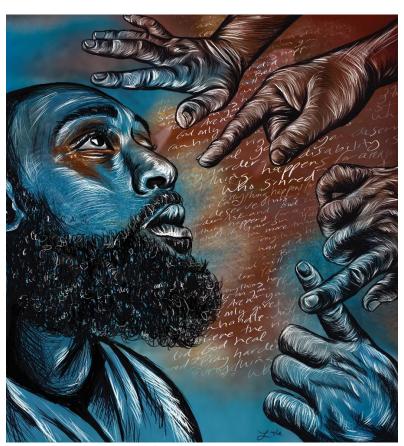


Energy • Intelligence • Imagination • Love

4th Sunday in Lent March 19, 2023 at 9:30 AM



Insight by Lisle Gwynn Garrity
Inspired by John 9:8-41



Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of Davenport

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of Davenport, a church where EVERYONE is welcome. On behalf of the entire First Pres family, we want you to know that we are so glad you're here. We are a proud congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA), where We Choose WELCOME!

We welcome followers of Jesus who are solid in their faith, and we welcome questioning believers seeking deeper meaning in their life. We welcome those who come from different faith backgrounds, such as Methodists, Lutherans, and Catholics, and those with no faith background at all; for we are all one in Christ Jesus. No matter where you are on your journey of faith, you are welcome here!

We hope you experience the warmth and friendliness of our congregation. It is a place that long-term members have described as their spiritual home for generations. It is also a place where people newer to our community of faith have found safe and sacred space for themselves and their families.

Nursery care is available during the worship service for children (birth through age 4). The nursery is staffed by trained and background-checked caregivers from 8:45 AM to 12:15 PM. The nursery is on the third floor of the CE building. Please ask a worship host if you need assistance locating this space.

Kirkwood Choir is offered during the service, after the Children's Message, for all children ages five through sixth grade. Kirkwood Choir provides music for worship monthly throughout the program year.

MusikGarten, a program for parents/caregivers and young children (birth through age 4), is provided after the service in room #301 of the CE building. MusikGarten is our unique program that allows participation in a fun, energetic environment while instilling a love and understanding of music in young children.

Sunday school for children (preschool through grade six) and adults is offered after the service. Children's Sunday school is located on the third floor of the CE building. Adult Sunday school is located in Von Maur Hall. Please ask a worship host if you need assistance locating these spaces.



Our Session (church council) has adopted a bold vision of creating safe and sacred space for all. We aren't perfect at it, but we are joyfully beginning to live into this new vision. We are an open and

affirming congregation, and a proud member of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians (covnetpres.org). The Session and members of First Pres extend a sincere welcome to all persons regardless of race, nationality, gender, or sexual orientation. This includes an open invitation to membership, the sacraments of baptism and communion, marriage, funerals, memorial services, and service as an officer of the church.



We are a Matthew 25 church in the PC(USA). Matthew 25 congregations identify themselves as working toward one or more of three goals: building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism, and eradicating systemic poverty.

Land Acknowledgement: First Presbyterian Church gratefully acknowledges the Indigenous Peoples on whose ancestral homelands we gather, as well as the diverse and vibrant Indigenous communities who make Iowa and Illinois their home today. The communities we serve through our ministries occupy the traditional homelands of the people of the Kiikaapoi, Myaamia, Očhéthi Šakówiŋ, Peoria, Sauk, and Meskwaki nations. We honor these and numerous Indigenous tribes who first made the banks of the Mississippi River a center for arts and commerce.

Worshipers who are comfortably able are invited to stand in body or spirit.
 Bold indicates congregational response.

4th Sunday in Lent Order of Worship

To help you get to know the people sitting in your pew/row, please complete the Friendship Pad and pass it to your neighbors.

As we begin worship, please silence your cell phones. Take a quiet moment to center yourself in the presence of God. We invite you to meditate silently on art, music, and Scripture.

Preparing for the Word

Prelude

Adagio from Organ Symphony No. 3

Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Kris Schondelmeyer

(Announcements are generally delivered by the pastor. If you have an announcement, you would like us to consider sharing, please send the information with all important details to the church office by noon on Thursday. Announcements will be selected by relevance to church programming and time limitations.)

Prelude Fugato Johann Georg Albrechtsberger (1736-1809)

† Call to Worship and Confession

Kristine Oswald, Liturgist

One: Scripture is full of questions...

All: Where are you?

One: Am I my brother's keeper?

All: Whom shall I send?

One: Who do you say that I am?

All: Who sinned?

One: How many times shall I forgive?

All: If God is for us, who can be against us?

One: Scripture is full of questions, so just like those in our scriptures, may we bring our full curiosity

and wonder into this space.

All: Let us ask and seek after our merciful God.

† Passing of the Peace

One: May the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

All: And also with you!

(In a way that is comfortable for you, please share the Peace of Christ with those around you.)



Call to Confession

In today's text, the disciples ask Jesus, "Who sinned? They want to know who around them could be blamed for suffering. The disciples want to identify who around them had done wrong. In the prayer of confession, we stop pointing fingers at others. In confession, we turn our attention toward ourselves and invite God into that honest and vulnerable space. So do this counter-cultural thing with me today. Let us pray together using the prayer of confession, printed in your bulletin. Let us pray:

Prayer of Confession

One: Who here has sinned?

All: We have sinned. We put our heads in the sand. We ignored people in need. We make false assumptions and fail to be kind. We are in need of forgiveness.

One: Good news! Our God is a merciful God. God does not punish, hold grudges, or keep score. When you suffer, God weeps. When you sin, God forgives. When you lose your way, God comes running.

All: Thanks be to God for a love like that.

One: Have you sinned?

All: I have sinned. I put my head in the sand. I ignore people in need. I make false assumptions and fail to be kind. I am in need of forgiveness.

One: Good news! Our God is a merciful God. God does not punish, hold grudges, or keep score. When you suffer, God weeps. When you sin, God forgives. When you lose your way, God comes running.

All: Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen.

Listening for the Word

Anthem

Avinu Malkeinu The Sanctuary Choir David Bowles Edwards, soloist Max Janowski (1912-1991)

Sung in Hebrew. English translation:

Our Father, our King, hear our prayer.

Our Father, our King, we have sinned before you.

Our Father, our King, have mercy upon us and upon our children.

Our Father, our King, keep far from our country pestilence, war, and famine.

Our Father, our King, cause all hate and oppression to vanish from the earth.

Our Father, our King, inscribe us for blessing in the book of life.

Our Father, our King, grant unto us a year of happiness.

Children's Message

Elder Kristy Woodrow

Prayer for Illumination

Source Unknown

God of Good news, there is reading your Word, there is hearing your Word, and then there is tunneling ourselves into your Word–harvesting your Word, building a home in your Word, laying your Word over us like a blanket, wrapping ourselves in your Word, know your Word like the back of our hand, singing your Word, planting ourselves like a garden in your Word. God, we could listen to scripture like we listen to the news, or we could cocoon ourselves in your Word and it could change us entirely. So bundle us up. Give us the latter. We want to know you. With hopeful hearts we pray, amen.

First Lesson John 9:1-12

¹ As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me-while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶ When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, ⁷ saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸ The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹ Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." ¹⁰ But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹ He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." ¹² They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson John 9:13-41

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴ Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵ Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." ¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. ¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸ The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹ and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰ His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹ but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." ²² His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³ Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵ He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶ They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷ He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" ²⁸ Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses: ²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." ³⁰ The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³² Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." ³⁴ They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶ He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." ³⁷ Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." ³⁸ He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. ³⁹ Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." ⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" ⁴¹ Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Seeking: Who Sinned?" The Rev. Dr. Kristopher D. Schondelmeyer

Responding to the Word



Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering Our Gifts and Lives to God

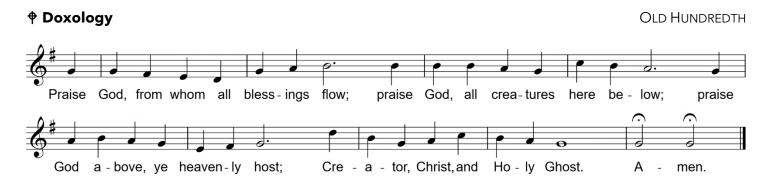


To share your pledge or offering, you may place it in the offering plate as it is passed down the aisle. If it is more convenient for you, please visit the church website at www.fpcdavenport.org, and click on "Donate Now," or you may donate directly from your smartphone by scanning the QR code with your phone's camera. You may also mail your pledge or offering to the church office.

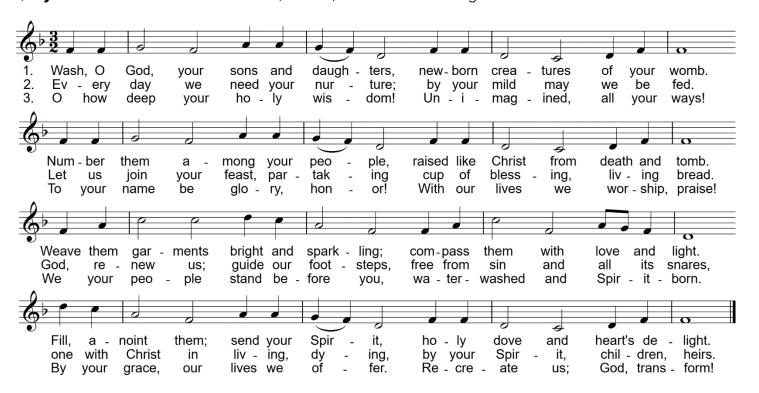
Offertory

Paschal Flow'r! Why do you care to come forth?

Naji Hakim (b. 1955)



† Prayer of Dedication



† Charge and Benediction

Sending Anthem

Go Forth into the World in Peace The Sanctuary Choir John Rutter (b. 1945)

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render unto no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the allected; honour all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be upon you and remain with you forever. Amen.

(Book of Common Prayer, 1928)

Postlude

Fantasia in g, BWV 542,1

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

WORSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS

Worship Hosts - Judy Hawthorne, Mary Meehan, Sue Evans, Bruce Bufe

Sound/Video Technicians - Mitch Doremus, Jim Middleton

Copyright Information

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.

New Revised Standard Version Bible - Updated Edition, ©2022, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Today's liturgical elements were written by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Max Janowski, "Avinu Malkeinu," © 1972 Transcontinental Music Publications

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

Anna Strickland, Text, "We Come with Questions" © 2021 A Sanctified Art, LLC.f

Naji Hakim, "Paschal Flow'r! Why do you care to come forth?" © 2006 Éditions Combre

JOYS & CONCERNS

In Our Prayers: families and victims of gun violence; the people of Ukraine and all who groan under oppression; for God's presence with all who are grieving the loss of Dwight Wood, Juanita White Daugherty Briggs, Gayle Allard, Eleanor Beadles White, Larry Kisler, Ella Johns, Lorraine Sewick, Gloria Wadsworth, for God's mercy and grace to touch Brandon Bufe, Allison Kennedy, Dylan's grandmother, Julia Pedigo, Jim Woods, Tammy Wood, Benjamin Bartnicke, Erin Middleton Cavan, Danielle, Dorothy Bain, Lynette, Brenda Cole, Karlyn Gomez, David Milnes, Dorothy Downing, Avery (Phylis Pecoraro's 4-year-old great-granddaughter). And those experiencing abuse, addiction, violence, loss, suicide, COVID-19, and natural disaster.

Mission Partners: Rev. José Pilar Alvarez Cabrera and Rev. Nestor Eduardo Alvarez Cabrera in Zacapa, Guatemala; Ray of Vision in Harare, Zimbabwe; Veda Gill in Pakistan.

Hospital Visits: The Pastors make hospital visits when patients give permission and when pandemic precautions permit.

In-Touch Information: For anyone who is homebound and would enjoy contact from one of First Presbyterian's In-Touch members, please contact Deacon Colleen Duenas (563-514-6396).

The Prayer Chain: Connects those who need prayer with those who commit to a ministry of prayer. Contact Mary Ann François (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 contact the church office directly (563-326-1691).

Prayer Shawls: 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 main office.



Scan to visit the First Pres Website. Scan to visit the First Pres Calendar.



WEEKLY CALENDAR

Visit the First Pres website to view the full calendar

www.fpcdavenport.org/calendar

Worship Service

9:30 AM Sanctuary Online Worship Watch Party See e-News, website or Facebook

MusikGarten

8:30 AM Zoom 10:30 AM CE Building #307

Nursery Open

Sundays 8:45 AM - 12:15 PM Thursdays 6 PM - 9 PM

Kirkwood Choir

9:45 AM CE Building #301

Sunday School

10:35 AM CE Building 3d Floor

Adult Christian Education

10:35 AM Von Maur Hall

Chamber Chorale

11:20 AM Choir Room

A Service of Choral Evensong

4:00 PM Sanctuary

Caring Closet

Sundays, 10:30 - 11:00 AM Tuesdays, 9:00 - 12:00 PM Friday, 2:00 - 5:00 PM

Pickle Ball

Monday and Wednesday 9:00 - 11:00 PM, Gym

Scout Troop 7/Scout Troop 1107

Sunday, 4:30 - 6:00 PM Gym, Game Room, Fellowship Hall, Library

Bible Basics 201

Wednesday 6:15 - 7:15 PM

Vesper Bells

Thursday 6:00 PM

Sanctuary Choir

Thursday 7:00 PM

<u>ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>

Lenten Devotional Discussion Groups with Pastor Kris

This Lent, take time to journey with God each day through a special Lenten Devotional. The Devotional, which has been sent out via email, will accompany Pastor Kris' sermon series through the season of Lent.

Each person is invited to journey with God each day this Lenten season. And you are invited to join Pastor Kris for a Devotional Discussion Group. Groups will meet either in-person on Sunday mornings immediately following the worship service or Sunday evenings at 7:00PM on Zoom (see the eNews for the Zoom link).

Devotional Discussion Group Dates:

Sunday, March 12 / Sunday, March 19 / Sunday, March 26 / Sunday, April 2

Meet and Greet with Pastor Kris

The entire First Pres community is invited to participate in one of many opportunities for a Meet and Greet with Pastor Kris. There will be more information about signing up in the very near future. We will limit groups to no more than about 15 - 20 participants to facilitate a more intimate conversation. Meet and greet dates and times are as follows:

Monday, March 20 / 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM Thursday, March 23 / 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM Wednesday, March 29 / 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Wednesday, March 22 / 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM Tuesday, March 28 / 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Thursday, March 30 / 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

A Service of Choral Evensong - TODAY at 4:00 PM

Join us this evening at 4pm for a Service of Choral Evensong with the Chamber Chorale. This solemn service features choral music by Zanaida Robles, Trond Kverno, Edward Bairstow, and Thomas Tallis. Nursery will be provided.

Compassion Camp: What Every Living Thing Needs

Save the date! Compassion Camp, also known as Vacation Bible Camp, will be held Monday, June 5 through Friday, June 9 from 9 AM to 12 PM each morning. Our theme for this year is 'What Every Living Thing Needs'. Compassion Camp is open to children in preschool (and potty-trained) up to rising sixth graders. Seventh through twelfth graders are invited to be helpers. Adults are also needed to help during the week! We will have lots of opportunities for fun, fellowship, and service for all ages. As we get closer, we pray you will consider helping us make this week an amazing success through donations of time, talent, and/or money. More information, including sign-ups and needs, will be available in the coming weeks!

Bible Basics - March 2023

In March we are working our way through a 4-week study on Philippians. Here is a link to the free lessons. Galatians and Philippians | Yale Bible Study. Join us anytime.

- March 22 Philippians Chapter 3 A Stern Warning
- March 29 Philippians Chapter 4 Rejoice, Now and Always

We meet on Wednesdays at 6:15 PM on Zoom. Please contact Mark Jones (mkjones@mchsi.com) for more information.

Here is the Zoom link: https//zoom.us/join

Meeting ID: 822 8309 5977 Passcode: 215593

Deacons Paper Hearts Drive

Once again, the Deacons are sponsoring a toilet paper drive to benefit the Humility of Mary emergency shelter. From now until March 31st you may bring your toilet paper donations to the church; our Deacons will deliver them to the Humility of Mary Shelter services. Our goal is 1,500 rolls. Not shopping during the pandemic? Send your monetary donations to the church office. Our Deacons are delighted to do your toilet paper shopping for you! Let's demonstrate love in action by supporting this worthy cause.

Caring Closet - Prom Dress Give Away

Do you have a fancy dress, shoes, or accessories gathering dust at your house? Consider donating them to the Caring Closet for our prom dress and accessories give away! If you, or someone you know, needs a free prom dress, shoes, and/or accessories, come on down one of these two days:

Monday, March 27th 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM Tuesday, April 4th 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Buildings and Grounds

It's that time again. Spring Grounds clean-up at the church. Buildings & Grounds are planning a clean-up on Saturday April 1st from 8:00 AM until noon. Please bring any yard tools you may need. We will have extra's for those that don't have any. Refreshments and donuts supplied. All are welcome. Please contact Matt Kabel @ 563-940-6133 with any questions. Hope to see you there.

Ladies Tea

Let us get together for some fun and fellowship. We will have Tea, play some games, and have some Tea Party food. There will be Teapots at each table. We will have Tea there and you may also bring your favorite tea to share with your table. Feel free to bring your favorite Teacup. We will supply Finger Sandwiches. Please bring some Tea Party type food to share. Please contact Colleen Duenas to RSVP.

Email: Nonna428312@gmail.com Phone: 563-514-6396

FPC STAFF

First Presbyterian Church ◆ 1702 Iowa Street ◆ Davenport, Iowa 52803 ◆ Phone: 563-326-1691

Our Staff

| Rev. Dr. Kris Schondelmeyer, Pastor/Head of Staff | Ext 230 | schondelmeyer@fpcdavenport.org |
|---|---------|--------------------------------|
| Rev. Pat Halverson*, Parish Associate | | |
| Kristy Woodrow, Director of Christian Education | Ext 209 | woodrow@fpcdavenport.org |
| Matt Bishop, Director of Music | Ext 201 | bishop@fpcdavenport.org |
| Alex Gilson, Principal Organist & Assistant Director of Music | Ext 223 | gilson@fpcdavenport.org |
| Linda Bengfort*, Assistant Choral Director | | |
| Kathy Middleton*, Assistant Choral Director for Children | | |
| Kristine Olson, Finance Manager | Ext 219 | olson@fpcdavenport.org |
| Becky Lopez*, Accounting Assistant | | |
| Susan Parker, Church Administrative Assistant | Ext 200 | parker@fpcdavenport.org |
| Jim Middleton*, Technology Resource | | |
| Darren Long, Facilities & Custodial Supervisor | Ext 205 | long@fpcdavenport.org |
| Kevin Wilson, Custodian | | |
| Chad Dean*, Custodian | | |
| Nichole Kerker*, Nursery Coordinator | | |
| Kelley Wohlers*, Nursery Caregiver | | |
| | | * Part-time employee |

^{*} Part-time employee

ELDERS AND DEACONS

Elders

| Class of 2023 | Class of 2024 | Class of 2025 |
|----------------------|---------------|------------------|
| David Bowles Edwards | Paula Burnett | Dan Breinich |
| Jim DeReus | Peter Bawden | Nancy Chapman |
| Patrick Downing | Kirk Christie | Bonnie Johnson |
| Michael Ferris | Nancy Foster | Nathan Kabel |
| RuthAnn Tobey-Brown | Bev Koos | Kristine Oswald |
| Jim Woods | Karla Ruiter | Mark Ruebling |
| | Diane Roebuck | Vicki Stegall |
| | Jay Williams | |
| | | Clerk of Session |
| | | Mark Jones |

Deacons

| Al Frohlich John Gere Matthew Hennes Tom Erin Sodawasser-Hermiston Pau | n Roebuck (Moderator) | Colleen Duenas Terri Sheetz Kristy Owens |
|--|-----------------------|--|
|--|-----------------------|--|