

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 9:00am during the school year, and worship at 10:15am.

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.

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† TO KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS †

Those who are mourning
Those recovering from illness, injury, or surgery
Those facing chronic health issues
Those expecting
Those battling cancer
Those struggling with depression, loneliness, or despair
The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC)
Missionaries
Those sick with the coronavirus

We offer prayers of joy and thanksgiving for:

Chris Daniels, Ryan McClain, Aaron Wildermuth, and Preston Yartey (birthdays)
Warm homes, clothing, and food
The generosity of this church family

THE WEEK IN BRIEF

(events at FPC unless noted)

Sun., March 8	9:00am	Sunday School
* <i>Daylight Savings begins*</i>	10:15am	Worship:
<i>Supplies for the 2nd</i>		Kate Meyrick, preaching
	11:30am	PNC
Sat., March 14	9:30am	Session meeting
Sun., March 15	9:00am	Sunday School
	10:15am	Worship:
		Rev. Bradley Longfield, preaching

Banners Currently Hanging in the Sanctuary

South Wall - Lent

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

North Wall - I John 4:19 (*in honor of Rev. Katherine Achtemeier*)

Deacons for the month of March: Mark & Deb Stant

For pastoral emergencies, please contact the Rev. John Armstrong at 605-354-3891 or Armstrongfpcdbq@gmail.com. Office hours are Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00am-12:00pm or by appointment.

Prayer Chain Change: You may now email, text, or call prayer requests to Rev. John Armstrong (see contact information above).

Admin Office Hours for Ginger Vander Broek are Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:00-1:00pm.

Lectionary Readings for March 15th:
Exodus 17:1-7; *Psalm* 95
Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1684 Iowa St., Dubuque, IA 52001
(563) 582-4494 firstpresdbq@gmail.com www.firstpresdbq.org

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

10:15am

Founded 1847
2nd Sunday in Lent

March 8, 2020

Announcements

Linda Longfield

Prelude “Wondrous Love” arr. Shockley

For Prayer and Reflection:
Lord God, in this season of Lent we look forward to our remembrance of Jesus' death and our celebration of his resurrection. We pray that your Spirit will renew in us today our anticipation for these events and our awareness that Jesus' death and resurrection are a sure source of hope and life. In the power of Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Call to Worship
Come to the Lord, who is rich in grace; approach our God, who is full of mercy.
**We will praise God with all our heart
and glorify the name of the Most High forever.**

Opening Prayer

**Songs of Praise*
 “Come and Behold Our God” *Eby*

Shadows flee from the light of Your face,
Babbles cease at Your whispers of grace,
Chaos succumbs to the calm of Your touch,
None else could do so much.
Breathing new life through Your perfect plan,
You sent Your Son to this weary land,
In faithfulness You still reach out Your hand to call us to life in You.

Refrain: Come, follow the Way,
Turn to the One who turns night to day,
Place your foot-steps where Love has trod,
Come and Behold our God!

Open our eyes to Your wondrous deeds,
Tune our ears to a world in need,
Order our lives to Your rhythm of peace,
Call us to faith in You. (*refrain*)

“Awesome Power” *John G. Elliott*

Awesome power, boundless grace,
None can fathom all Your ways.
Truth and love are found in Your heart alone;
Righteousness surrounds Your throne.

Holy, holy, holy Lord most high
Holy, holy, holy Lord most high

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

If you, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness; therefore you are feared. I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I put my hope. My soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning. Almighty God, our Redeemer, in our weakness we have failed to be your messengers of forgiveness and hope. Renew us by your Holy Spirit, that we may follow your commands and proclaim your reign of love, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

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

Declaration of Forgiveness

*Gloria Patri #734

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading Genesis 12:1-4a p. 17

Choral Anthem “Infinite Grace” Parks
Infinite grace, taking our place upon a rugged tree. Dying alone, what mercy shown, in shameful agony. See the Lamb of God who takes away our sin! Perfect sacrifice that we may enter in. Taking our place, infinite grace. Enduring pain for sinner’s gain, that we might be set free. Once and for all, redeems the fall, for all eternity. Son of God and Son of Man! What love displayed! Infinite the grace that all our debt has paid! Taking our place, infinite grace, infinite grace, infinite grace.

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

Second Reading John 3:1-17 p. 1649

Sermon “How Can This Be?”

*Hymn of Response

“How Deep the Father’s Love for Us” Stuart Townend
How deep the Father’s love for us, how vast beyond all measure,
That He should give His only Son, to make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss—the Father turns His face away,
As wounds which mar the Chosen One, bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross, my sin upon His shoulders;
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice, call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there, until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life—I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no power, no wisdom,
But I will boast in Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer,
But this I know with all my heart—His wounds have paid my ransom.

*Affirmation of Faith “The Apostles’ Creed”
I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord who was conceived by the
Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day
He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on
the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall
come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of
sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Joys and Concerns

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

The Offering
Offertory “Jesus, Lover of My Soul” arr. P. Benjamin
*Doxology #34
*Prayer of Dedication

*Sending Hymn
Hymn #366 “And Can It Be” Sagina

*Charge & Benediction

*Postlude “Agnus Dei” Mozart / Gale
*Those who are able, please stand.

Leaders in Worship:
Kristen Eby, Music Director
Jill Klinebriel, Choir Director
Rev. Bradley Longfield, liturgist
Kate Meyrick, preacher

Welcoming you to First Presbyterian Church today:
Beth Foxen, greeter
The Dillman Family, Coffee Fellowship hosts
Florence Siefker & Courtney Schnoor, nursery attendants

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

DURING LENT we will collect money for the ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING Offering. Three areas - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. Fish banks and giving calendars are available for pick up. Please give generously to this important ministry.

SUPPLIES FOR THE SECOND is TODAY. Please place your donations in support of the Victim Services Shelter in the container in the narthex. Thank you!

THE DUBUQUE FOOD PANTRY thanks you for your generous donations.

GOD AT WORK: THE BOOK OF ACTS: You are cordially invited to join the warm fellowship of the Adult Sunday School as we learn about God’s powerful work in the early church as told in the book of Acts. Come grow in grace at 9:00am every Sunday morning.

DID YOU NOTICE? The Session has been overseeing numerous deferred maintenance projects as we seek to advance our mission on the corner of 17th and Iowa. Currently, we are renovating the bathroom in the manse. Special thanks to Steve Foxen and Alex Jack for their work on this project. Also, many thanks to all of those who have made donations to support these essential improvements. If you would like to contribute, please speak with Treasurer Bob Monthey.

TRANSITION NEWS: The PNC continues to pray for God’s guidance as they discern who is to lead this congregation into the future. Please continue to hold our church family and the PNC in your prayers.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS for VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL. VBS at FPC will be held July 6-10, 2020, from 9:00-11:30am. The theme this summer will be “God Calls You By Name”. Plan to join us for an exciting week of learning about God’s love and grace. Talk with Linda Longfield if you have any questions.

PREACHING SCHEDULE FOR THE NEXT FEW WEEKS:
March 15 - Rev. Bradley Longfield
March 22 - Mark Ward
March 29 - Rev. John Armstrong

To support the mission and ministry of our church, we need \$13,564 per month. Offerings received through March 1st totaled \$5,323.10.