

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

March 20, 2022
Laetare Sunday
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

Isaiah 55: 1-9

Psalms 63: 1-8

1 Corinthians 10: 1-13

Luke 13: 1-9

"The gardener replied, '... let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

Luke 13: 8-9



Lodovico Mazzolino (ca. 1480 – 1530), "Moses and the Tablets of the Law" (detail)
Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, 1525-1530

Preparation for Worship

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

*Worshippers who are comfortable doing so, please stand.

Bold indicates congregational response.

The Church Gathers To...

Prelude

Fugue in C minor, BWV 582

J. S. Bach

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Kathy Stoner-Lasala

Introit

Improvisation on CAITHNESS

William Cowper

Praise Almighty God

Call to Worship

from Isaiah 55: 1-2

Thus says the Lord: "Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;
you that have no money, come, buy and eat!

**Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?**

Incline your ear to me, and come to me;

listen so that you may live!"

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

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

Dale Wood, Arr., "The Gift to Be Simple" (©1991 The Sacred Music Press)

John Ferguson Arr., "Christ Is the World's Redeemer" (©2005 GIA Publications, Inc.)

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*Hymn #396

O for a Closer Walk with God

CAITHNESS

Confess to a Forgiving Creator

Call to Confession

from Isaiah 55: 6-7

Isaiah writes: "Seek the LORD ... call upon God while the LORD is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, [who will] have mercy on them, and to our God, [who] will abundantly pardon. In the peace that passes all understanding, let us pray:

Prayer of Confession

Feasting on the Word, adapted

Holy God, you set before us a rich feast of blessing, but we are drawn to lesser things that cannot satisfy. You call us to attend to the needs of the world, but we indulge our own desires. Forgive us when we fall short of your claim upon our lives. Disturb our complacency and quicken our desire for a more fruitful life. We ask it for your love' sake; Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Psalms 63: 1-8, adapted

Oh God, you have been my help; your steadfast love is better than life.
My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.
I will bless you as long as I live; in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy!
I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ,
our sins are forgiven!
Thanks be to God!

*Response to Grace

Listen for God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Feasting on the Word, adapted

We seek you in your Word, O God, as though we were searching for water in a dry and weary land. By the power of your Spirit, may your Word be for us a rich feast that satisfies the soul. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 55: 1-9

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, has glorified you. Seek the LORD [who] may be found, call upon God [who] is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, [who will] have mercy on them, and to our God, [who] will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Scripture Reading

Luke 13: 1-9

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did." Then Jesus told this parable: "A landowner who had a fig tree planted in the vineyard came looking for fruit on it and found none. So the landowner said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' The gardener replied, 'Let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Anthem

Concertato on "Christ Is the World's Redeemer"
The Sanctuary Choir

John Ferguson

Children's Message

Ruling Elder Sarah Greim and Friends

Sermon

Plant Food

Rev. Dr. Kathy Stoner-Lasala

JOYS & CONCERNS

In Our Prayers: the people of Ukraine and all who groan under oppression; comfort for the Families and Friends of Ron Soldt, Carol Ann Block, Karen Hean; for God's presence with all those who are grieving; for God's hands of healing and protection to touch Jim Keenan, Lamont, Erin Middleton Cavan, Danielle, Dick Duncan, Jim Hall, Decklin, Dorothy Bain, Lynette, Brenda Cole, David Milnes, Hudson Stoner, Rebecca Koos, Barb Thede, families and victims of gun violence including the families of victims and community around East High School in Des Moines and the family of the victim and community around Hamilton Elementary School in Moline, abuse, addiction, violence, loss, suicide, COVID-19, and all recent natural disasters.

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: the Pastors make hospital visits when patients give permission and when pandemic precautions permit.

InTouch Information: For anyone who is homebound 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 who need prayer with those who commit to a ministry of prayer. Contact 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 r/o to the church office directly (563-326-1691).

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

Anthem Text

Christ Is the World's Redeemer

Christ is the world's Redeemer,
The lover of the pure,
The fount of heavenly wisdom.
Our trust and hope secure;
The armor of his soldiers,
The Lord of earth and sky;
Our health while we are living,
Our life when we shall die.

Christ has our host surrounded
With clouds of martyrs bright,
Who wave their palms in triumph,
And fire us for the fight.
For Christ the cross ascended,
To save a world undone,
And, suffering for the sinful,
Our full redemption won.

Down in the realm of darkness
He lay a captive bound,
But at the hour, at the hour, at the hour
He arose, a victor crowned;
And now, to heaven ascended,
He sits upon the throne,
In glorious dominion,
His Father's and his own.

Glory to God the Father,
The unbegotten One;
All honor be to Jesus,
His sole begotten Son;
And to the Holy Spirit
The perfect Trinity.
Let all the worlds give answer,
"Amen so let it be!"

"Tebe Poem"

From the Orthodox Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Sung in Old Church Slavonic.
Translation:

We sing to you,
We praise you,
We thank you, O Lord,
And we pray to you, our God.

Respond to God's Word

Offering Our Gifts and Lives to God

Too often we spend our money on that which is not true bread and labor toward things that will never satisfy. In our tithes and offerings we give to things that are of God: bread for the hungry, good news for the oppressed, welcome for strangers and outsiders. Let us give as God has given freely to us.

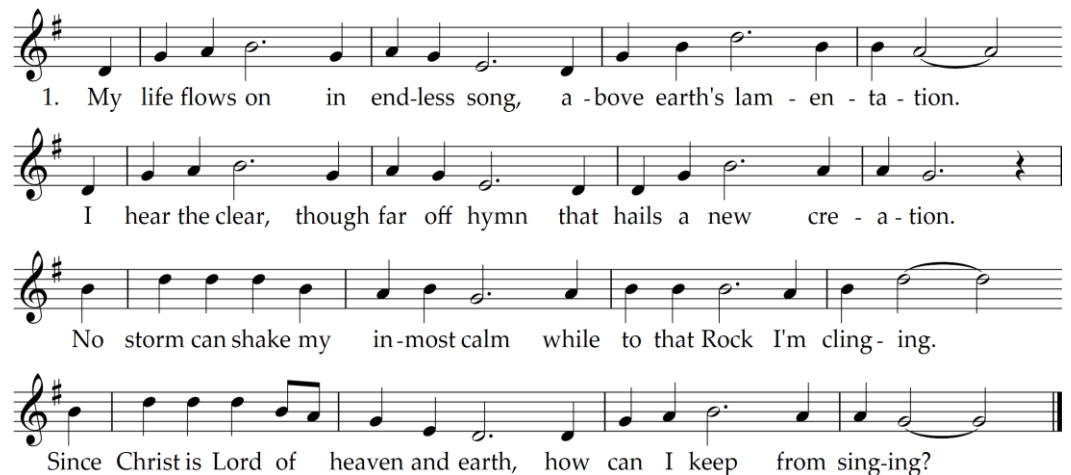
Offertory

"Main Titles" from *To Kill a Mockingbird*
Patrick Downing, piano

Elmer Bernstein

To share your treasure, 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



1. My life flows on in end-less song, a - bove earth's lam - en - ta - tion.
I hear the clear, though far off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.
No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling - ing.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

Sacrament of Baptism for Bennett Lane Downing

Presentation

The pastor says:

Hear the words of our Lord Jesus Christ: *Matt. 28:18-20*
All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.
Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit;
and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.
And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Hear also these words from holy Scripture:

As many of you as were baptized into Christ
have clothed yourselves with Christ.

Gal. 3:27-28

**There is no longer Jew or Greek,
there is no longer slave or free,
there is no longer male and female;
for all are one in Christ Jesus.**

Obedying the word of our Lord Jesus, and confident of his promises, we baptize those whom God has called. In baptism God claims us and seals us to show that we belong to God. God frees us from sin and death, and unites us with Jesus Christ in his death and resurrection. By water and the Holy Spirit, we are made members of the church,

the body of Christ, and joined to Christ's ministry of love, peace, and justice.

Let us remember our own baptism with joy as we celebrate this sacrament.

An elder says:

On behalf of the session,
I present Bennett Lane,
child of Patrick and Kristena Downing,
to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

The pastor says Bennett's parents, Kristena Downing and Patrick Downing:

Do you desire that Bennett Lane be baptized? Do you?

I do.

Relying on God's grace,
do you promise to live the Christian faith,
and teach that faith to Bennett? Do you?

I do.

The pastor says to Bennett's sponsors, Christopher and Stacey Faulkner:

Will you, by your prayers and witness,
help Bennett grow into the full stature of Christ? Will you?

I will.

**The pastor says to the children of the congregation,
especially Bennett's brothers, Isaac Downing and Luke Downing :**

Today we celebrate that Bennett is becoming part of our church family.
We are all God's children and these questions are for the children, of all ages,
of First Presbyterian Church. Each time you say "I will," you make a promise
to God and to Bennett.

Will you help Bennett to remember that God loves him and you love him?

Will you?

I will.

Will you share the stories of Jesus with Bennett? Will you?

I will.

The pastor says to the congregation:

Do you, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture
Bennett by word and deed, with love and prayer? Do you?

We do.

Will you encourage Bennett to know and follow Christ
and to be a faithful member of Christ's church? Will you?

We will.

Profession of Faith

The pastor says:

Through the Sacrament of Baptism we enter the covenant God established
in Jesus Christ. Within this covenant God gives us new life, strengthens us
to resist evil, and nurtures us in love. Through this covenant, we choose whom we
will serve, by turning from evil and turning to Jesus Christ.

The pastor says to the parents:

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God,
do you turn from the ways of sin
and renounce evil and its power in the world? Do you?

I do.

Bible Basics 201 for March

On March 16, we will begin the 4-week Yale Bible Study course *Easter and Passover*. This study will look at the importance of these holidays in Judaism and Christianity, how they are intertwined, and how they have changed over the centuries.

Here is the link to the course material: [Easter and Passover - Yale Bible Study](#)

Here are the topics/dates in this course:

- March 23: "Passover" in the New Testament
- March 30: The Evolution of Passover
- April 6: The Beginnings of Easter

All are welcome!

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

Between the Covers Book Club

Monday, March 21, Parlor

BTC book discussion in March is *The Girls Who Stepped Out of Line* by Mari Eder. Joyce Chamberlin will lead our discussion. All are welcome, whether you've read the book or not.

Liturgists Wanted!

If you are interested in serving as a liturgist for Sunday services, please reach out to Diana Miller-Bur, our new Liturgist Coordinator.

But you ask:

*What is a Liturgist?

Liturgists stand at the lectern, lead the congregation in all the responses and share the Word of God by reading the Scripture lessons.

How often would I have to volunteer?

As much or as little as you want, that is up to you.

Please contact Diana with any questions or with your interest. Her email is:

diana.miller.bur29@gmail.com

Thank you!! We hope to see you at the lectern soon!

Save the Date

Buildings and Grounds Committee is planning a Spring Lawn Clean-up on Saturday, May 14, 2022, from 8:00 am until 12:00 pm. We need all the help we can get! More information to follow. Thank you in advance.

- Matt Kabel, Chair

Who is your Lord and Savior?

Jesus Christ.

Will you be Christ's faithful disciples, obeying his word and showing his love? Will you?

I will.

The pastor says to the congregation:

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; and ascended into heaven, where he is seated at the right hand of the Father; from thence he will come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting; Amen.

Thanksgiving Over the Water

The pastor says:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, Eternal God, for you nourish and sustain all living things by the gift of water. In the beginning of time your Spirit moved over the watery chaos and called forth order and life. In the time of Noah you destroyed evil by the waters of the flood and gave righteousness a new beginning. You led Israel out of slavery through the waters of the sea and to the freedom of the promised land. In the waters of the Jordan, Jesus was baptized by John and anointed with your Spirit. By the baptism of his own death and resurrection Christ set us free from sin and death and opened the way to eternal life. We thank you, O God, for the water of baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. From it we are raised to share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the power of the Holy Spirit. Send your Spirit to move over this water that it may be a fountain of deliverance and rebirth. Wash away the sin of all who are cleansed by it. Raise us all to new life and graft us to the body of Christ. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon Bennett, that he may have power to do your will and continue forever in the risen life of Christ; **Amen.**

Baptism

What is the Christian name of your child?

Bennett Lane.

Bennett Lane, I baptize you
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit; **Amen.**

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

Anointing

O Lord, uphold Bennett by your Holy Spirit.
Give him the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord,

Isa. 11:2

the spirit of joy in your presence,
both now and always; **Amen.**

Bennett Lane, child of the covenant,
you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit in baptism,
and marked as Christ's own forever; **Amen.**

Welcome

An elder says:

With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into the body of Christ.
Alleluia! Amen!

Go To Serve With God's Blessing

***Hymn #355**

Hear the Good News of Salvation

NETTLETON



1. Hear the good news of sal - va - tion: Je - sus died to show God's love.
2. All the sins I have com - mit - ted To my Sav - ior now I bring.



Such great kind - ness! Such great mer - cy! Come to us from heaven a - bove.
I bow down with tears of an - guish; Christ for - gives and so I sing:



Je - sus Christ, how much I love You! Je - sus Christ, You save from sin!



How I love You! Look up - on me. Love me still and cleanse with - in.

***Charge and Benediction**

Isaiah 55: 12

Isaiah writes, "For you shall go out with joy and be led back with peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands!"

May God your Creator shield you on every step, *from Carmina Gladelica*
Christ Jesus aid you on every path,
And the Holy Spirit fill you on every slope, hill and plain.

Choral Benediction

Tebe Poem
The Sanctuary Choir

Dmytro Bortnianskyi

Postlude

The Gift to Be Simple

Arr. Dale Wood

Weekly Program Schedule

Online Worship Watch Party

Sundays, 9:30 a.m.

See e-news, website or Facebook

MusikGarten

Sundays, 8:30 a.m.

Zoom

Cherub Choir/ Kirkwood Choir/

Sunday School in Recess

10:35 – 11:20 a.m.

CE Building, 3d floor

Confirmation Class in Recess

10:35 – 11:20 a.m.

CE Building, 3d floor

Adult Christian Education

10:35 – 11:20 a.m.

Hybrid Zoom, Von Maur Hall

Caring Closet

Sundays, 10:35 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Open to Receive Donations

Pickle Ball

Mondays and Wednesdays,

9 – 11:00 a.m., Gym

CEFY Committee

Monday, 6:00 p.m., Zoom

Worship and Music Committee

Monday, 6:15 p.m., Zoom

Session Meeting

Monday, 7:00 p.m.

Zoom

Caring Closet

Tuesdays, 9:00 – 12:00 p.m.

Fridays, 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Pastor Nominating Committee

Tuesdays, 7:00 – 8:00 pm.

Zoom

Bible Basics 201

Wednesdays, 6:15 p.m.

Zoom

Staff Meeting/Training

Wednesday, 10 a.m.

Von Maur Hall

Vesper Bells

Thursdays, 6:00 – 6:45 p.m.

Chapel

Sanctuary Choir

Thursdays, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Sanctuary

Dare to Ask:

A Lenten Exploration

Facilitated by Bruce Bufe and Kathy Stoner-Lasala, Dare to Ask is a Lenten exploration of faith questions: questions we were reluctant to ask, questions we thought nobody wanted to hear, questions we thought we were the only person asking.

On Sundays in Lent starting March 20, Bruce and Kathy invite you to gather at 10:35 a.m. in Von Maur Hall or on zoom to explore your own and others' faith questions.

Bruce and Kathy hope you will begin to reflect now so your insights have time to develop. We're asking questions to learn, expand our understanding, and deepen our relationships. Some questions, though they are worth asking, may not have definitive answers.

We encourage open-ended questions about which people disagree, that may not have an answer or have more than one answer, that deepen our faith or spirituality, that we've been reluctant to ask.

When a question is posed, we want to struggle with it. We don't want to give simplistic answers, dismiss any question, question the validity of a question, or rebuke our fellow questioners.

There are several ways to share your question: you can write it down and place it in the offering plate in the back of the sanctuary; you can email it to Bruce brucebufe@gmail.com or Kathy stoner-lasala@fpcdavenport.org; if you'd like your question to remain anonymous you can email it to Administrative Assistant Susan Parker parker@fpcdavenport.org

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87142275458?pwd=ekt6VTBWd1BBMU1PdHErVENEZnVsQT09>

Meeting ID: 871 4227 5458
Passcode: 1702

Do You Want to Receive Your Church News Electronically?

It's easy to sign up! Simply sign up on the church website or send an email to staff members Matt Bishop at bishop@fpcdavenport.org or Susan Parker at parker@fpcdavenport.org

Caring Closet Update

The Caring Closet will be getting ready for Spring in the next few weeks and we welcome donations of spring clothing including formals and accessories. Prom Night(s) will be March 29 and April 5!

2022 Per Capita - \$38 per member

Per Capita is the annual contribution each Presbyterian makes to support our denomination's local, national, and international ministries. The 2022 Per Capita is \$38 per member, the same amount as in 2021. You can pay your annual Per Capita contribution by mail or online.

February 2022 Financial Report

	February 2022		February 2021	
	Actual	Budget*	Actual	Budget
General Fund Income	35,113	35,113	72,429	62,882
Custodial Accounts Income	900	-	440	-
Compensation Expenses	42,750	42,749	39,843	45,264
Non Compensation General Fund Expenses	14,377	14,377	18,476	16,922
Custodial Accounts Expenses	900	-	440	-
Surplus (Deficit)	(22,014)	(22,013)	14,110	696
	2022 Year-To-Date		2021 Year-To-Date	
	Actual	Budget*	Actual	Budget
General Fund Income	141,920	141,920	171,902	162,354
Custodial Accounts Income	1,341	-	981	-
Compensation Expenses	83,610	83,611	77,571	82,301
Non Compensation General Fund Expenses	29,635	29,635	30,644	29,029
Custodial Accounts Expenses	1,341	-	981	-
Surplus (Deficit)	28,675	28,674	63,687	51,024

All numbers are rounded.

* 2022 Budget is equal to Actual for January and February. Beginning in March, the budget will reflect the budget for the remainder of the year.