

1702 Iowa Street
 Davenport, IA 52803
 A Congregation of the
 Presbyterian Church
 (U.S.A.)

July 4, 2021
 Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
 Worship at 8:30 and 10:00 a.m.

Welcome!

We are an open and affirming congregation, and a proud member of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians (covnetpres.org).



People of all sexual orientations and gender identities are welcome here, along with their families.

**We are a
 Matthew 25 church**



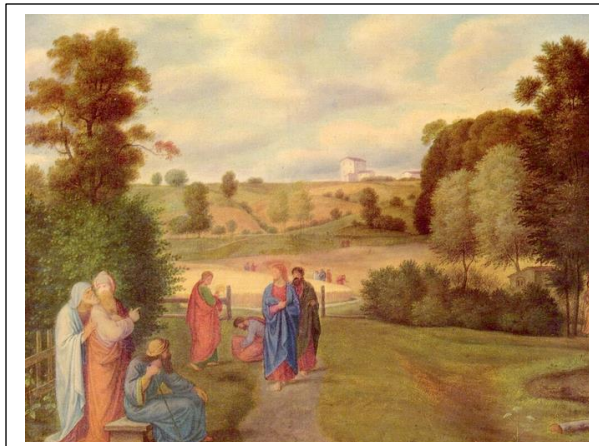
MATTHEW 25

Matthew 25 congregations identify themselves as working toward one or more of three goals: building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism and eradicating systemic poverty.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS
 FOR MEDITATION**

2 Samuel 5:1–5, 9–10
 Psalm 48
 2 Corinthians 12:2–10
 Mark 6:1–13

God said, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.”
 2 Corinthians 12: 9



This week’s artwork meditation features a work by the lesser-known early nineteenth-century German artist Ferdinand Olivier (1785-1841). Typical of the Nazarene style that Olivier helped popularize, this work, “Jesus with Disciples” (Museum Georg Schäfer, Bavaria), highlights the simple humanity of Christ and his followers. In today’s scripture, Jesus delegates some of his work on earth to his disciples, “sending them out two-by-two.”

The Church Gathers To...

Prelude 10:00 a.m. Allegro from Trio Sonata No. 1, BWV 525 J. S. Bach

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Dr. Kathy Stoner-Lasala

Preparation for Worship
Worshippers are invited to meditate silently during the following prelude.

Interlude 8:30 and 10:00 a.m. Improvisation Alex Gilson

Praise Almighty God

Call to Worship *from Psalm 48*
 Great is the Lord,
and greatly to be praised!
 God’s praise reaches to the ends of the earth,
and God will be our guide forever!
 Let us worship God.

**The Staff of
First Presbyterian Church:**

Rev. Dr. Kathy Stoner-Lasala

Bridging Pastor

Rev. Sue Howes

Associate Pastor Emerita

Rev. Pat Halverson

Parish Associate

Sarah Greim & Paula Hartmann

** Interim Christian Ed. Coordinators*

Matt Bishop

Director of Music

Alex Gilson

Principal Organist

& Assistant Director of Music

Linda Bengfort*

Assistant Choral Director

Kathy Middleton*

Assistant Choral Director

for Children

Kristine Olson

Finance Manager

Tammy Mayhew*

Interim Membership/Database

Coordinator

Bobette Maginas*

Administrative Coordinator

Chad Dean*

Wedding Coordinator

Kandis Cooper*

Nursery Coordinator

Darren Long

Facilities & Custodial Supervisor

Georgia Roberts

Custodian

Kevin Wilson*

Custodian

Chad Dean*

Custodian

** Part-time employee*

First Presbyterian Church

1702 Iowa Street

Davenport, Iowa 52803

Phone: 563-326-1691

Outside office hours, this number will go to the pastor on call in case of emergency.

www.fpcdavenport.org

Hymn

God of the Ages

NATIONAL HYMN

Children's Message

Ruling Elder Sarah Greim

Confess to a Forgiving Creator

Call to Confession

*from Book of Common Worship
Presbyterian Church of Canada*

We live in the gracious presence of a merciful God.

With confidence in God's love, let us confess our sin and the sin of the world:

Prayer of Confession

adapted from Book of Common Worship PC(USA)

Gracious Creator, we are a people divided against ourselves because we cling to the values of a broken world. We pursue profit and pleasure that lay waste the land and pollute the seas. We harbor fears and jealousies that set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of intellect and reason, imagination and freedom. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world; transform us into agents of your reconciling love; Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

Friends, our sins are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

Anthem 10 a.m.

The Battle Hymn of the Republic

Arr. Peter Wilhousky

The Sanctuary Choir

We invite the congregation to join the Sanctuary Choir in singing the final verse.

Listen for God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

adopted from Seasons of the Spirit

Surprising and confounding God, illumine your word to us this day. As we ponder its meaning for us, let it come not as a familiar friend - easily forgotten - but as a new spring of water for parched souls. Amen.

Scripture Readings

2 Corinthians 12: 2-10

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Mark 6: 1-13

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

Difficult Does Not Mean Impossible Rev. Dr Kathy Stoner-Lasala

Respond to God's Word

Affirmation of Faith

Romans 5: 1-5

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

Offering Our Gifts and Lives to God

adapted from Feasting on the Word

Jesus calls us to travel light as we serve the world,
for God is our strength and our provision.
We give of our life and labor to God's work.

8:30 a.m. Battle Hymn of the Republic

Arr. Peter J. Wilhousky

Sanctuary Choir

10 a.m. Improvisation

Alex Gilson

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.

JOYS & CONCERNS

In Our Prayers: Rebecca Koos; Barb Thede, families and victims of gun violence, abuse, addiction, violence, loss, suicide, COVID-19, and all recent natural disasters; FPC members and all others receiving the COVID vaccine.

For Your Information:

Mission Partners: Rev. José Pilar Alvare Cabrera and Rev. Nestor Eduardo Alvarez (*leaders of ILUGUA, Zacapa, Guatemala*); Alice Chikomo in Harare, Zimbabwe; Veda Gill (*Presbyterian Education Board, Pakistan*).

Hospital visits by the Pastors are made only with a patient's permission.

InTouch Information: If you or a loved one is unable to attend church services and would enjoy a contact from one of First Presbyterian's In-Touch members, please contact Deacon Bev Koos (563-676-0292).

The Prayer Chain connects those in need of prayer with church members who are committed to a ministry of prayer. All requests may be directed to Mary Ann Francois (563-355-5292).

Printed Prayer Requests require permission from the person(s) in need of prayer before prayers are printed in the bulletin. The best way to assure a hospital visit or a prayer is to directly notify the church office (563-326-1691).

Prayer Shawls are available for you to give to those you know experiencing a challenge or joy. For your choosing, a variety of shawls are hanging on the coatrack near the main office).

Join Online:

Worship Watch Party

Sundays, 8:30 and 10:00 AM
For more information, see the
e-news, church website or
Facebook.

Summer Services at FPC!

8:30 AM outside,
Masks, communion, singing.
Kirkwood Parking Lot.

10:00 AM indoors,
Masks and singing.
Sanctuary.

Cherubs and MusikGarten –

Sundays, 10:30 AM and 11:00 AM

We're continuing to Zoom through the summer together on Sunday mornings! Join Musikgarten from 10:30-11:00 AM. We talk, laugh, and share what's going on in our lives, sing together and just enjoy seeing each other. Cherubs continue from 11:00-11:15 AM. If you're on my email list, you will continue to get the Zoom link each week. If you would like to be added to our list, let me know. We have room for everyone and would love to have you join us! For more info contact Kathy Middleton at kathryn15@gmail.com.

Presentation of Our Gifts and Lives to God

Please sing the Doxology.

Priase God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all crea - tures
here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host;
cre - a - tor Christ and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Service of Holy Communion 8:30 a.m.

The Words of Invitation

adapted from Katherine Hawker

God sends us out to humble places to minister with
the tears of hungry children, the cries of frail and frightened elderly,
the pleas of those whose dreams have been too long deferred.
We pause at this table, timid believers in a sometimes struggling church,
to receive God's provision for our journey.
Come, for all has been made ready!

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Nathan Nettleton, adapted

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....

It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God — joy of all the earth — for your grace is sufficient for us, and your strength is always there in our weakness. You created the heavens and the earth and all that live in them and gave yourself to us to be our guide in all our journeys. In the fullness of time you sent Jesus, who came teaching with astounding wisdom and bringing freedom and healing at the touch of his hands. Like the prophets he was not honored in his own town, and was crucified by his own nation, but you raised him from the dead, displaying your perfect power in his weakness. Now he has entrusted us with his mission of casting out evil and proclaiming your steadfast love from the holy mountain to the ends of the earth. Therefore, with our hearts lifted high, we offer our thanks and praise, joining our voices with the choirs of the ages to sing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might;
Heaven and earth are full of your glory;
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord;
Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord Holy Spirit, fall on us and on these elements that they might be for us the communion of the body and blood of Christ. Make these fruits of the earth

into fuel for the journey of discipleship to which we are called by Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. We pray in Jesus' name, using the words that he taught us:

The Prayer of Jesus

paraphrased by Sarah Dylan Breuer

**Loving Creator we honor you, and we honor all that you have made.
Renew the whole world in the image of your love.
Give us what we need for today, and a hunger to see the whole world fed.
Strengthen us for what lies ahead;
heal us from the hurts of the past;
give us courage to follow your call in this moment.
For your love is the only power, the only home, the only honor we need,
in this world and in the world to come. Amen.**

The Words of Institution

The Communion of the People

*We partake of the elements that we brought with us today,
taking first the bread as a symbol of our life together in the Body of Christ,
and then the cup as embodiment of our individual relationships with Jesus.*

The Prayer Following Communion

adapted from Seasons of the Spirit

Creator God, from the beginning of time you have loved us and provided for our needs; we praise you. Nurturing Jesus, when we came to this table we were hungry for a healing word and thirsty to receive strength for our journey; thank you for nourishing us. Holy Spirit, you share our life and, at this table, you have helped us to know the presence of God. Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, go with us now as we set out, traveling light, into the world you love so much; Amen.

Prayers of the People (at 10:00 a.m.)

adapted from

<https://revgalblogpals.org/2009/07/05/sunday-prayer-prophet-edition>

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....

God of all, we know you sent us out to do your work, to face rejection, to spread the good news of the Kingdom of God, to have people turn their backs on us, to be your prophets, to be laughed at, to heal the sick, to be dismissed, to travel light - sometimes broke and sometimes penniless, and sometimes rich and wealthy. You remind us to shake the dust off our shoes when we are not welcome and not heard. You assure us that in our weakness you are strong. You share your story with us of the times you were rejected and a scandal to many. Lord, pour your healing salve into the wounds we carry, whether our burden is grief, or illness, or chronic debilitation, or oppression, or injustice, or trauma, or conflict, or natural disaster, or loneliness, or poverty, or the "isms" infesting our life together: race, age, gender, class. For those who find it hard to lift their feet, much less shake the dust off their shoes, pour out your healing grace that makes Christ's power perfect in our weakness. For those who feel like total failures, pour out your steadfast love

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

June 2021

- More good news on our opening of the church building! On the recommendation of the Pandemic Task Force, the Session approved building use to church groups of any size. Masks will be required. Please submit a Building Use Form to reserve your time and place.
- Approved the use of FPC for a Scott County Health Dept sponsored vaccine clinic for June 30.
- Elders Heather Calvert, Paula Burnett, and Karla Ruitter will represent FPC at the July Presbytery meeting.
- Approved a final Bridging Pastor contract and job description for Pastor Kathy Stoner-Lasala.
- The Synod-Presbytery-FPC committee has come to a verbal agreement with a reconciliation facilitator. The Session approved the principles of a contract with the facilitator. It is anticipated that she will begin her work with us soon.
- An in-person pastoral care restart is being looked into as facilities open to visitors.
- The Session will not meet in July as committees work individually on tasks related to the Synod ARC recommendations for FPC.

**The Caring Closet Update –
Donations Need: New Men’s
& Women’s Undergarments!**

The Caring Closet opened for business June 4. We’re open 9:00 AM -noon on Tuesdays and 2:00-5:00 PM on Fridays, by appointment. The Caring Closet is a free “store” for whoever can use it. If you have clothing or shoes that you no longer need, please drop them off after the service, or bring them to the Iowa door on Monday and Friday from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Can’t make it then? Contact RuthAnn Tobey-Brown at 563-265-1439 and we will set up a time. Please make sure all items are clean and ready for our customers. We are also looking for volunteers to help set up the store or help in the store once it opens. If you can help, please call or email me (ruthsobeybrown1@gmail.com)

**Food Pantry Donations
Needed!**

Friends, whether we attend services in the parking lot, via livestream, or in the church, the need for donations to the Food Pantry is always with our community. You may drop off goods in the church office during the week. Monetary donations are also accepted. All donations go to Sacred Heart Food Pantry located at The Center on Brady Street.

so they might see themselves as you see them. For those who are discouraged and want to give up, pour out your encouragement and strength so that, empowered by your Spirit, they might be reminded that you did not give up. We pray in the name of Jesus who sends us out, using the words he taught us:

The Prayer of Jesus

paraphrased by Sarah Dylan Breuer

**Loving Creator we honor you, and we honor all that you have made.
Renew the whole world in the image of your love.
Give us what we need for today, and a hunger to see the whole world fed.
Strengthen us for what lies ahead;
heal us from the hurts of the past;
give us courage to follow your call in this moment.
For your love is the only power, the only home, the only honor we need,
in this world and in the world to come. Amen.**

Go To Serve With God’s Blessing

Hymn

This Is My Song

FINLANDIA



1. This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,
2. My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,
3. This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's king - doms:



a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.
and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine;
thy king - dom come; on earth thy will be done.



This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;
But oth - er lands have sun - light, too, and clo - ver,
Let Christ be lift - ed up till all shall serve him,



here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;
and skies are ev - ery - where as blue as mine.
and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.



But oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing
O hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,
So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions:



with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
a song of peace for their land and for mine.
my - self I give thee; let thy will be done.

Charge and Benediction

Nathan Nettleton

Go now, proclaim the life-changing love of God.
Do not fear your weakness,

for when you are weakest, Christ's strength is known.
Travel lightly, live simply,
and honor those who welcome the gospel.

And may God be your protection and safe haven;
May the power of Christ Jesus dwell in you;
and may the Holy Spirit be your guide forever.

Choral Benediction 8:30 a.m.	The Lord Bless You and Keep You The Sanctuary Choir	Peter C. Lutkin
Postlude 8:30 a.m.	Improvisation	Alex Gilson
Postlude 10:00 a.m.	Sinfonia from Cantata no. 29, BWV 29	J. S. Bach

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Announcements

PAS Guys and Dolls Update: Two Shows in the Sanctuary – Friday, July 23, 8:00 PM and Saturday, July 24, 4:00 PM

Due to changes to our COVID protocols, we have decided to move the PAS production of Guys and Dolls back into the sanctuary. A move indoors necessitates a return to a two-performance model; unfortunately, three of the show's leads are now unavailable for what would have been the Sunday matinee. Our solution is to offer the first show on Friday, July 23 at 8:00 PM and the second show on Saturday, July 24 at 4:00 PM; patrons who currently hold Saturday tickets will be automatically moved to the new Friday evening show, and patrons who hold Sunday matinee tickets will be automatically moved to the new Saturday matinee show. There is no need to reissue tickets – feel free to make the correction on your existing ticket. If you prefer a different arrangement, we will gladly honor any request for a transfer or a full refund; please call the church office at (563)326-1691, or [email bishop@fpcdavenport.org](mailto:bishop@fpcdavenport.org).

Mitigation efforts will remain in place for the performances; face coverings must be worn at all times by the audience and the cast and crew. Entrance to the sanctuary will be through either the sanctuary elevator or the porte cochère door (1S). This production will remain shortened to cut down on movement and on the run-time. We appreciate your flexibility and support.

Bible Basics 201 - Tuesdays, 6:15 PM

For the summer, we have decided, as we have on occasion, to veer from a strict bible study. Using the book, *They Were Christians*, by Cristobal Krusen, as a starting place, we will be learning about inspiring people of faith. Here are some up-coming topics: July 6 – TBA; July 13 – Dag Hammarskjold.

Please consider joining us if your summer schedule allows. Please contact Mark Jones (mkjones@mchsi.com) for more information or handout material. We continue, for now, meeting remotely. Here is our Zoom link:

<https://zoom.us/j/98965381440?pwd=TUdyMXItRTMrRXdFWnBEZONEKzBYUT09>

Meeting ID: 989 6538 1440 Passcode: 240979

A Unique Opportunity for Spiritual Development that Creates Christian Community: A Listening Campaign

When First Presbyterian Church adopted the Envisioning 2020 Report, one of the God-sized dreams we affirmed was spiritual development which we described as: to explore our faith, to realize our gifts, to experience God's love, to engage spiritual practices, to create Christian community and to employ discernment in decision-making.

Even before we convened the Envisioning 2020 process, a group of church members had begun to dream about forming a social justice task force. Along the way, this group learned that Quad Cities Interfaith offers a training program that teaches deep listening skills to build relationships in one-to-one settings. One of the roles QCI plays in the community is offering trainings that help to strengthen congregations by allowing them to fulfill their missions and realize their vision in a more powerful way. QCI's experience has been that the skills acquired in a Listening Campaign would be critical to creating a social justice advocacy movement at First Pres.

While Listening Campaigns vary in size and scope from congregation to congregation, there are 2 common outcomes: **1) Establishing and Deepening Relationships Among Members;** and **2) Answers to Questions the Lead to Alignment of Vision, Mission, and Ministry.**

Remarkably, our God-size dream of spiritual development seeks the same outcomes as a Listening Campaign. (Actually, that's just the way God works!) When the people yearning for a social justice task force shared their dream with Pastor Kathy, she saw that two other groups in the congregation would be enriched by Listening Campaign training. These groups were CEFY (who need to discern the shape/form/purpose of a youth and children's staff position that will include community engagement); and Deacons Outreach Committee (who hear God's call to engage more deeply and effectively with our neighborhood around such issues as gun violence).

And that's not all. This training prepares the Listeners to deepen relationships with persons they already know and to establish relationships with persons they don't know as well. In congregations, it can be easy to have superficial relationships. One might know where a person works or the car he/she drives, but not know his/her story, hopes and fears, dreams and disasters that shape life and bind us to our faith/values. Through deepening relationships, congregations can build a stronger community. It is only in true community that a collective vision can be realized.

Is there someone in your life you haven't connected with over the long months of the pandemic? The skills developed in our Listening Campaign training will help breathe new and authentic life into that relationship. Is there a relationship in your life which is disturbed or conflicted? Listening Campaign training will show you how to engage with the other person in a way that opens you to each other's heart. Do you want to deepen your walk with Jesus by practicing his incarnational ministry? Jesus meets us where we are (as good a definition of the incarnation as any), and one-on-one deep listening skills will help you to be "Jesus with skin on" with another.

Some have asked how Listening Campaign training is different from the Mission Study conducted by Pastor Mark during his interim ministry with First Pres. The finished product of the Mission Study led by Pastor Mark is a compilation of Presbyterians who stated "this is what I think/feel/believe." The Listening Campaign's result would be the opposite, "This is what my neighbor thinks and feels God's spirit is speaking into their life and, because we are in relationship, into our life together."

Others have asked, "Do we need to learn deep listening as a spiritual practice?" Taking the time to re-read the Envisioning 20/20 report's section on Spiritual Development, a generous assessment would be to say we've addressed one third of the Spiritual Development goals we set for ourselves. We have left the majority of our Spiritual Development dreams sitting on the table. Its no coincidence that God's still small voice has found another way to call us back to the Spiritual Development commitment we made back in 2016.

Interested? Curious? Intrigued? On Sunday afternoon, July 11, we will be blessed when QCI offers Listening Campaign training right here at First Pres. Our training (you may choose in person or hybrid zoom format) will begin at 1:00 p.m. and wind up at 6:00 p.m; we'll offer pandemic-safe snacks. Whether you're in the social justice task force group, or CEFY, or the Deacons Outreach committee, or simply a pilgrim seeking to follow Jesus, if God's Spirit is whispering in your ear right now, you're welcome to join us!

Quad Cities Interfaith Organizer, Mayra Hernandez, who will be working with First Presbyterian on our Listening Campaign would love the opportunity to listen to YOU before our July 11th training. If you are interested in having a one to one conversation with Mayra and experience deep listening for yourself, please contact her at

Mayra@QCInterfaith.org or at 641-990-2118.

Printed and distributed contact-free