

January 24, 2021  
Third Sunday after Epiphany

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR MEDITATION

Jonah 3:1-5, 10  
1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Psalm 62:5-12  
Mark 1:14-20

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”  
Mark 1:15

### The Church Gathers To...

**Welcome and Announcements**

Rev. Katie Styr

**Preparation for Worship**

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

**Prelude**

How Firm a Foundation  
Alex Gilson, cello

### Praise Almighty God

**Call to Worship**

Pecking away at our computers, sitting in a knot of traffic:

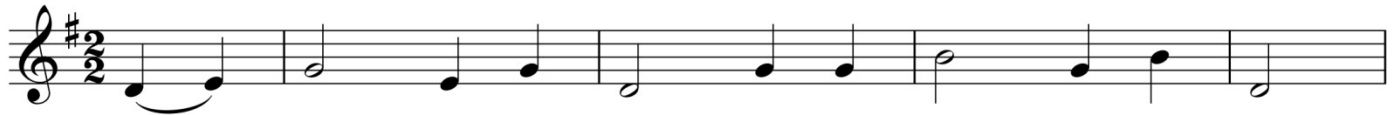
**we wait for you, God of all words, to speak to us.**

Pacing the halls of a hospital, sitting outside the principal's office:

**we wait for you, God of comfort, to fill us with hope.**

In the silence of each night, beginning each day's new journey:

**we wait for you, God of love, for you are our safe place.**



1. How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
2. "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis - mayed,
3. "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
4. "When through fi - ery tri - als thy path - way shall lie,
5. "The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose,



is laid for our faith in God's ex - cel - lent Word!  
 for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
 the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;  
 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;



What more can be said than to you God hath said,  
 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 for I will be near thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,



to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.  
 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

Children's Message

Rev. Katie Styr

## Confess to a Forgiving Creator

### Prayer of Confession

Forgiving God, like Jonah we resist when asked to tell your story. We find it hard to confess the name of Jesus. We want to avoid conflict, instead of working for reconciliation and honesty. We feel inadequate, but you have called us to speak and to act. Like Simon and Andrew, James and John, help us to rise up and follow wherever you lead. Forgive us for our doubts, fears, and sins. Open us up to your influence in our lives. Lord of surprising light, make us followers.

## Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news: Christ is persistent and will not leave us, calling us into true service. Through Christ's grace, your sins are forgiven: **Thanks be to God.**

## Listen for God's Word

### Scripture Readings

Mark 1:14-20

Jonah 3:1-10

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon

Following Together

Rev. Katie Styr

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

Cello Concerto No. 1 in C, ii. Adagio

Alex Gilson, cello; Matt Bishop, piano

Joseph Hayden

### 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

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord

REPTON



1. How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when once we heed your call  
2. But if, for - get - ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;  
3. We mar - vel how your saints be - came in hin-dranc-es more sure:  
4. In what you give us, Lord, to do, to - geth - er or a - lone,  
to live ac - cord - ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re - freshed, re -  
if world - ly pres-sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not un -  
whose joy - ful vir - tues put to shame the ca - sual way we wear your  
in old rou-tines or ven-tures new, may we not cease to look to  
stored, that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.  
wind its tan-gled skein of care: our in - ward life re - pair.  
name, and by our faults ob - scure your power to cleanse and cure.  
you: the cross you hung up - on, all you en - deav - ored, done.

Benediction

Rev. Katie Styr

Postlude

“Toccata on ‘How Firm a Foundation’

Claude Murphree

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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 Harold W. Jackson; Bev Koos; family of Barbara Melby; 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.

**Congregational Meeting** - Today, 11:45 AM

The Session has called a Congregational Meeting for Sunday, January 24, 2021, at 11:45 AM. The purpose of the meeting is to act on a request from Rev. Katie Styr to dissolve the pastoral relationship between her and First Presbyterian Church. As previously announced, Katie has received a call from the First Presbyterian Church in Milan, Illinois. This action by our congregation is a necessary step in the process. Please join us. No other business will be conducted at this short meeting but we still need our quorum of 60 people.

Here's the Zoom information: <https://zoom.us/j/97291203068?pwd=Nk9tbEtLczFUVCTNMT15WWpQQm4ydz09>

Meeting ID: 972 9120 3068

Passcode: 112216

Dial in number: 312-626-6799

### 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*



### **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](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: The Making of the Glory to God Hymnal – Today**

Let's talk hymns! David Gambrell of the PC(USA)'s office of Theology and Worship will be presenting on the making of Glory to God, our denomination's hymnal, and the work he did to choose and write hymns for it. David is also the author of "Presbyterian Worship Questions and Answers" and coeditor of the 2018 Book of Common Worship. Bring your questions about our worship music, and let's have some fun.

### **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 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

### **Bible Basics 101 - Wednesday, January 27, 6:15 PM – Jonah**

A new class of Bible Basics 101 is just getting started. Our first discussion will be about the story of Jonah. In preparation, read the four short chapters of the Old Testament book of Jonah. No prior bible study experience is needed. All are welcome. For more information or to receive a copy of the study guide, please contact Mark Jones ([mkjones@mchsi.com](mailto:mkjones@mchsi.com)). Next up: Ruth.

Zoom information for Bible Basics 101:

January 27, 2021 6:15 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 938 0481 7828

Passcode: Jonah

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

#### **Youth Events - Grades 6-12**

Youth group will meet in person today from 1:00-1:45 PM in the church. We'll be playing trivia together - wear your mask, bring a friend if you'd like, and get ready to win some (silly) prizes! We'll also have a youth service project on Sunday, January 31, from 1:00-1:45 PM in the church. We're decorating cookies and making cards to give to FPC members in retirement homes. If you'd like more information about either event or want to RSVP, please contact Rev. Katie.

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**

Join us for Kirkwood Club on Wednesday, January 27, 6:00-6:45 PM at the church! We'll have an art studio night, so prepare to get a little messy and a lot creative. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Rev. Katie.

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](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.