

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

October 31, 2021
 23rd 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

John 17: 17-23
 Ephesians 4: 1-8, 11-16

"I in them, and you in me, that they may be completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me."

-John 17:23



Lucas Cranach the Elder (1472-1553) – *Portrait of Martin Luther* (Coburg Fortress, Germany)

Preparation for Worship

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

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

The Church Gathers To...

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--|--------------------|
| Prelude | Prelude in A minor | J. S. Bach |
| Welcome and Announcements | | Rev. Pat Halverson |
| Introit | God Is Gone Up with a Shout The Sanctuary Choir | Eric Thiman |

Praise Almighty God

adapted from Psalm 34:9-14

Call to Worship

God of Creation, you command the skies
 and they bring the rains.
 God of grace, you rained down manna from heaven,
 the living bread of Christ.

**As we gather to praise you and digest what you have for us,
 may we be strengthened; may you be glorified.**

Let us worship God.

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

Copyright Information

Ulysses Kay, arr. "O Worship the King"
(©1960 C.F. Peters Corp.)

John Rutter, "Go Forth into the World in Peace"
(©1988 Oxford University Press)

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*Hymn #260

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

EIN FESTE BURG

1. A might - y for - tress is our God, A bul - wark nev - er
2. Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
3. And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -
4. That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -
fail - ing. Our help - er He, a - mid the flood of
los - ing, were not the right man on our side, the
do us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his
bid - eth. The Spir - it and the gifts are ours through
mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe doth seek to work us
man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ Je - sus, it is
truth to tri - umph through us. The Prince of Dark - ness grim, we trem - ble not for
him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go, this mor - tal life al -
woe; His craft and power are great, and armed with cru - el
he. Lord Sab - a - oth his name, from age to age the
him. His rage we can en - dure, for lo, his doom is
so. The bod - y they may kill; God's truth a - bid - eth
hate, on earth is not his e - equal.
same, and he must win the bat - tle.
sure. One lit - tle word shall fell him.
still. His king - dom is for - ev - er.

Confess to a Forgiving Creator

*Call to Confession

Though we are forgiven, we are not sinless.

Together we confess our need to be restored in fellowship with God.

*Prayer of Confession

(Based in part on Psalm 51)

O God, according to your steadfast love, according to your abundant mercy, have mercy on us and blot out our transgressions. Cleanse us from our sin against you and against others. Forgive us for our apathy, our worry instead of trust in You, our bouts of anger and selfishness. You desire truth. Therefore we ask you to pour your wisdom into our hearts, that we might be filled with your Spirit and walk in your ways. Through Christ, our Lord, amen.

*Assurance of Forgiveness

The Lord created in each of us a clean heart that is now filled with a new Spirit.

We are ever in God's presence; we are forgiven completely.

May we know the joy of our salvation and be sustained with a willing spirit; Amen.

Anthem

O Worship the King

arr. Ulysses Kay

The Sanctuary Choir

Listen for God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Gracious God, as we turn our hearts to worship and to learn of you, may we hear your voice speaking to us, and be willing to follow as your Spirit leads us. Amen.

Scripture Readings

John 17:17-23

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 4:1-8, 16-20

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

Ruling Elder Sarah Greim and Brighton

Sermon

Unity and Its Purpose

Rev. Pat Halverson

Respond to God's Word

Affirmation of Faith

Barmen Declaration, Book of Confessions, PC(USA)

We believe that Christ is manifest in the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another. Unity is both a gift and an obligation for the church. Unity becomes visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is sin which Christ has already conquered.

Offering Our Gifts and Lives to God

Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott, BWV Anh. 49

J. S. Bach

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.

Prayer of Dedication

As you, O God, have blessed us with so much, we present to you ourselves. We offer this portion of what we have received from you, that it might be used to further your work among us and in this world. 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

JOYS & CONCERNS

In Our Prayers: For comfort, the Family and Friends of Dick Wells and Cheryl McCulloh; and for God's presence **with** Dorothy Bain, Lynette, 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**

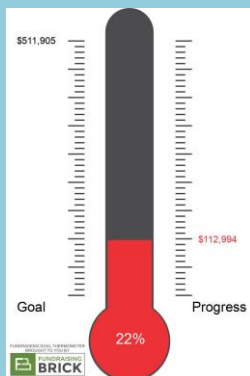
“Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For the measure you give will be measured to you.” -Luke 6:38

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 7th 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 7th, 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 or (563) 326-1691 x219.

If you have returned your 2022 Stewardship Cards or set-up your online pledge already: **a sincere thank you!** Your generosity and commitment to the many missions of FPC has resulted in a total of \$112,994 pledged thru 10/25/2021, or 22% of the total 2021 Pledge Campaign of \$511,905.



Go To Serve With God’s Blessing

***Hymn #376**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

1. Love di - vine all loves ex - cel - ing, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down,
 2. Breathe, O breathe Thy lov - ing Spir - it In - to ev - 'ry trou - bled breast!
 3. Come, Al - might - y to de - liv - er, Let us all Thy life re - ceive;
 4. Fin - ish, then, Thy new cre - a - tion; Pure and spot - less let us be;

Fix in us Thy hum - ble dwell - ing, All Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown!
 Let us all in Thee in - her - it, Let us find the prom - ised rest;
 Sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, Nev - er - more Thy tem - ples leave.
 Let us see Thy great sal - va - tion Per - fect - ly re - stored in Thee;

Je - sus, Thou art all com - pas - sion, Pure, un - bound - ed love Thou art;
 Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be;
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, Serve Thee as Thy hosts a - bove;
 Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, Till in heav'n we take our place,

Vis - it us with Thy sal - va - tion, En - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 End of faith, as its be - gin - ning, Set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 Pray, and praise Thee with - out ceas - ing, Glo - ry in Thy per - fect love.
 Till we cast our crowns be - fore Thee, Lost in won - der, love, and praise.

Charge and Benediction

As God sent Christ,
 God also sent the Spirit to dwell within us,
 and to fill our hearts. Therefore:

Let us be united as one in God’s wisdom,
 sharing Christ’s love,
 bearing the Spirit’s fruit of joy, gentleness, kindness and self-control.

May the Lord bless and keep you.
 May the Lord be kind and gracious to you.
 May the Lord’s countenance be lifted up upon you and give you peace. Amen.

Choral Benediction

Go Forth into the World in Peace
 The Sanctuary Choir

John Rutter

Postlude

Fantasy on Ein feste Burg

Max Reger

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.

Tuesday November 2 5:30 p.m.

Friday November 12 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 563-663-3531

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.

Caring Closet Update

The Caring Closet is open on **Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m. to noon, and on Fridays from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.** We receive donations during the hours we are open as well as on Sunday mornings from 10:45 - 11:45 a.m.

We're planning a special opportunity for parents to shop for toys for their children on **November 30 and December 7; both dates from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.** So we're asking for your donations of gently-used toys. Please, NO stuffed animals. Also, now that the weather has turned chilly, we're asking as well for donations of gently used coats, gloves, mittens and mufflers. Thank you!

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 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 yard waste and also a wheelbarrow and small rolling cart. 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

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.

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-Documnt.pdf \(peia.org\)](#)

or

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

Cocoa and Caring ...Warm Hands and Warm Heart

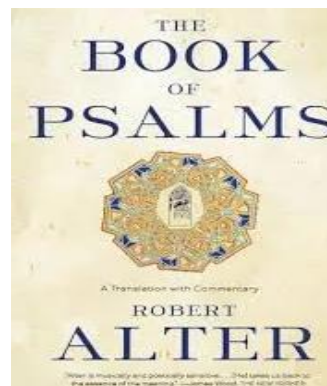
Once again, this winter, we will reach out to our First Church neighborhood with hot cocoa, candy canes, warm mittens, gloves, hats and lots of Christmas spirit.

On **Tuesday December 7th 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:

November 3 The Human Condition
November 10 The Character of God

Please contact Mark Jones (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

Presbytery of East Iowa
has granted First Pres permission
to form the Pastor
Nominating Committee (PNC)
to call a Senior Pastor/Head of Staff!

This permission is limited to:

- +forming the PNC and
- +setting the PNC to work on folding together into a single mission study statement:
 - the E2020 report,
 - the Mission Study completed while Pastor Mark was with First Pres,
 - the vision work of the Congregational Growth & Marketing Committee, and
 - the Reconciliation Process reports

The Nominating Committee has begun the work of identifying a slate of candidates for the PNC; a meeting of the congregation to elect the PNC will be called when the Nominating Committee has assembled the slate.

If you feel called to serve on the PNC - or discern that someone else has the spiritual giftedness to serve - please contact any member of the Nominating Committee. Ruling Elder Heather Calvert is the Chair of the Nominating Committee and her email is calvert.hn@gmail.com

| | 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) | - |
| Surplus (Deficit) | (4,279) | (28,603) | (9,625) | (21,268) |
| | 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 | - |
| Surplus (Deficit) | 43,707 | (63,955) | 61,327 | 19,708 |

All numbers are rounded.

Session Highlights for October 2021

Elders met with Rev. Beth McCaw our Reconciliation Facilitator on October 18th as part of Beth's process of meeting with individuals and groups in the congregation.

Communion was approved for Sunday, November 28, 2021 (the first Sunday of Advent) and for the 9 p.m. Christmas Eve service.

The church purchased a new snow-blower. Let's hope it is seldom used. Two items were approved by Session with the hope of increasing communication between Session and the congregation.

An electronic comment/suggestion box is going to be created so that congregational members can submit comments that will then be forwarded to Session.

An informational congregational meeting will be held mid-year from the Annual Congregational Meeting.

The Session approved a policy that all FPC employees be fully-vaccinated for COVID-19 with first shot by November 1, 2021. Requests for reasonable accommodations for medical reasons that are signed by a licensed medical professional will be considered by the Personnel Committee on a case-by-case basis.

An updated and revised Child Protection Policy was approved.

A new Deacon requested program of holding Giving Tuesdays was approved. Initial items to be requested will be personal hygiene items, underwear, or cash to purchase these same items. Distribution will be through the Caring Closet.

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

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

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 7th – 9th Grades

Adult Christian Education

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

Today, October 31: Coffee and Conversation; ACE will provide conversation starters.

Sunday, **November 7:** Pastor Kathy will lead a “Talk Back” on that morning’s All Saints sermon.

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