

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 Hour room next to the sanctuary immediately following the service.

✠ TO KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS ✠

Those recovering

Those grieving

Those facing health issues

Those battling cancer

For premature births

For healthy pregnancies

Missionaries

Those struggling with depression, grief, or sorrow

Those dealing with the effects of natural disasters, especially the people of Indonesia following a tsunami that has claimed over 430 lives

Those suffering from religious persecution

Refugees around the world needing a safe place to live

We offer prayers of joy and thanksgiving for:

Kate Biekert, Sherry Heer, and Brennan Tesdahl (birthdays) and Dick & Delores Muntz (anniversary)

THE WEEK IN BRIEF

Sun., December 30	10:15am	NO Sunday School Worship: Rev. Daniel Emmert, preaching
	11:30am	PNC
Tue., January 1		New Year’s Day
Wed., January 2	6:30pm	Choir
Fri., January 4	1:30pm	Manor Care: Tom Jack
Sat., January 5	8:00am	Men’s Breakfast @ Sunshine
Sun., January 6	9:00am	Sunday School for all ages
Food for the 1st	10:15am	Worship: Rev. Beth McCaw, preaching Sacrament of Holy Communion Ordination & Installation of Officers

Banners Currently Hanging in the Sanctuary

South Wall - Advent/Christmas - Isaiah 9:6 (in memory of Doris Walske)

West Wall - Epiphany - Isaiah 60:1

North Wall - Romans 12:9 (in memory of Leroy Vogt)

Deacons for the month of December: Terri Gronau & Suzanne Heber

January : Jamie Dillman & Beth Foxen

For pastoral emergencies, please contact the Rev. John Armstrong at 605-354-3891 or john1rev@gmail.com

Prayer Chain requests may be emailed or called to the church (582-4494), or emailed to Linda at fpcdbqlongfield@gmail.com

Office Hours for Ginger Vander Broek are Mon., Wed., Thu. 9:00am-1:00pm.

Lectionary Readings for January 6th:

Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

Ephesians 3:1-12

Matthew 2:1-12

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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(563) 582-4494    firstpresdbq@gmail.com    www.firstpresdbq.org

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Founded 1847

10:15am    1st Sunday after Christmas    December 30, 2018

Announcements

Linda Longfield

Prelude

“Fantasia on ‘Gloria’”

arr. Mansfield

For Prayer and Reflection

Colossians 3:16

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.”

Call to Worship

based on Ezekiel 34:16

The Lord is present in this sanctuary.

And we are present with the Lord.

The Lord will search for those who are lost, who strayed away.

The Lord will bring them safely home again, and will bind up the injured.

The Lord will strengthen the weak and feed them.

The Lord is present in this sanctuary and we are present with the Lord.

Opening Prayer

\*Songs of Praise

Hymn #179

“Joy to the World”

Antioch

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light, or trusted good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting little, hoping for less. Forgive our doubt, and renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace, and live in the truth of Christ the Lord.

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

Declaration of Forgiveness

\*Gloria Patri #734

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Colossians 3:12-17

p. 1834

**Choral Anthem**                      “Still on This Silent Night”                      *arr. Callaway*  
*Slumber now, sweetly dream. Angels sing above. Peace has come down to earth wrapped in songs of love. Joy rings out through the sky. See the wondrous sight! Holy light shining bright on this silent night. Slumber now, sweetly dream. Angels softly sing. Peace has come, Christ is born, born to be our King. Still, still, still, one can hear the falling snow. For all is hushed, the world is sleeping, Holy Star its vigil keeping. Still, still, still. One can hear the falling snow. Sleep, sleep, sleep, ‘tis the eve of our Saviour’s birth. The night is peaceful all around you, close your eyes, let sleep surround you. Sleep, sleep, sleep, ‘tis the eve of our Saviour’s birth. Dream, dream, dream, of the joyous day to come. While guardian angels without number watch you as you sweetly slumber. Dream, dream, dream, of the joyous day to come. Of the joyous day when peace has come down to earth wrapped in songs of love.*

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

**Second Reading**                      Luke 2:41-52                      p. 1592

**Sermon**                      “Shaped by Grace”

**\*Hymn of Response**  
Hymn #184                      “What Child Is This”                      *Greensleeves*

**\*Affirmation of Faith**  
**We believe that God came to redeem this world of lost children, and to open the way to eternal life through the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth. This Jesus, who is one with us in our common humanity, we know to be one with God in being and power. Therefore we confess that true deity and true humanity are one in Jesus. This mystery of God's grace in Jesus Christ, which can be experienced and proclaimed, but never fully explained, is what ties Christians together in a common faith and life across the centuries. Amen.**

**Joys and Concerns**

**Prayers of the People and the 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*

**The Offering**  
**Offertory**                      “What Child is This”                      *arr. Lovelace*  
**\*Doxology #34**  
**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Sending Hymn**  
Hymn #218                      “Go, Tell It on the Mountain”                      *Go, Tell It*

**\*Charge & Benediction**

**\*Postlude**                      “Rejoice, Rejoice ”                      *arr. Taylor*  
*\*Those who are able, please stand.*

**Leaders in Worship:**  
Kristen Eby, *Music Director*  
Jill Klinebriel, *Choir Director*  
Mark Ward, *liturgist*  
Rev. Daniel Emmert, *preacher*

**Welcoming you to First Presbyterian Church today:**  
Terri Gronau, *greeter*  
Tim & Victoria Slemmons, *Coffee Fellowship hosts*  
Courtney Schnoor & Florence Siefker, *nursery*

TODAY'S GUEST PREACHER is the Rev. Daniel Emmert. Dan and his wife Marilyn have retired in Dubuque after serving churches in the North Central Iowa Presbytery for 11 years. Dan is a graduate of UDTs and was ordained in 2004 while under care of John Knox Presbytery. Prior to that, Dan worked for Area Residential Care for 30 years.

**Who We Are**

“We love because God first loved us.” I John 4:19  
*First Presbyterian is a 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**

TRANSITION NEWS: The Session has hired the Reverend John Armstrong as part-time pastor for congregational care. John, a recently retired Presbyterian minister, will be available for pastoral emergencies and visitation. John and Jeannie, who attended FPC while John was in seminary at UDTs, recently returned to Dubuque to be nearer family and for Jeannie to begin her work at Hills and Dales as Assistant Health Services Director. Welcome back to FPC, John and Jeannie!

The PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE meets today. Please keep the committee in your prayers.

THANKS TO ALL WHO GAVE TO THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING that benefits Presbyterian racial-ethnic schools and helps provide income supplements for retired ministers facing unexpected medical costs.

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE BEAUTIFUL POINSETTIAS generously donated in memory or in honor of others (please see list). Please take them home today after worship.

FYI - YOUNG AT HEART will meet January 8<sup>th</sup> instead of January 1<sup>st</sup>.

SUNDAY SCHOOL will resume next Sunday, January 6, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. During January, the Adult Sunday School will be studying the Apostles’ Creed, a concise summary of the biblical faith. Come join us.

THE ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS will take place next Sunday, Jan. 6. We give special thanks to those officers rotating off their respective boards: Elders Chris Daniels and Bob Monthey and Deacons Terri Gronau and Steve Foxen.

FOOD FOR THE FIRST will be collected next Sunday. Please bring non-perishable food for the Dubuque Food Pantry.

UNDECORATING PARTY will take place after worship next Sunday. Please plan to stay for a brief time to help us put away the Advent/Christmas decorations. Many hands make light work.

REMINDER TO COMMITTEE CHAIRPEOPLE that annual reports are due to Ginger by January 6.

PREACHING SCHEDULE FOR THE NEXT FEW WEEKS  
Jan. 6 - Beth McCaw  
Jan. 13 - Marsha Wilfong  
Jan. 20 - Tim Slemmons

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS are needed! Please sign up in the Coffee Hour room to serve.

To support the mission and ministry of our church, we need \$12,892 per month. Offerings received through December 23<sup>rd</sup> totaled \$10,589.94.