

## LEADERS IN WORSHIP:

Preacher: Rev. Stephanie Ells  
Liturgist: Rev. Bradley Longfield  
Music Director & pianist: Kristen Eby  
Special Music Director: Jill Klinebriel  
Special Music: Hannah Eby, flute  
Musicians: Hannah, John & Kristen Eby,  
Jill Klinebriel, Linda Longfield

## IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

**YOUR VOICE IS VALUED** at our Congregational Meeting TODAY immediately following worship. For those worshipping with us online, streaming will continue after the service so you may join the congregational meeting if you choose.

**TODAY IS STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY.** Today we place our pledge cards in the offering plate as an act of dedication. The act of pledging is a spiritual commitment to God. If you are unable to attend worship in person, mail your pledge card to FPC in care of our treasurer, Bob Monthey.

**TIME TO FALL BACK** as *Daylight savings time ends next week*. Set clocks back 1 hour before you go to bed Saturday, Nov. 6.

**NEXT WEEK IS FOOD FOR THE 1ST** when we collect items that support the Dubuque Food Pantry. Drop items in the marked basket in the narthex. Thank you!

**THERE WILL BE NO YOUNG AT HEART THIS MONTH**

**CHOIR WILL REHEARSE** Wednesday, Nov. 3rd at 6:30pm. The choir will sing during worship on Sunday, Nov. 7. Join us!

**MEN'S BREAKFAST** is Saturday, Nov. 6 at 8:00am at Papa Ozz.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!** FPC is planning a **church bowling** outing on Nov. 14 from 2:00-4:00pm at Fischer Lanes. *FPC will cover the cost of shoe rental and your first game.* Additional games : \$2.75 per adult and \$2.50 per kid. Sign up at the back of the church or email the [church office](#).

**SERMON SERIES:** We continue with our Revised Common Lectionary series "Asking the Questions," following the New Testament readings in the book of Mark.

**PRAYER REQUESTS**—Send joys and concerns to Pastor Stephanie at [fpcdbq.pastor@gmail.com](mailto:fpcdbq.pastor@gmail.com).

**FPC IS OPERATING IN STAGE 4** of our COVID-19 Response plan. This requires all persons attending worship in person, vaccinated or unvaccinated, to wear masks and maintain appropriate social distances while in the church. You can find the COVID-19 Response Plan on our website at <http://www.firstpresdbq.org/>.

## WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Grace and peace to each of you in the name of Jesus Christ. We welcome you to this worship service. If you are a guest, please fill out a visitor's card in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. We would love to greet you by name. We invite you to join us every Sunday morning for Sunday School at 9:00am during the school year, and worship at 10:15am.

## THE WEEK IN BRIEF (events at FPC unless noted)

<b>Sun., October 31</b>	9:00am	Sunday School
<i>Stewardship Sunday</i>	10:15am	Worship: Rev. Stephanie Ells, preaching Receiving of Pledge Cards
	11:15pm	Annual Congregational Meeting
<b>Mon. November 1</b>	9:00am	November Newsletter deadline
<b>Wed., November 3</b>	6:30pm	Choir rehearsal
<b>Sat. November 6</b>	8:00am	Men's Breakfast @ Papa Ozz
<b>Sun., November 7</b>	9:00am	Sunday School
<i>Daylight Savings Time Ends</i>	10:15am	Worship: Rev. Stephanie Ells, preaching Sacrament of Holy Communion
	11:30pm	Deacons

## GIVING

To support the mission and ministry of our church, we need \$13,300 per month. Offerings received through October 24th totaled \$9,043.

- Offerings Year to Date (YTD) through September 30 - \$103,355
- Expenses (YTD) through September 30 - \$110,060

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

**Deacon for the month of October:** Mark & Deb Stant  
**November:** Hannah Eby

**Pastor Stephanie's office hours** are 9:00am-1:00pm on Monday and Wednesday. Contact her anytime with prayer requests or pastoral care needs at 507-227-8537 or [fpcdbq.pastor@gmail.com](mailto:fpcdbq.pastor@gmail.com)

**Admin Office Hours** for Ginger Vander Broek are Monday (home), Wednesday (home) and Thursday (at FPC) from 9:00am-1:00pm

1684 Iowa St., Dubuque, IA 52001  
(563) 582-4494 [firstpresdbq@gmail.com](mailto:firstpresdbq@gmail.com)



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

# STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

OCTOBER 31, 2021  
23RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION      Stewardship      Leon Thompson

PRELUDE      “My Jesus, I Love Thee”      *arr. Brendlinger*

## FOR PRAYER AND REFLECTION:

*Creator, we love because you first loved us. You made us in your image and named us “good.” As such, empower and embolden us to love the world that has your heart beating in it; that all may know the steady beat of Love that breaks down, builds up, renews, and brings life.*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

God is calling you today.

**Help us to hear God’s call in our lives.**

God needs your gifts and graces to help others.

**May we use the blessings which God has given us to benefit others.**

Come, let us worship and celebrate God’s love for us.

**Let us show our faithfulness in our words and actions.**

## OPENING PRAYER

## \*HYMN OF PRAISE

#726

“We Praise You, O God”

*Farrell*

## CALL TO CONFESSION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, you have been faithful yet we have not loved you with our whole hearts. You showed us how to love our fellow human beings, yet we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Turn us back to you, O God, that we may follow your commandments; through Christ our Lord.

## SILENT CONFESSION

*(Here let each worshiper offer silent, personal prayers of confession.)*

## DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven,  
and freed to try again.

## \*GLORIA PATRI #734

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING      Ruth 1:1-18      p. 411

SPECIAL MUSIC      “Siciliano”      *D. Scarlatti*

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING      Mark 12:28-34      p. 1575

## SERMON

“Asking the Questions: Which Commandment Matters the Most?”

## \*HYMN OF RESPONSE

“My Worth is Not in What I Own (At the Cross)”

*Kendrick*

My worth is not in what I own  
Not in the strength of flesh and bone  
But in the costly wounds of love at the cross

My worth is not in skill or name  
In win or lose in pride or shame  
But in the blood of Christ that flowed at the cross

Chorus: I rejoice in my Redeemer  
Greatest treasure wellspring of my soul  
I will trust in Him no other  
My soul is satisfied in Him alone

As summer flowers we fade and die  
Fame youth and beauty hurry by  
But life eternal calls to us at the cross

I will not boast in wealth or might  
Or human wisdom's fleeting light  
But I will boast in knowing Christ at the cross (Chorus)

Two wonders here that I confess  
My worth and my unworthiness  
My value fixed my ransom paid at the cross

## \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Selections from Westminster Confession Ch. 28, Sec.1-2\*\*

All saints being united to Jesus Christ their head, by his Spirit and by faith, have fellowship with him in his graces, sufferings, death, resurrection, and glory: and, being united to one another in love, they have communion in each other’s gifts and graces. The saints . . . are bound to maintain a holy fellowship and communion in the worship of God, and in performing such other spiritual services as tend to their mutual . . . inward and outward . . . edification.

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER *(Back cover of hymnal)*

## Preparation of Pledges

## Dedication of Pledges

Creator of all, the earth is yours, the world and all who live in it.  
We celebrate the new life we have in you.  
It is a life filled with the gifts of love and grace!

**We too have been entrusted with gifts - time, talent,  
energy, money - and God, you have asked us to use them**

**to build your kingdom. With thanks and praise we respond to your call.**

Today we hold in our hands the pledge cards where we have written out our commitments to return your generosity, paying it forward. We humbly bring these gifts before you, O God.

**We offer ourselves, our lives, our hopes and fears,  
our dollars and our hours. We commit ourselves to work  
for your world, to love and serve wherever you call.**

We ask your blessing on this, your church,  
as we seek to follow you with heart, mind, and soul.

**Bless also these gifts, and honor the dedication of our  
pledges as a sign of our investment in your future, that  
they may multiply in faith, hope, and love.**

## THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY      “Meditation by Simper”

*arr. Ryan*

\*DOXOLOGY #34

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## \*SENDING HYMN

#507

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

*Rice*

## \*BENEDICTION

## \*POSTLUDE

“The Clarion Call”

*L. Smith*

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

*\*Those who are able, please stand.*

*\*\*The Westminster Confession was produced by the Westminster Assembly in the mid-1600’s in an effort to reform the worship, doctrine, and church government of the Church of England. The Westminster Confession clarified, outlined, and systematized the teachings of the Reformation and remains one of the PC (USA)’s confessional statements.*

## A TIME OF FELLOWSHIP

You are warmly invited to join us for a time of fellowship in the Coffee Hour Room next to the sanctuary immediately following the service. *Due to COVID no snacks will be served. Please maintain proper social distancing.*

## WELCOMING YOU TO WORSHIP:

Sandy Spencer, greeter  
Lisa Reed & Florence Siefker, nursery attendants  
*(Children through age 5  
are invited to the nursery for any or all of the service)*