew Hennes, Erin Sodawasser, Katrina Williams, and Siobhan Wood.

## **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*

## **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](mailto: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

**ACE Welcomes Brian Ellison Presenting *So Much Left to Do: Seeking Real Welcome for LGBTQIA+ People in Church and Society* – Sunday, January 17**

This class reviews the journey of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) on issues of inclusion for people of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. It asks how our policies have changed and whether we are doing enough to live into our values of justice and hospitality. It also offers practical help for a church that wants to be ever more welcoming.

Brian Ellison is executive director of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians, which has been working for inclusion in church and society for more than 20 years. Brian is also stated clerk of the Synod of Mid-America and Heartland Presbytery and a host/contributor at KCUR, Kansas City's NPR affiliate. We heard one of his sermons at online worship this summer!

**Between the Covers (BTC) Book Club – Monday, January 18, 1:00 PM**

The Between the Covers (BTC) Book Club meets Monday January 18 at 1:00 PM via zoom. Carol Phoenix will review *Romancing Miss Bronte* by Juliet Gael. All are welcome. Reading the book is helpful but not required. Contact Lois Boyer at 563-940-3024 for more information.

**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 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

**New Bible Basics 101 class - Wednesdays, 6:15 PM**

Did you make a New Year's resolution to study your bible more? Are you looking for some connection with others during the dark winter months? A new class of Bible Basics 101 is now being formed. It will go back to the beginning of Bible Basics and look at common Sunday School stories about Jonah, Moses, Ruth, John the Baptist, and more. It is a comfortable bible study for those with little bible study experience but is open to anyone.

The session will run for 9 weeks beginning Wednesday, 6:15 PM, January 20, 2021 and ending on March 24, 2021. We will meet over Zoom. The meeting information is below. There is no need to register. Just show up. Have a bible with you. The first week will be introductions and some general discussion about the bible.

If you are interested in Bible Basics 101 but this time/day does not work for you, please let us know what would be better for you. For questions and information, contact Mark Jones ([mkjones@mchsi.com](mailto:mkjones@mchsi.com)). Mark will be facilitating the class.

Bible Basics 101 Meeting #1 - Wednesday, January 20, 6:15 PM:

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/77452033984?pwd=K2tzNGlKbi8ySkRxNHhuQUFWMmJ3QT09>

Meeting ID: 774 5203 3984; Passcode: Jonah

## **Christian Education for Youth (CEFY) Spring 2021**

**Youth Sunday School** - Sunday, January 31, 1:00 – 1:45 PM

Join us for fellowship and a service project! We'll decorate cookies and make cards to send to our members in retirement home. Masks required, friends welcome!

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.

February 21

March 28

April 18

### **Kirkwood Club Schedule**

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

January 27

February 24

March 24

April 28

Hope to see you there! To get Kirkwood Club updates, email Katie at [styrt@fpcdavenport.org](mailto: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](mailto:styrt@fpcdavenport.org), or text @612thgra to 81010 (or add @612thgra on the Remind app).

### **Computers available**

There are several used computers available for you! If you or somebody you know could use a secondhand laptop (with camera) or desktop tower, please contact Rev Katie at [styrt@fpcdavenport.org](mailto:styrt@fpcdavenport.org). These computers are not fast, but can handle basic videostreaming, word processing, and internet use. If they are not claimed by members of our congregation, they'll be donated.

### **Statement from Religious Leaders**

The National Council of Churches has written an open letter regarding Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>'s violence, calling for President Trump to be removed from office. This letter has been signed by our denomination's Stated Clerk, Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson II, as well as the heads of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, Episcopal Church, Reformed Church of America, United Methodist Church, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Alliance of Baptists, and several other denominations, representing millions of Christian Americans. It is unusual for so many religious leaders to issue a joint statement, so please be sure to read it! You can find the entire letter here: <https://nationalcouncilofchurches.us/open-letter-to-vice-president-pence-members-of-congress-and-the-cabinet-calling-for-the-removal-of-president-trump-from-office/>.