

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

# November 14, 2021 25<sup>th</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).



# COVENANT NETWORK OF PRESBYTERIANS

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

# We are a Matthew 25 church



# MATTHEW 2

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

1 Samuel 1: 4-20 1 Samuel 2: 1-10 Hebrews 10: 11-25 Mark 13: 1-8

"God raises up the poor from the dust; the Lord lifts the needy from the ash heap." 1 Samuel 2: 8a



Manuscript illumination, "Hannah Before Eli the High Priest" — Malnazar and Aghap'ir (active 1630s) - J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles

#### **Preparation for Worship**

We invite you to meditate silently on art, music and Scripture.
\*Worshipers who are able, please stand. **Bold** indicates congregational response.

## The Church Gathers To...

Prelude Vivace from Trio Sonata in G Major, BWV 530 J. S. Bach

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Dr. Kathy Stoner-Laasala

Minute for Mission PUNCH Thanksgiving Dinner Board of Deacons

Minute for Mission Cocoa and Caring Board of Deacons

Prelude All Things Bright and Beautiful Arr. Katherine Jordahl Larson

The Vesper Bells

# **Praise Almighty God**

#### Call to Worship

adapted from 1 Sam 2: 1-2 Feasting on the Word

Let our hearts exult in the Lord; our strength is exalted in God!



#### **Our Staff**

Rev. Dr. Kathy Stoner-Lasala

\*\*Bridging Pastor\*\*

\*\*Page 1.1.\*\*

\*\*Page 2.1.\*\*

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

Susan Parker

Church Administrative Assistant

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**

Katherine Jordahl Larson, arr.

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

(©2000 Concordia Publishing House)

Dalw Wood, arr. "How Firm a Foundation"

(©2001 Sacred Music Press)

Ron Mallory, arr.,
"There Is a Balm in Gilead"
(©2018 Lorenz Corp.)

John Rutter,

"The Peace of God"
(©1991 Oxford University Press)

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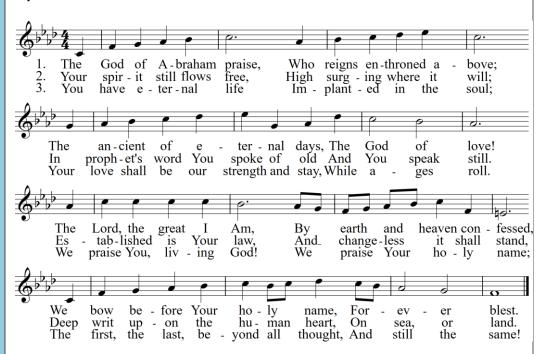
Let our mouths be fixed in praise;

#### There is no Rock like our God!

Let us praise God together!

\*Hymn #488 The God of Abraham Praise

LEONI



# Confess to a Forgiving Creator

#### \*Call to Confession

adapted from Seasons of the Spirit

Whether we are in distress, or joy, or sorrow, or hope, God will hear us and free us to receive God's grace. In peace, let us pray:

#### \*Prayer of Confession

adapted from Seasons of the Spirit Mustard Bush Faith Community

O God, you are the source of our life and the hope of our hearts. Your desire for us is unending and you do not reject us when we reject ourselves. You send your Spirit to call us by name because our suffering is your suffering and our joy is your joy. By the Spirit's power, remove our pride, untangle our thoughts and simplify our hearts so that we may with deep peace receive your love; Amen.

#### \*Assurance of Forgiveness

Garry Deverell

Hear the good news! We are loved with a love that has no bounds; we are forgiven with a forgiveness that forgets all wrong.

Friends in Christ, our sins are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

Anthem

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

arr. Alfred Fedak

Commissioned by the family of Dr. Andrew Bowles Edwards on his retirement from 39 years as a physician, for his dear friends, the Sanctuary Choir of FPC-Davenport.

#### Listen for God's Word

**Prayer for Illumination** 

adapted from Feasting on the Word

Holy and gracious God, your Word fills us with good things. As we turn our hearts to the pages of Scripture, remind us of your power, your compassion and your justice; Amen.

#### **Scripture Readings**

1 Samuel 1: 4-20

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

1 Samuel 2: 1-10

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### **Children's Message**

Ruling Elder Sarah Greim and Friends

Sermon

Is There Any Hope?

Rev. Dr. Kathy Stoner-Lasala

# Respond to God's Word

#### **Affirmation of Faith**

from Brief Statement of Faith, Book of Confessions, PC(USA)

In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone in God's image .... In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

#### Offering Our Gifts and Lives to God

Merciful God, you hear our cries and honor our tears. Stir in us such a passion for your kin-dom that we might vow to give you our best, for the glory of your name; Amen.

There Is a Balm in Gilead

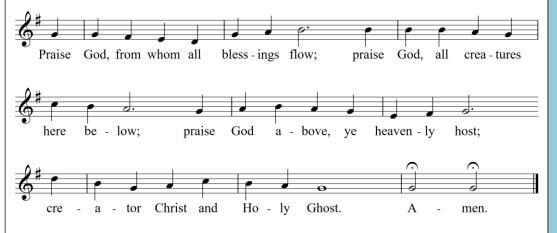
Arr. Ron Mallory

#### The Vesper Bells

To donate, please visit the church website, fpcdavenport.org, and click on "Donate Now," use the link: <a href="https://bit.ly/2V8nEgm">https://bit.ly/2V8nEgm</a>, or mail your check in to the church office.

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

Please sing the Doxology.



# JOYS & CONCERNS

In Our Prayers: For comfort, the Family and Friends of Dick Wells and Cheryl McCulloh; and for God's presence with Sarah Henness, Dottie Travor, 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 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 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**

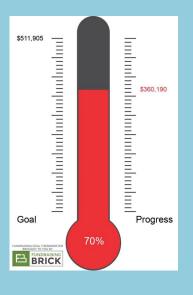
"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For the measure you give will be measured to you." - Luke 6:38

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.

Your generosity and commitment to the many missions of FPC have resulted in confirmed pledges of \$360,190. You have launched us toward \$511,905, our 2021 pledge total!

Sunday, November 7th, we offered our pledges during the worship service. We realize many attend our worship services virtually; you can also show your faith in God's future by pledging online or returning your pledge card to the church by Sunday, November 21st. If you have returned your 2022 Stewardship Cards or set-up your online pledge already: a sincere thank you!

If you want help setting up your online pledge, please contact Kristine Olson, Finance Manager, at olson@fpdavenport.org or (563) 326-1691 x219.



#### **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

Ward and Wild, adapted

Beloved Creator, in whom is heaven: hallowed be your name. May your way be followed and your will be done throughout all creation. Feed us with the bread we need for today; forgive us the hurts we absorb from one other; strengthen us in times of temptation and test; spare us from trials too great to endure; free us from the grip of all that is evil. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever; Amen.

# Go To Serve With God's Blessing



#### \*Charge and Benediction

I charge you now to go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

Take the grace of God to those places that live,

but have yet to see life in all its fullness;

those places that love,

but have yet to experience the source of all love;

those places that seek,

but stumble in their searching.

May the blessing of God,

your Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer,

go with you today and always; Amen.

\*Choral Benediction

The Peace of God The Sanctuary Choir John Rutter

**Postlude** How Firm a Foundation

Arr. Dale Wood

#### **Introducing our Church Administrative Assistant: Susan Parker!**



Susan Parker was born in 1966 in Detroit, Michigan. She relocated to the Quad Cities at a very early age.

Susan brings to the table 18 years of experience as an Administrative Assistant. During this time, she has continued to make a difference in her local community, working with local Non-Profit organizations in the Quad Cities area such as Trinity Broadcasting Network.

Susan graduated from Bettendorf High School and is proud to say that she was the first African American woman to graduate from Bettendorf High School.

Susan's experience as a single mother of five children, Michael, Aaron, Jasmine, Stacia, and Christopher, and 11 grandchildren gives her a unique understanding of the barriers and struggles that working families must endure today.

Welcome, Susan!

## Presbytery of East Iowa has granted 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

# 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 Tuesday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to noon, and on Friday afternoons from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

We're planning a holiday shopping event for parents on Nov 30 and Dec 7 from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

We are collecting the following items:

Toys, games and books (new or gently used)

Clothing (all sizes) especially sweatshirts, sweaters, coats, jackets, scarves, hats and gloves/mittens

Shoes (children and adult)

Boots (children and adult)

Men's and Women's Underwear (all sizes, new)

Socks

Accessories-purses, scarves, jewelry, men's ties and belts

Towels, washcloths

Bedding—sheets, blankets, pillows

Kitchen items

Toiletries (shampoo, conditioner, bath soap, deodorant, feminine hygiene items, etc.)

Disposable diapers (all sizes)

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

Thank you!

#### "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" Text: Edward Mote

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

#### Refrain:

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand: all other ground is sinking sand; all other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace;

in every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. [Refrain]

His oath, his covenant, his blood, support me in the whelming flood; when all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. [Refrain]

When he shall come tith trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found:

dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne. [Refrain]

# "The Peace of God" The Book of Common Prayer

The peace of God,
Which passeth all understanding
Keep your hearts and minds in the
knowledge and love of God,
And of his Son
Jesus Christ our Lord:

And the blessing of God Almighty, The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, Be amongst you and remain with you always. Amen.

#### **October Financials**

	Octobe	r 2021	October 2020		
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	
General Fund Income	89,565	41,520	48,257	56,680	
Custodial Accounts Income	4,070	-	242	-	
Compensation Expenses	35,343	51,690	39,042	51,258	
Non Compensation General Fund Expenses	10,720	12,482	10,264	17,015	
Custodial Accounts Expenses	4,070	-	242	-	
Surplus (Deficit)	43,502	(22,652)	(1,049)	(11,593)	
	2021 Yea	r-To-Date	2020 Year-To-Date		
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	
General Fund Income	635,566	524,594	665,511	707,638	
Custodial Accounts Income	35,276	-	75,813	-	
Compensation Expenses	386,797	438,633	473,146	498,258	
Non Compensation General Fund Expenses	161,559	172,568	132,088	201,265	
Custodial Accounts Expenses	35,276	-	75,812	-	
Surplus (Deficit)	87,210	(86,607)	60,278	8,115	

All numbers are rounded.

#### 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.



#### **Chancel Guild Announcement About Poinsettias**

In the tradition of past Christmas seasons, the Chancel Guild will brighten the Sanctuary with poinsettias given in memory or honor of loved ones. To be a part of this wonderful tradition, please complete and return the form below to the church office or place in the offering plate. The deadline for making memorials is Wednesday, November 24. You are welcome to pick up your poinsettia after the service on either Sunday, December 26th, or Sunday, January 2nd, or leave it for another congregation member to enjoy.

In Memory or Honor of: _	 	 	
(circle one)			
Given by:	 		

#### 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 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)
<a href="mailto:Blmccaw70@gmail.com">Blmccaw70@gmail.com</a> 563-663-3531

# Newcomers' Inquiry From the Hospitality and Welcoming Committee

**Today** we will host a <u>Newcomer's Inquiry</u> 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.

To attend, simply come to Fellowship Hall at 12:30 p.m. today!

#### **Angel Tree Project**

The season of giving is upon us! The Angel Tree Project will soon be under way! Stay tuned for more information.

#### **Session Highlights for October 2021**

Elders met with Rev. Beth McCaw our Reconciliation Facilitator on October 18<sup>th</sup> 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 snowblower. 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, **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, **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  $7^{th}-9^{th}$  Grades

#### **Adult Christian Education**

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

# **Caring Closet**

Sundays, Donations received 10:45 - 11:45 a.m

#### **Chamber Chorale**

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

## **Newcomers' Inquiry**

Sunday, November 14, 12:30 – 1:15 p.m.

#### Pickle Ball

Monday, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Gym

## **Session Meeting**

Monday, November 15, 7:00 p.m.

# **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- 9:00 p.m., Sanctuary

#### **Caring Closet**

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

Printed contact-free