

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 sign the guest book in the back of the sanctuary or 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 9:00 a.m. during the school year, and worship at 10:15 a.m.

A Time of Fellowship

You are warmly invited to join us for a time of fellowship and treats in the Coffee Room next to the sanctuary immediately following the service.

† TO KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS †

Those grieving the loss of loved ones
A student in an increasingly desperate battle with cancer
One who suffered a fall and is in severe back pain
Friends of FPC hiking the Pacific Crest Trail
For the people of Syria (assaulted on each side by violent forces)
For healthy pregnancies
A young family hoping to be united one day
All who face the challenges of age, and those who care for them.
Missionaries
All who face the darkness and pain of addiction, and the family and friends who journey with them.
Those facing health issues and medical concerns or challenges
For those battling cancer and cancer recurrences
All those being persecuted and killed for their Christian beliefs, including
Abune Antonios, Patriarch of the Eritrean Orthodox Church in Eritrea

We offer prayers of joy and thanksgiving for:

For the gift of a beloved church family!
Those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries

THE WEEK IN BRIEF (events at FPC unless noted)		
Sun., April 29	9:00am 10:15am	Sunday School for all ages Worship: Rev. Achtemeier, preaching
Tue., May 1	11:30am	Young at Heart @ Village Inn
Thu., May 3		<i>National Day of Prayer</i>
Sat., May 5	8:00am	Men's Breakfast @ Sunshine
Sun., May 6	9:00am 10:15am	Sunday School for all ages Worship: Rev. Chaz Ruark, preaching Sacrament of Holy Communion
<div> <i>Banners Currently Hanging in the Sanctuary</i> South wall - John 11:25 Easter (<i>in memory of George Nacos</i>); West Wall - 1 John 4:19 North Wall - Psalm 96:1 (<i>in memory of Betty Gronau</i>) </div>		
<hr/> <p> <i>Deacons for the month of April:</i> Jamie Dillman and Mark Stant <i>May:</i> Terri Gronau and Suzanne Heber </p> <p> <i>Prayer Chain</i> requests may be called (582-4494) or emailed to the church office </p> <p> <i>Office Hours</i> for Ginger Vander Broek, Administrative Assistant to the Pastor, are Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday 9:00-1:00pm . </p> <hr/> <div> <i>Lectionary Readings for May 6th:</i> Acts 10:44-48; <i>Psalm</i> 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17 </div> <hr/> <div> FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Rev. Dr. Katherine Achtemeier 1684 Iowa St., Dubuque, IA 52001 (563) 582-4494 firstpresdbq@gmail.com www.firstpresdbq.org </div>		

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Founded 1847
5th Sunday of Easter

10:15am April 29, 2018

Announcements

Prelude "I Sing the Mighty Power of God" *arr. Jenkins*

For Prayer and Reflection (Martin Luther)
"Behold, Lord, an empty vessel that needs to be filled. My Lord, fill it. I am weak in faith; strengthen thou me. I am cold in love; warm me and make me fervent that my love may go out to my neighbor. I do not have a strong and firm faith; at times I doubt and am unable to trust thee altogether. O Lord, help me. Strengthen my faith and trust in thee." Amen

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 146)
 Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!
I will praise the LORD as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God all my life long.
 Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help.
When their breath departs, they return to the earth;
on that very day their plans perish.
 Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
Whose hope is in the LORD their God,
who made heaven and earth.

Opening Prayer

***Songs of Praise**
 "Great Is The Lord" *Smith / Smith*
 Great is the Lord He is holy and just;
 By His power we trust in his love.
 Great is the Lord He is faithful and true;
 By his mercy he proves He is love.
 Great is the Lord and worthy of glory!
 Great is the Lord and worthy of praise.
 Great if the Lord; now lift up your voice, Now lift up your voice.
 Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord!
 Great is the Lord He is holy and just;
 By His power we trust in his love.
 Great is the Lord He is faithful and true;
 By his mercy he proves He is love.
 Great are you Lord, and worthy of glory!
 Great are you Lord and worthy of praise.
 Great are you Lord; I lift up my voice,
 I lift up my voice:
 Great are you Lord! Great are you Lord!
 Great are you... Lord

“O God Beyond All Praising” (Hymn #64) Thaxted
O God beyond all praising, we worship you today
and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;
for we can only wonder at every gift you send,
at blessings without number and mercies without end:
we lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word,
we honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.

Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring,
that we who know your favor may serve you as our king;
and whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill,
we'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you still:
to marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways,
and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession
Almighty God, by water and your Holy Spirit you baptized us to be your own and called the church into being. Yet, clay pots that we are, we hold back the love of your Spirit among us. We do not live as a people made one in Christ. When we think about the future, our convictions waver. The uncertainties of today shake our confidence in tomorrow’s possibilities. Forgive us, we pray, and by the power of Christ at work in us embolden us to place our trust in you, and ready us to serve you with all that we are and all that we have, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Silent Confession (Here let each worshipper offer silent, personal prayers of confession)

Declaration of Forgiveness

*Gloria Patri (Hymn #734)

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading I John 4:7-12, 19-21 p. 1902

Choral Anthem "It Is Good" Bentall/Lantz III
It is good to give thanks to the God of creation who dwells in the heavens above. In His presence we stand with the great congregation, to sing of His goodness and love. It is good to give thanks for the world He has fashioned, the sun and the moon to give light. He determined the number of stars, and He named them; He rules both the day and the night. It is good, it is good to give thanks to the Lord, singing praise to His glorious Name. It is good, it is good to remember His love and His faithfulness, ever the same. It is good to give thanks and forever exalt Him, so great is His power and might. And His pleasure is found in His children who fear Him. Our praise is to Him delight.

Children’s Message (Children through age 5 are invited to the nursery)

Second Reading II Corinthians 4:5-12 p. 1798

Sermon “Reflections from a Cracked Pot”

Congregational Response “We Love, Because God First Loved Us”

*Hymn of Response
Hymn #574 “I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me” I’m Gonna Live

*Affirmation of Faith “Apostles’ Creed” (Back cover of hymnal)

Encounter with the Risen Christ Deb Leiter

Congregational Response
Hymn #291 “Alleluia No. 1” (chorus only) Fishel

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer (Back cover of hymnal)

The Offering
Offertory “Open My Eyes That I May See” arr. Bock
*Doxology
*Prayer of Dedication

*Sending Hymn
Hymn #59 “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” Hymn to Joy

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude “Doxology” arr. Hayes
*Those who are able, please stand.

Leaders in Worship:
Kristen Eby, Music Director
Jill Klinebriel, Choir Director
Dr. Lyle Vander Broek, liturgist
Rev. Katherine Achtemeier, preacher

Welcoming you to First Presbyterian Church today:
Jamie Dillman, greeter
Lyle & Rachel Vander Broek, Coffee Fellowship hosts
Elissa Smith and Florence Siefker, Nursery

Who We Are
First Presbyterian Church is a diverse community of people who are experiencing the Father’s love in Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit. We are called through the Scriptures to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. In thankful response for all God has done for us, we serve our church, neighborhood and world—through ministries of worship, nurture, education, and outreach.

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

EVEN THOUGH this announcement was written prior to the event, the Achtemeier family extends to you, our First Pres Family, our heartfelt thanks for what was a joyful and tender retirement party.

TODAY, while we say, “Thank you!” to our Supervised Practice of Ministry student, Jennifer Pattee, we rejoice that she will continue to be active at First Pres in a variety of ways.

NEXT Sunday: Food for the First for the Dubuque Food Pantry!

PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT to congratulate our graduates: Hunter Brehm, Jennifer Pattee, and Maggie Lewis. Cards on which you may write a note are in the Coffee Hour Room. We will celebrate their achievements at our fellowship hour on May 13.

ALSO ON MAY 13TH the Congregational Life Com. looks forward to celebrating and thanking our Sunday School teachers as we recognize their faithful service in the life of the church.

MAY IS A 5-THURSDAY MONTH! That can only mean 1 thing! First Pres. will be providing the Café Ministry meal at First Cong Church on May 31. Watch for the sign up in the Coffee Hour Room.

TO LEARN ABOUT DECISIONS the Session has made in light of Kat’s retirement, please see your April newsletter or speak to one of the Ruling Elders: Chris Daniels, Alex Jack, Rachel Vander Broek, Annalee Ward, Bob Monthey or John Dillman. Please also lift them in prayer.

NOW AVAILABLE! Work crews of Mission Team participants who are eager to earn much-needed funds for this summer’s mission trip. What are your needs? Landscape work, mulching, painting, trimming, weeding, tilling? They are ready to go to work. Please contact Steve Foxen (580-1607 or the church office (582-4494) if you are interested in hiring a crew.

SUMMER SERVICE DAYS! We have made progress on brainstorming ways to serve together this summer! Jennifer is now looking for 2-3 volunteers to be "point people" for each of the service days. Talk to Jennifer about ways you can help or email her at jenn.surrusco@gmail.com.

COFFEE HOUR FELLOWSHIP TIME is a precious chance to express and experience the gift of hospitality. A sign-up sheet and directions for hosting are available in the Coffee Hour Room. Please consider serving.

PREACHING THE NEXT FEW WEEKS! John Knox Presbytery Executive, Rev. Chaz Ruark, May 6; Rev. Dr. Lyle Vander Broek, May 13; Rev. Dr. Tim Slemmons, May 20, and Rev. Dr. Marsha Wilfong, May 27.

To support the mission and ministry of our church, we need \$12,892 per month. Offerings received through April 22nd totaled \$12,892.29.