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 †

One in a serious medical condition

One aged and living in Jamaica facing serious medical challenges

One who suffered a fall and is in severe back pain

A group of PFC friends hiking the Pacific Crest Trail

For the people of Syria (assaulted on each side by violent forces)

A student battling leukemia

For healthy pregnancies

One healing slowly from cancer surgery

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

For those battling cancer and cancer recurrences

Abune Antonios, Patriarch of the Eritrean Orthodox Church in Eritrea

We offer prayers of joy and thanksgiving for:

Emily Herbst, Chuck Lee, Taylor Rupp, and Elaina Biechler (birthdays)

THE WEEK IN BRIEF

(events at FPC unless noted)

Sun., April 22 9:00am Sunday School for all ages 10:15am Worship: Rev. Achtemeier, preaching Confirmation Sunday 1:30pm Bethany Home worship: Pastor & Jill Klinebriel Rev. Kat Achtemeier's Retirement Sat., April 28 11:30am-2:00pm Luncheon @ Westminster PC in the Fellowship Hall Sun., April 29 9:00am Sunday School for all ages 10:15am Worship: Rev. Achtemeier, preaching

Banners Currently Hanging in the Sanctuary

South wall - John 11:25 Easter (in memory of George Nacos); West Wall - 1 John 4:19 North Wall - Psalm 96:1 (in memory of Betty Gronau)

Deacons for the month of April: Jamie Dillman and Mark Stant

Prayer Chain requests may be called (582-4494) or emailed to the church office

Office Hours for Ginger Vander Broek, Administrative Assistant to the Pastor, are Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday 9:00-1:00pm .

Lectionary Readings for April 29th:

Acts 8:26-40; *Psalm 22:25-31*; 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Katherine Achtemeier 1684 Iowa St., Dubuque, IA 52001

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Founded 1847

10:15am 4th Sunday of Easter

April 22, 2018

Announcements

Prelude "Be Thou My Vision"

arr. Shackley

Kendrick

For Prayer and Reflection

(Book of Common Prayer)

"Grant, Almighty God, that we, who have been redeemed from the old life of sin by our baptism into the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, may be renewed in your Holy Spirit, and live in righteousness and true holiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen."

Call to Worship

(based on John 20:29, I Peter 1:3)

Blessed are those who have not seen,

And yet have come to believe.

By God's great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope,

Through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Opening Prayer

*Songs of Praise

"Shine Jesus Shine"

Lord, the light of your love is shining

In the midst of the darkness, shining.

Jesus, Light of the world, Shine upon us

Set us free by the truth you now bring us

Shine on me. Shine on me.

(*Chorus*) Shine, Jesus, shine. Fill this land with the Father's glory.

Blaze, Spirit, blaze. Set our hearts on fire.

Flow, river, flow. Flood the nations with grace and mercy.

Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light!

Lord, I come to your awesome presence,

From the shadows into your radiance,

By the blood I may enter your brightness;

Search me, try me, consume all my darkness:

Shine on me. (Chorus)

As we gaze on your kingly brightness,

So our faces display your likeness;

Ever changing from glory to glory;

Mirrored here, may our lives tell your story:

Shine on me. (Chorus)

"He Who Began"

He who began a good work in you, He who began a good work in you Will be faithful to complete it, He'll be faithful to complete it He who started the work will be, Faithful to complete it in you.

He who began a good work in me, He who began a good work in me Will be faithful to complete it, He'll be faithful to complete it He who started the work will be, Faithful to complete it in me.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of empty tombs and emptier people: when we hesitate to speak of your hope, forgive us, and give us a voice. When we find it difficult to love one another, forgive us, and give us fresh compassion. When we want to stand with the high and mighty, forgive us, and seat us next to the poor and oppressed. When we stay locked behind our fears and doubts, forgive us, and send us out to share your grace. When we cannot believe your Word of new life, forgive us, refresh us, and fill us with the assurance of your presence.

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

Declaration of Forgiveness

*Gloria Patri (Hymn #734)

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Psalm 139:1-18

p. 974

Choral Anthem "Be Thou My Vision" (Hymn #502) Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart: Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art— Thou my best Thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light. Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word, I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord; thou and thou only, first in my heart, high King of heaven, my Treasure thou art. High King of Heaven, my victory won, may I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heav'n's Sun! Heart of my own heart, whate'er befall, still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.

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

Second Reading

John 14:23-27

p. 1676

Sermon

"God and You"

*Hymn of Response

Hymn #132 "Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart" Morecambe

Reaffirmation of the Baptism Covenant

for those Making a Public Profession of Faith

Elise Hallstoos, Ethan Blair, and Matt Gunn

*Affirmation of Faith Welcome

"Apostles' Creed" (Back cover of hymnal)

... What words of welcome do we have for them as they join with us in the worship and mission of the church?

With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you to share with us in the ministry of Christ, for we are all one with him.

Encounter with the Risen Christ

John Eby

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

"Consecrated, Lord to Thee"

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

*Sending Hymn

Hymn #425

"Christ Beside Me"

Bunnesan

arr. Wagner

*Charge and Benediction

"Praise to the Lord of Boundless Might" *Postlude

arr. S. Scott

*Those who are able, please stand.

Leaders in Worship:

Kristen Eby, Music Director Jill Klinebriel, Choir Director Linda Longfield, liturgist Rev. Katherine Achtemeier, preacher

Welcoming you to First Presbyterian Church today:

Ethan & Thomas Blair, greeter

The Congregational Life Committee will celebrate the confirmands at Coffee Hour 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 IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

- THIS IS CONFIRMATION SUNDAY. Our fellowship time following worship is in honor of our confirmands: Elise Hallstoos, Matt Gunn, and Ethan Blair. Please plan to remain for this joyous time together.
- THE FLOWERS TODAY are given to the Glory of God and in appreciation of the remarkable biblical pastorate of Rev. Dr. Achtemeier, who served God and the whole church! As a family, we thank you for your special care in our times of need. God bless you and your future endeavors! The Sturman family: John, Marge, Richard, Robert, and spouses
- CONGRATULATION TO OUR GRADUATES! Cards for Hunter Brehm, Jennifer Pattee, and Maggie Lewis await you in the Coffee Hour Room. We will celebrate their achievements at Coffee Hour on May 13.
- ALSO ON MAY 13TH during coffee hour the Congregational Life Com looks forward to celebrating our faithful Sunday School Teachers and recognizing their service in the life of the church.
- LOOKING TO THE FUTURE! To learn about the 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 these persons in your prayers.
- 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 or the pastor 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.
- MISSIONARY NEWS—Get their newsletter in the Coffee Room or Narthex.
- 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! Rev. Achtemeier on April 29; Presbytery Executive, Rev. Chaz Ruark on May 6; Rev. Dr. Lyle Vander Broek on May 13; Rev. Dr. Tim Slemmons on May 20 (Pentecost), and Rev. Dr. Marsha Wilfong on May 27.

To support the mission and ministry of our church, we need \$12,892 per month. Offerings received through April 15th totaled \$10,840.55.