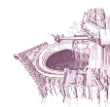




# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



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

October 24, 2021  
22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Worship at 9:30 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.

## SCRIPTURES FOR MEDITATION

Jeremiah 31: 7-9  
Psalm 34: 1-8  
Hebrews 7: 23-38  
Mark 10: 46-52

"Many sternly ordered  
him to be quiet, but he  
cried out even more  
loudly, 'Son of David,  
have mercy on me!'"  
-Mark 10: 48



Duccio di Buoninsegna (c. 1255-c. 1319) – *Healing of the Man Born Blind* (National Gallery, London)

## Preparation for Worship

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

\*Worshippers who are able, please stand. **Bold** indicates congregational response.

*We are grateful to Marcia Renaud  
for leading our worship from the organ this morning!*

## The Church Gathers To...

**Prelude** Jesus, Still Lead On arr. David Cherwien

**Welcome and Announcements** Rev. Dr. Kathy Stoner-Lasala

**Stewardship Minute for Mission** Ruling Elder David Bowles Edwards

**Prelude** Oh Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts arr. Cherwien

## Praise Almighty God

### Call to Worship

The rich and the poor, the old and the young,  
**Take heart! God is calling you!**  
The timid and the shy, the bold and the daring,  
**Take heart! God is calling you!**  
From roadsides and alleyways, footpaths and freeways,

## Our Staff

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*

Kandis Cooper\*

*Nursery Coordinator*

Darren Long

*Facilities & Custodial Supervisor*

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.

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

[www.fpcdavenport.org](http://www.fpcdavenport.org)

## Copyright Information

David Cherwien, arr. "Jesus, Still Lead On," "O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts," & "Give to God Our Immortal Praise" (©1983 Sacred Music Press)

Lani Smith, arr. "Let Me Be Thine Forever" (©1997 The Lorenz Corp.)

Permission to podcast and reprint this music was obtained from WorshipCast License #13952 from Christian Copyright Solutions. All other works are in the public domain.

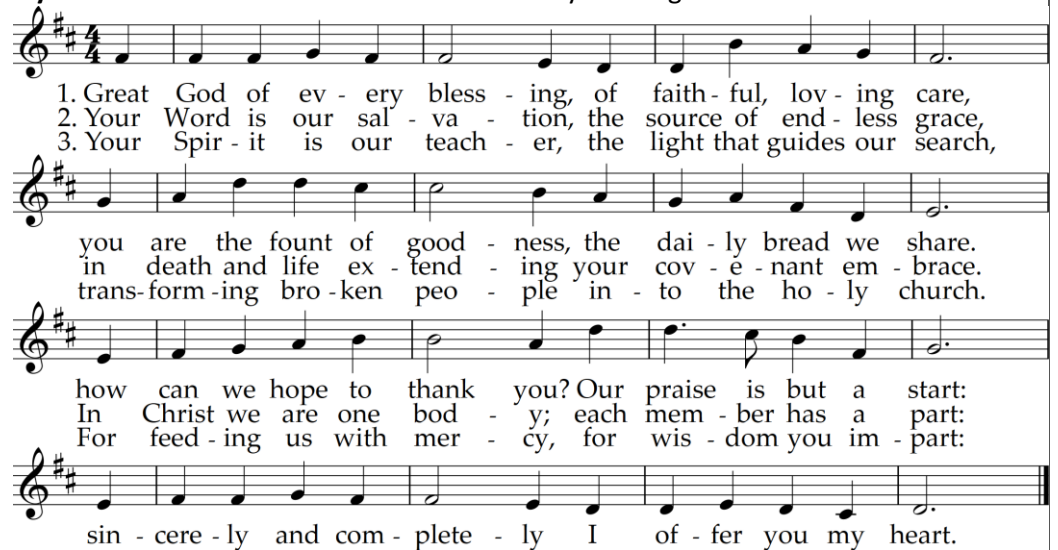
**Take heart! God is calling you!**

Let us worship God.

### \*Hymn

Great God of Every Blessing

AURELIA



1. Great God of ev - ery bless - ing, of faith - ful, lov - ing care,  
2. Your Word is our sal - va - tion, the source of end - less grace,  
3. Your Spir - it is our teach - er, the light that guides our search,  
you are the fount of good - ness, the dai - ly bread we share.  
in death and life ex - tend - ing your cov - e - nant em - brace.  
trans - form - ing bro - ken peo - ple in - to the ho - ly church.  
how can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start:  
In Christ we are one bod - y; each mem - ber has a part:  
For feed - ing us with mer - cy, for wis - dom you im - part:  
sin - cere - ly and com - plete - ly I of - fer you my heart.

## Confess to a Forgiving Creator

### \*Call to Confession

*adapted from Feasting on the Word*

The God of grace hears our cries,  
and waits in mercy to forgive.  
Let us confess our sin and failures  
before God and our siblings in Christ.

### \*Prayer of Confession

*adapted from Feasting on the Word*

**Holy God, you know us better than we know ourselves.  
Forgive us for turning away from your will,  
for ignoring the cries of our neighbors,  
and for failing to listen when you call.  
Fill us with the light of your grace,  
through Jesus Christ, the Light of the world; Amen.**

### \*Assurance of Pardon

*adapted from Psalm 34: 1-5*

Seek the Lord, for God will answer and deliver you from all your fears.  
Look to God and be radiant; your faces shall never be ashamed.  
Magnify the Lord and let us exalt God's name together!  
Friends, our sins are forgiven!  
**Thanks be to God!**

## Listen for God's Word

### Prayer for Illumination

*from Feasting on the Word*

God of light,  
send your Holy Spirit to open our hearts,  
that your Word may show us  
the blessings you intend for all creation;  
Amen.

## Scripture Readings

Psalm 126

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Mark 10: 46-52

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Children's Message

Ruling Elder Sarah Greim and Brighton

## Sermon

I Don't Always Like What the Bible Says Rev. Dr. Kathy Stoner-Lasala

## Respond to God's Word

### Affirmation of Faith

*adapted from Ruth C. Duck, Bread for the Journey*

**The church is a family of people with varieties of gifts, united by the Spirit that is revealed through Jesus of Nazareth. It is the Spirit of caring for one another, of forgiving, of helping each other, of love revealed in the life and death of Jesus. The church is the people of God, with a diversity of needs, ideas, and visions, inspired by the words and deeds of Jesus as recorded in Scripture. This is the Spirit of openness to the world and to all people as our siblings, the Spirit that spurs the church toward growth and renewal that takes many forms, the Spirit that brings order out of chaos, unity in the midst of disunity, and life in the midst of death.**

### Offering Our Gifts and Lives to God

*from Feasting on the Word*

Generous God, bless our offerings with the grace that comes from your work and our hands. We give with joy and thanks in the name of Jesus; Amen.

Let Me Be Thine Forever  
J.C.F. Bach/Arr. Lani Smith

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.

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

*Please sing the Doxology.*

### 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 Prayer of Jesus

*Minnesota Conference of the United Methodist Church*

**Our Loving God in heaven, hallowed be your Name,  
Your kin-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

## JOYS & CONCERNS

**In Our Prayers:** For comfort, the Family and Friends of Cheryl McCulloh; and for God's presence, **Dick Wells**, Dorothy Bain, Lynette, Matt and Mariann Kabel, Brenda Cole, David Milnes, Hudson Stoner, 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 Alvarez 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 when patients give permission and when pandemic precautions permit.

**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).

## Update From Our Stewardship Committee

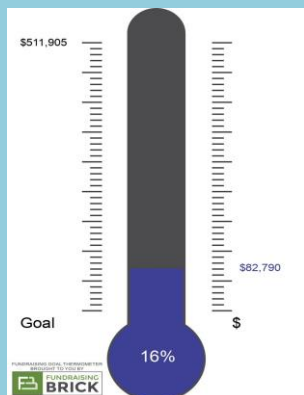
*"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For the measure you give will be measured to you."* -Luke 6:38

Giving, one of the ultimate acts of faith, demonstrates our belief in God who helps us provide for and serve others. Giving manifests our faith in First Presbyterian's role in God's future.

This year, we will come together on **Stewardship Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021**, to present our 2022 stewardship pledges.

We realize many of you tune into our worship services virtually. If you will attend online on November 7<sup>th</sup>, we hope you will show your faith in the future by pledging online or returning your pledge card by Sunday, November 21st. If you want help setting up your online pledge, please contact Kristine Olson, Finance Manager, at [olson@fpdavenport.org](mailto:olson@fpdavenport.org) or (563) 326-1691 x219.

If you have returned your 2022 Stewardship Cards or set-up your online pledge already: **a sincere thank you!** As of 10/18/2021, your confirmed pledges total \$82,790. Your generosity and commitment have launched us toward \$511,905, our 2021 pledge total!



For the dominion, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen

## Go To Serve With God's Blessing

\*Hymn

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

BEACH SPRING

1. God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, From Your rich and end - less  
2. Skills and time are ours for press - ing Toward the goals of Christ, You  
3. Trea - sure too You have en - trust - ed, Gain through pow'rs Your grace cor

store, Na-ture's won-der, Je - sus' wis - dom, Cost-ly cross, grave's shat-tered door: Gift-e  
Son: All at peace in health and free-dom, Rac-es joined, the church made one. Now d  
ferred; Ours to use for home and kin - dred, And to spread the gos - pel Word. O - p

by You, we turn to You, Of-fering up our - selves in praise; Thank-ful  
rect our dai - ly la - bor, Lest we strive for self a - lone; Born with  
wide our hands, in shar - ing, As we heed Christ's age - less call. Heal-ing,

song shall rise for - ev - er, Gra-cious do - nor of our days.  
tal - ents, make us ser - vants Fit to an - swer at Your throne.  
teach - ing and re - claim - ing, Serv-ing You by lov - ing all.

### \*Charge and Benediction

Go from this place with hearts wide open;  
Be ready to welcome all God's people,  
respond to Christ's every call, and  
follow Jesus to work for life made new.

May the Lord deliver you and protect you;  
May the Lord answer you when you call;  
May the Lord satisfy you with blessing;  
and strengthen you with power; Amen.

Postlude

Give to God Our Immortal Praise

Arr. Cherwie

**Printed contact-free**

## **A Letter from Our Reconciliation Facilitator the Rev. Dr. Beth McCaw**

Dear friends in Christ,

It has been a privilege to come alongside the First Presbyterian Church of Davenport and the Presbytery of East Iowa as you seek healing and hope in your relationship in order to move forward together in Christ's call.

There will be specific opportunities throughout this fall for leaders to address practical points. And either before or after the holidays there will be a time in which individuals can share the ways they have been impacted, and to name what is needed to move forward in a more whole and functioning relationship.

Between now and then, we seek to keep our ears and hearts open to the voice and Word of God. This is grounding in the midst of much human activity, and forms us in faith. The experience of sharing attention to God's word, and praying for the world, also reminds us that we are called to the same kingdom work.

A series of 30 minute devotional times via Zoom is scheduled. I hope that you will consider attending one or more. They are at various times in order to accommodate the diverse schedules of individuals. I will lead these with different ways to listen to Scripture, and to pray for God's beloved world. These are gatherings in which precipitating conflicts are decentered – we practice gathering for Word and prayer and this creates a foundation for talking later about wounds and needs. No one will be put on the spot to talk or share; the focus will not be contentious. May these be small oases in the week that nourish your soul.

Sunday October 17	7:30 p.m.	Tuesday November 2	5:30 p.m.
Tuesday October 19	5:30 p.m.	Friday November 12	9:00 a.m.
Thursday October 28	9:00 a.m.	Tuesday November 16	5:30 p.m.

*Please check your e-News for a link  
to the zoom call for the devotional time that you would like to attend.*

It will be good to listen for God and lean into our call together. Please be in touch as is helpful.

Yours in Christ,

Beth McCaw (Reconciliation Facilitator)  
[Blmccaw70@gmail.com](mailto:Blmccaw70@gmail.com) 563-663-3531

## **Offering for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)**

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has been busy in recent weeks and months offering needed supplies and volunteers to those hard hit during the year's many natural disasters in our nation.

Today is the last Sunday that our church will focus on receiving donations for PDA.

You can donate through our church online, or write a check to FPC, indicating that it is for the PDA collection.

Special envelopes are in the pews. Information about the mission of PDA can be found on its website:

<https://pda.pcusa.org>

## **A Prayer from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for Rescue, Recovery and Relief Workers**

"God our help and hope when waters rise, you brought Israel safely through the sea. Sustain all those who seek to save others, so that they may repair the ruined cities, raise up the former devastations, and be the restorers of streets to live in; through Jesus Christ, our eternal savior."

-based on Isaiah 58 and 61

## **Pickleball is Back! Monday and Wednesday 9:00-11:00 AM**

We play pickleball 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.

### Newcomers' Inquiry

From the  
Hospitality and Welcoming  
Committee

We will host a **Newcomer's Inquiry** on **Sunday, November 14, at 12:30 p.m., in Fellowship Hall.** Light refreshments will be served.

We invite anyone to attend who is interested in exploring the possibility of becoming a member of, or learning more about, First Presbyterian Church.

Our gathering will be a Get-Together with some church staff and representatives from the Session, Board of Deacons, and the Hospitality and Welcoming Committee.

This event will offer you the opportunity to ask questions and meet some members of our congregation but does not require making a membership decision.

Please let the church office know if you would like to attend. To sign up, or for more information, please call the church at 563-326-1691.

### **Caring Closet Update**

The Caring Closet is open on Tuesday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to noon, and on Friday afternoons from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

We're planning a special opportunity for parents to shop for toys for their children. So we're asking for your donations of gently-used toys. Please, NO stuffed animals.

We receive donations during the hours we are open as well as on Sunday mornings from 10:45 - 11:45 a.m.

**Thank you!**



### Cocoa and Caring ...Warm Hands and Warm Heart

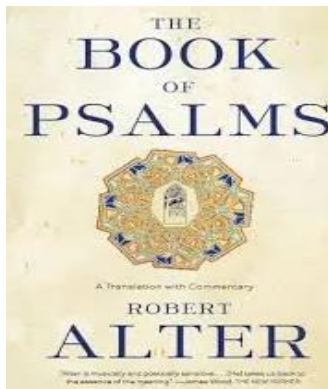
Once again, this winter, we will reach out to our First Church neighborhood with hot cocoa, candy canes, warm mittens, gloves, hats and lots of Christmas spirit.

On **Tuesday December 7<sup>th</sup> between 3 and 5pm**, we will hand out Christmas blessings at a table outside the front doors of the sanctuary on Kirkwood Boulevard.

Now is the time to start bringing donations of these items to place in the container at the back of the church sanctuary. Any questions, call or text Cathy Pratscher-Woods at 563-349-2288.



## Bible Basics 201 A Study of Psalms



Bible Basics has begun a series of lessons on the Psalms. We are using a curriculum from Yale Divinity School.

Here is the link to the study material: <https://yalebiblestudy.org/courses/psalms> We are also using *The Book of Psalms*, by Robert Alter. Dr. Alter provides his own translation and a commentary on all 150 Psalms.

We meet on Wednesdays at 6:15 PM on Zoom. Here is the schedule for up-coming lessons:

October 27 Wisdom Psalms  
November 3 The Human Condition  
November 10 The Character of God

Please contact Mark Jones ([mkjones@mchsi.com](mailto:mkjones@mchsi.com)) for more information.

Here is the Zoom link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82283095977?pwd=VnJFdmowcFJua3hSWEpQanNBVFhFdz09>

Meeting ID: 822 8309 5977

Passcode: 215593

	September 2021		September 2020	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
General Fund Income	52,359	38,015	45,680	50,150
Custodial Accounts Income	6,418	-	(28,035)	-
Compensation Expenses	38,755	49,179	44,168	50,348
Non Compensation General Fund Expenses	17,882	17,439	11,137	21,070
Custodial Accounts Expenses	6,419	-	(28,035)	-
<b>Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>(4,279)</b>	<b>(28,603)</b>	<b>(9,625)</b>	<b>(21,268)</b>
	2021 Year-To-Date		2020 Year-To-Date	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
General Fund Income	546,001	483,074	617,256	650,958
Custodial Accounts Income	31,205	-	75,570	-
Compensation Expenses	351,454	386,943	434,104	447,000
Non Compensation General Fund Expenses	150,841	160,086	121,826	184,250
Custodial Accounts Expenses	31,204	-	75,569	-
<b>Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>43,707</b>	<b>(63,955)</b>	<b>61,327</b>	<b>19,708</b>

All numbers are rounded.

## Presbytery of East Iowa Book Study

Rev. T. Denise Anderson, who is the Coordinator for Racial & Intercultural Justice, PC(U.S.A.), & Co-Moderator of the 222nd General Assembly (2016-18), will speak at our November Presbytery Meeting.

Denise has challenged us to an All-Presbytery Book Read of *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents* by Isabel Wilkerson.

For a free Self-Paced Study Guide, you can copy and paste these URLs in a browser:

[Caste-Book-Study-Entire-Documents.pdf \(peia.org\)](#)

or

[CASTE Book Study: A Self-Paced Study Guide for the Presbytery of East Iowa – Presbytery of East Iowa \(peia.org\)](#)

### **An Opportunity from Our Building and Grounds Committee: Church Grounds Clean-Up Days**

Friday, November 5,  
5:00 p.m. until the sun sets;  
Saturday, November 6  
9:00 a.m. – Noon

You don't need a green thumb for this project! Join us for fellowship as we tidy-up the planting beds and lawns around the church building to get them ready for winter.

The church will provide lawn bags for the yard waste and we also have a wheelbarrow and small rolling cart for you to use.

Please bring rakes for leaves and tools to cut back plants for the winter.

For questions or to RSVP, contact the church (563-326-1691) or email Darren Long: [Long@fpcdavenport.org](mailto:Long@fpcdavenport.org)

# Fall Program Weekly Schedule

## Online Worship Watch Party

Sundays, 9:30 a.m., for more information, see the e-news, church website or Facebook.

## MusikGarten

Online, Sundays, 8:30 a.m.

## Cherub Choir and Sunday School

Sunday, **October 24**, 10:35 – 11:20 a.m. Sunday School, CE Building, 3d Floor

Sundays, **October 31** and **November 7**, 10:35 – 11:20 a.m. Cherub Choir, CE Building, 3d Floor

Sunday, **November 14**, 10:35 – 11:20 a.m. Sunday School, CE Building, 3d Floor

Sunday, **November 21**, 10:35 – 11:20 a.m. Cherub Choir, CE Building, 3d Floor

## Kirkwood Choir and Sunday School

Sunday, **October 24**, 10:35 – 11:20 a.m. Sunday School, CE Building, 3d Floor

Sundays, **October 31** and **November 7**, 10:35 – 11:20 a.m. Kirkwood Choir, CE Building, 3d Floor

Sunday, **November 14**, 10:35 – 11:20 a.m. Sunday School, CE Building, 3d Floor

Sunday, **November 21**, 10:35 – 11:20 a.m. Kirkwood Choir, CE Building, 3d Floor

## Confirmation Class

10:35 – 11:20 a.m., Fireplace Room

Confirmation Class is for anyone in 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> Grades

## Adult Christian Education

Sundays, 10:35 a.m. – 11:20 a.m., Von Maur Hall

## Caring Closet

Donations received 10:45 – 11:45 a.m.

## Chamber Chorale

Sundays, 11:20 a.m. – 12:20 p.m., Choir Room

## Pickle Ball

Monday, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. Gym

## Caring Closet

Tuesdays 9:00 a.m. – noon with donations received

## Staff Meeting

Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m. Hybrid Zoom

## Pickle Ball

Wednesday, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m., Gym

## Bible Basics 201

Wednesday, 6:15 – 7:15 p.m. Zoom

## Vesper Bells

Thursdays 6:00 – 6:45 p.m., Chapel

## Sanctuary Choir

Thursdays 7:00- 8:30 p.m., Sanctuary

## Caring Closet

Fridays 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. with donations received