

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

August 22, 2021
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Blessing of the Backpacks
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**



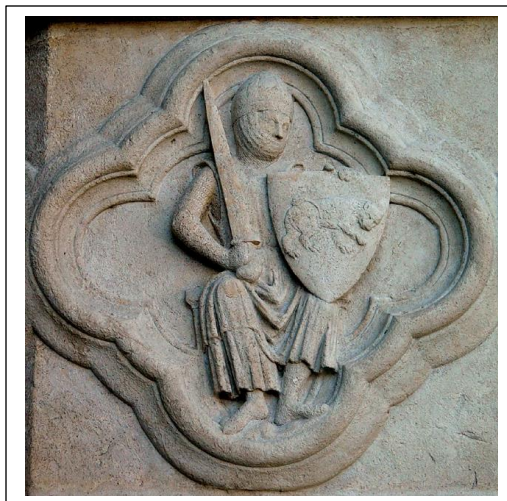
Matthew 25 congregations
identify themselves as
working toward one or
more of three goals:
building congregational
vitality, dismantling
structural racism and
eradicating systemic
poverty.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS
FOR MEDITATION**

Joshua 24: 1-2a, 14-18
Psalm 84
Ephesians 6:10-20
John 6: 56-69

*"... Choose this day
whom you will serve ...
but as for me and my
household, we will
serve the Lord."*

Joshua 24: 15



This week's art meditation is a detail of a relief sculpture from the exterior of the Cathedral of Amiens in northern France. Sculpted with the rest of the edifice between 1220 and 1240 by an unknown artisan as a quatrefoil on the western wall of the building, this work is a depiction of Christian Fortitude. "Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm." - Ephesians 6:13.

Preparation for Worship

We invite you to meditate silently on art, music and Scripture.

The Church Gathers To...

Prelude 10:00 a.m. Adagio from Symphony No. 4 Charles-Marie Widor

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Dr. Kathy Stoner-Lasala

Interlude Improvisation on "Were You There?" Alex Gilson

Praise Almighty God

Call to Worship

from Psalm 84

How lovely is thy dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!

Happy are those who dwell in God's house; they sing God's praise forever!

Happy are those whose strength is the Lord; they go from strength to strength!

Happy are those who trust in you!

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

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

Fight the Good Fight

DUKE STREET

1. Fight the good fight with all thy might;
2. Run the straight race through God's good grace;
3. Cast care a-side, lean on thy guide;
4. Faint not nor fear, God's arms are near;
Christ is thy strength and Christ thy right;
Lift up thine eyes, and seek Christ's face;
God's bound-less mer-cy and will pro-vide;
God chang-eth not, and thou art dear;
Lay hold on life, and it shall be;
Life with its way and be-fore us lies;
Trust, and thy trust-ing soul shall prove;
On-ly be-lieve, and thou shalt see;
Thy joy and crown e-ter-nal-ly;
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize;
Christ is its life, and Christ its love;
That Christ is all in all to thee.

Confess to a Forgiving Creator

Call to Confession

from Psalm 84

"The Psalmist writes, "Lord God of hosts,
hear my prayer and look upon the face of your anointed;
my soul longs and faints for you."

Trusting in God's forgiveness, let us open our hearts to God's mercy.

Prayer of Confession

adapted from Feasting on the Word

**God of our redemption, we have not always chosen to serve you. Our hearts
have not always been sincere and we have not always trusted in your salvation.
Turn us around, O God, that we might serve you with our whole selves; Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

from Psalm 84

The Psalmist continues, "The Lord God is a sun and shield;
God bestows favor and honor on those who walk uprightly."
Friends, our sins are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

Listen for God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

adapted from Feasting on the Word

God our strength, as we hear the reading of your Word, cause us to witness boldly
to the Gospel, welcome the stranger, pursue peace, and stand through the
struggles of our times; Amen.

Scripture Readings

Joshua 24: 14-18

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Ephesians 6: 10-20

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

Ruling Elder Sarah Greim and Brighton

Blessing of the Backpacks

Ruling Elder Sarah Greim

God of fresh starts and new beginnings,
we bring ourselves, our big feelings, and our backpacks to you.
Last year was different from what we expected.
We couldn't see our friends or play on playgrounds,
we learned at home, in masks six feet apart, or both.
In all these changes, we may have felt sad and alone.
God, our friend who comforts us, hold us close and wipe our tears.
In our backpacks, we carry blank pages,
sharpened pencils, and pointy crayons,
and in our hearts, we carry big feelings,
unanswered questions, and hopeful expectations.
There are endless possibilities of what this new year might bring—
of what we might learn, who we might meet, and who we might become.
God, our friend who is always with us, be with us through it all.
Be with us as we ride the bus.
Be with us as we walk.
Be with us as we buckle seat belts, zip-up jackets, and tie shoes.
However we get there, and whatever we wear,
bless this journey into something new.
For the grown-ups going back to school,
With-Us God, be with them too.
Thank you for our teachers, helpers, caregivers, and leaders,
and for all they do to help us learn and grow.
God, our friend who's full of wonder,
fill their hearts and bless their hands.
Amen.

JOYS & CONCERNS

In Our Prayers: David Milnes, Bev Koos; Rebecca Koos; Duane Schipull; Hudson Stoner, 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 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).

Worship Watch Party

Sundays August 22 & September 5

8:30 and 10:00 AM

Sunday, August 29

Single Service

10:30 a.m.

Sundays from September 12

Single Service

9:30 a.m.

Two Remaining Summer Services!

Sundays August 22 & September 5

MusikGarten

Online

August 22 and August 29

10:30 AM

September 5

Recess

From Sunday September 12

TBA – stay tuned!

Cherub Choir

Sunday, August 22

Online

11:00 a.m.

August 29 & September 5

Recess

Sundays, Sept 12 - October 10

10:35 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.

Cherubs and Families attend

Season of Creation

Intergenerational Celebrations

Sundays, starting October 17

10:35 – 10:50 a.m. Choir

10:50 – 11:20 a.m. Sunday School

Kirkwood

Sundays, Aug 22, 29 & Sept 5

Remains in Recess

Sundays, Sept 12-October 10

10:35 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.

Kids and Families attend

Season of Creation

Intergenerational Celebration

Sundays, starting October 17

Alternating Schedule begins:

Stay tuned!

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

Hymn for Backpack Sunday

God of All Learning

BUNESSAN



We invite children to move to Compassion Camp and Drive-Thru Backpack Blessing

Sermon

Strong Words for Hard Times

Rev. Dr. Kathy Stoner-Lasala

Respond to God's Word

Affirmation of Faith

from the Confession of 1967

The church gathers to praise God;

to hear God's word for humanity;

to baptize and join in the Lord's Supper;

to pray for and present the world to God in worship;

to enjoy fellowship;

to receive instruction, strength, and comfort;

to order and organize its own corporate life;

to be tested, renewed, and reformed;

and to speak and act in the world's affairs

as may be appropriate to the needs of the time.

The church disperses to serve God wherever its members are,
at work or play, in private or in the life of society:

Our prayer and Bible study are part of

the church's worship and theological reflection;

Our witness is the church's evangelism;

Our daily action in the world is the church in mission to the world;

The quality of our relationships with other persons
is the measure of the church's fidelity.

Members are the church in the world,

each endowed by the Spirit with some gift of ministry;

we are responsible for the integrity of our witness
in our own particular situations.

Offering Our Gifts and Lives to God

from Feasting on the Word

Loving God, we give you thanks as we offer our gifts. Endow them, and us, with your power; send out our offerings to express your steadfast love and impart your sustaining strength to all in need; Amen.

Were You There?

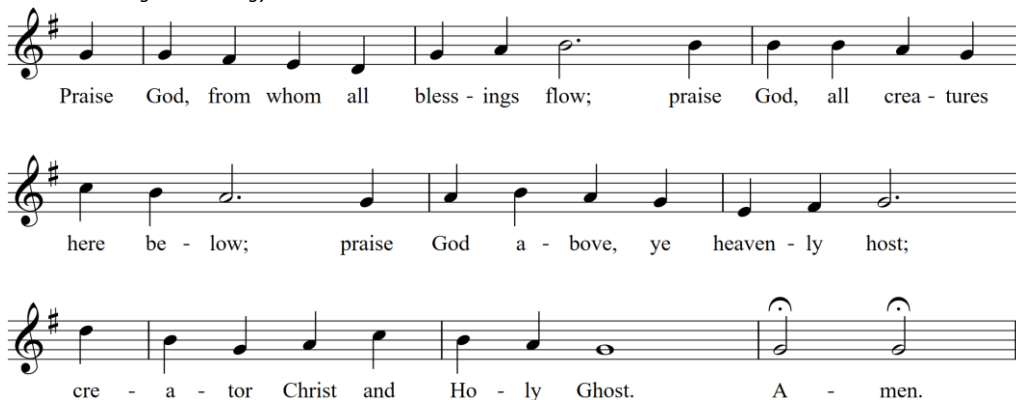
Arr. Dale Wood

Heidi Pedersen – Soprano, Alex Gilson - Piano

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.

Presentation of Our Gifts and Lives to God

Please sing the Doxology.



The Prayer of Jesus for Children (of all ages)

<https://standrews.ws/files/2017/11/The-Lords-Prayer-for-Children.pdf>

God our Creator in heaven,

Remember that the God who created everything loves us like a parent and wants us to know and love God and each other.

Hallowed be your name,

Take a minute to praise God.

Thank God for the world, our home, for God's love, for Jesus, or for your family and friends.

Your kin-dom come,

Pray for God to heal the world and make things right.

Pray for peace, justice, and an end to hunger and sickness.

Try to think of people who are in special need of God's help.

Your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Pray for all people to do what God wants us to do.

Ask for God to help us understand what we should do and help us do it.

Give us today our daily bread.

Pray for our own needs, as well as the needs of our family, friends, and church.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Ask forgiveness for the ways we don't love God and other people as we should.

Ask for God's help to be more patient and forgiving towards others.

Is there someone we need God's help to forgive?

A Message from Your Deacon's Outreach Committee

Are you an avid gardener? A so-so gardener? Never had a garden in your life? No matter- we can use you! The community garden on Iowa Street needs your help. Watering the garden is easy, can be done in your schedule, and the results are so with the effort! If you are interested, please contact Paula Hartmann (563-940-5477; Ppelhartmann@aol.com) for details. Your help is needed and appreciated!

Making it as easy as possible to find a Vaccination Appointment

Want to get vaccinated or help someone else get vaccinated? Text your ZIP Code to GETVAX — G-E-T-V-A-X — (438829) and you will be texted back three locations near you with vaccines in stock. If you prefer the information in Spanish, text your ZIP Code to VACUNA. That's 822862. Prefer a specific vaccine? No problem. Click on the text or visit Vaccines.gov. There are more than 75,000 places you can go to get a shot. In fact, 90 percent of Americans live with — have a vaccine, right now, within five miles of them.

Pickleball is Back!

Monday & Wednesday,
9:00-11:00 AM

We're playing pickleball here in the FPC gym on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00-11:00 AM. All are welcome to join the fun. Please contact Diane Schroder for more information.

The Caring Closet Update

Donations Needed:

Prom and Party Dresses!

The Caring Closet is open 9:00 AM -noon on Tuesdays and 2:00-5:00 PM on Fridays. 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 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 (ruthnobeybrown1@gmail.com).

Caring Closet Prom Night

Special Events

Tuesday, September 7 & 14,
5:00-7:00 PM

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.

Save us from the time of trial

Ask for God's help with the things that make our life hard, things that upset us, and things that make it hard to do what's right.

And deliver us from evil.

Ask for God to protect ourselves and others from evil.

For the kin-dom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Go To Serve With God's Blessing

Hymn

God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

GREEN TYLER

1. God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to
2. Bind to my - self the Name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness -
3. Bright- ness of sun and glow of moon - light, flash - ing of light - ning,
4. Walk - ing be - hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to
5. Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that
move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:
es en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness:
strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et:
light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:
hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:
O Christ, sur - round me; O Christ, sur - round me.

Charge and Benediction for Backpack Sunday

Kari Morgan and Wendy Claire Barrie, adapted

Go into the world, your schools, and your homes
and be the light of Christ.

Let your lights not be diminished in the midst of change.
Instead, in hard times, let your lights find ways to shine even brighter.

When things don't go as planned,
let your light shine in the newness.
When you have technical difficulties,
let your light shine in simple things like books and crayons.
When you feel lonely or isolated,
remember that God is by your side and on your side.

Be the light of love to all.
Be the light of patience
when days are long,
when technology does not work,
when new ways of doing things are hard.
Be the light that shines in new ideas and new ways of learning.

You are the light of the world!
Go into the world and shine!

Postlude 8:30 a.m.

Improvisation

Alex Gilson

Postlude 10:00 a.m.

Toccata pour Orgue, Op. 9

Jean Guillou

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Announcements

Blessing of the Backpacks - Today, 8:30 & 10:00 AM

Bring your bag to be blessed for the 2021-2022 school year today at either service!
Adults and Kids are welcome to receive the blessing! We can't wait to help you
prepare for a fantastic school year (or Monday)!

Compassionate Kids Camp – Today and Sunday, August 29, 9:00 AM

Join the fun today and next Sunday! Next Sunday, August 29, we'll have one
worship service at 10:30 a.m. Our theme will be Compassion Camp Sunday; the
kids will share all that they've learned this summer!

Sunday School Starts Soon!

Picnic: August 29: Lots of fun family activities!

Registration: August 29 during the picnic, September 5 and September 12

Sunday Funday: September 12 in Von Maur Hall, Intergenerational Activities for All

Sunday School: September 19 - October 10 in Von Maur Hall,

Season of Creation Intergenerational Celebrations at 10:35 – 11:20 a.m.

Sunday School: from October 17 ... 10:35 a.m. – 11:20 in Promise Land

Bible Basics 201 - Tuesdays, 6:15 PM

For the summer, 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:

August 24 – St. Teresa of Avila

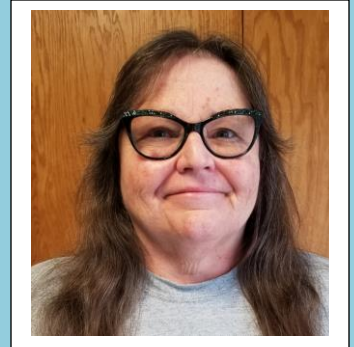
August 31 – Frank Pais

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=TUdyMXltRTMrRXdFWnBEZONEKzBYUT09>

Meeting ID: 989 6538 1440

Passcode: 240979



**Purse and Card Shower
for Georgia Roberts**

In gratitude for Georgia's service
to God through this congregation,
we will hold a card shower and
collect a purse as an appreciation
and recognition gift.

Please make your checks payable
to First Presbyterian Church,
noting "Georgia Roberts gift" on
the memo line; or use the online
giving function on the Church
website. Whether you donate
online, in person at the church
office, or by snail mail, please do
so by Friday, August 27, 2021.

Please send your cards for
Georgia to the church by Friday,
August 27. Georgia's last day with
First Pres. will be August 28.

Beginning September 22, 2021:

Bible Basics is moving back to our former WEDNESDAY meeting time!

More information to come!

Neighborhood Picnic - Sunday, August 29, 11:30 AM

We'll serve hamburgers, hot dogs, coleslaw, chips, lemonade and tea. Sign up below to bring a dish to share!

There'll be activities for the kids – face painting, balloon animals, a magician...

Come share a meal with your church friends and neighbors!



Neighborhood Picnic Sign Up – Sunday, August 29, 11:30 AM

- ☐ Yes, I will bring a salad
- ☐ Yes, I will bring a side dish
- ☐ Yes, I will bring a dessert

Name:

Phone:

Email:

Place this completed form in the church offering plate.



All Aboard!

First Presbyterian Travel Fellowship's Mississippi Paddle Wheeler Sightseeing Cruise - with commentary!

Saturday, September 18, 10:30 AM-12:30 PM – \$20 per person

Limited seats have been reserved by your Congregational Development and Fellowship Committee for a round trip cruise aboard the *Riverboat Twilight* from the Le Claire docks with ample free parking. Enjoy complimentary beverages and bring your own snacks. Members and friends welcome for fellowship! Reserve your cruise passage by going to www.fpcdavenport.org and clicking on the *Donate OnLine* button and then Travel Fellowship using your credit card. All tickets are \$20 each. Remaining tickets will be available from committee members between services on Sunday, August 29 and September 5, and before and after worship on September 12 (or until all tickets are gone)!

On Saturday, September 18 committee members will meet you at the Twilight dock at 10:30 AM with your "will call" tickets.

Printed and distributed contact-free