



First Presbyterian Church

Energy • Intelligence • Imagination • Love

**Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
July 26, 2026 at 9:30 AM**



A congregation of the
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A)



Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of Davenport

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of Davenport, a church where EVERYONE is welcome. On behalf of the entire First Pres family, we want you to know that we are so glad you're here. We are a proud congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA), where We Choose WELCOME!

We welcome followers of Jesus who are solid in their faith, and we welcome questioning believers seeking deeper meaning in their life. We welcome those who come from different faith backgrounds, such as Methodists, Lutherans, and Catholics, and those with no faith background at all; for we are all one in Christ Jesus. No matter where you are on your journey of faith, you are welcome here!

We hope you experience the warmth and friendliness of our congregation. It is a place that long-term members have described as their spiritual home for generations. It is also a place where people newer to our community of faith have found a safe and sacred space for themselves and their families.

Nursery care is available during the worship service for children (birth through kindergarten). The nursery is staffed by trained and background-checked caregivers from 8:15 AM to 11:30 AM. The nursery is on the third floor of the Christian Education (CE) building. Ask a worship host if you need assistance locating this space.

Kirkwood Choir is offered during the service, after the Children's Message. Kirkwood Choir provides music for worship throughout the September to April program year. Check today's bulletin for current schedule.

MusikGarten, a program for parents/caregivers and young children (birth through kindergarten), is provided after the service in room #310 of the CE building. MusikGarten is our unique program that allows participation in a fun, energetic environment while instilling a love and understanding of music in young children. Check today's bulletin for schedule.

Sunday School classes for children, youth, and adults are offered after the service. Children and youth Sunday school is located on the third floor of the CE building. High School youth are encouraged to be helpers in the elementary classes. Adult Sunday school is in Von Maur Hall. Please ask a worship host if you need assistance locating these spaces.



Our Session (church council) has adopted a bold vision of creating safe and sacred space for all. We aren't perfect at it, but we are joyfully beginning to live into this new vision. We are an open and affirming congregation, and a proud member of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians (covnetpres.org). The Session and members of First Pres extend a sincere welcome to persons of all races, nationalities, genders, and sexual orientations. This includes an open invitation to membership, the sacraments of baptism and communion, marriage, funerals, memorial services, and service as an officer of the church.



We are a Matthew 25 church in the PC(USA). Matthew 25 congregations identify themselves as working toward one or more of three goals: building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism, and eradicating systemic poverty.

Land Acknowledgement: First Presbyterian Church gratefully acknowledges the Indigenous Peoples on whose ancestral homelands we gather, as well as the diverse and vibrant Indigenous communities who make Iowa and Illinois their home today. The communities we serve through our ministries occupy the traditional homelands of the people of the Kiikaapoi, Myaamia, Očhéthi Šakówinj, Peoria, Sauk, and Meskwaki nations. We honor these and numerous Indigenous tribes who first made the banks of the Mississippi River a center for arts and commerce.

✠ Worshipers who are comfortably able are invited to stand in body or spirit.

Bold indicates congregational response

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Order of Worship

To help you get to know the people sitting in your pew/row,
Please complete the Friendship Pad and pass it to your neighbors.

*As we begin worship, please silence your cell phones.
Take a quiet moment to center yourself in the presence of God.
We invite you to meditate silently on art, music, and Scripture.*

Preparing for the Word

Prelude

Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

Arr. Lloyd Larson
(b. 1954)

Welcome and Announcements

Marty Bowles Edwards

Prelude

Improvisation on "Father I Adore You"

✠ Call to Worship

Andy McNeil, Liturgist

One: Please rise, in body or in spirit, for the Call to Worship.

One: O give thanks to the Lord; call on his name; make known his deeds among the peoples.

All: Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.

One: Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

**All: Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually.
Remember the wonderful works he has done.**

✠ Passing of the Peace

One: May the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

All: And also with you!

(In a way that is comfortable for you, please share the Peace of Christ with those around you.)



1. Glo - rious things of thee are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y of our God;
 2. Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - ering, See the cloud and fire ap - pear
 3. See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e - ter - nal love,

God, whose word can - not be bro - ken, Formed thee for a blest a - bode.
 For a glo - ry and a cov - ering, Show - ing that the Lord is near.
 well sup - ply thy sons and daugh - ters and all fear of want re - move.

On the rock of a - ges found - ed, What can shake thy sure re - pose?
 Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner Light by night and shade by day.
 Who can faint while such a riv - er ev - er flows, their thirst to as - suage?

With sal - va - tion's walls sur - round - ed, Thou may'st smile at all they foes.
 Safe they feed up - on the man - na Which God gives them when they pray.
 Grace, so like the Lord the giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age.

Call to Confession

One: Please be seated.

One: In Christ we are forgiven, but we acknowledge our need for forgiveness in a prayer of confession.
 Let us confess to the Lord:

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we believe you forgive us by your mercy, and touch us with your healing grace. We confess our need for your forgiveness, mercy and grace. We admit we are too often self-centered, even apathetic towards a need that you would have us help meet. Thank you for your patience and love, and continued call to follow in the steps of Jesus.

Assurance of Forgiveness

We offer our gratitude to the Lord for forgiving us because of what Christ has done for us. Because of God's loving grace, through Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Loving Lord, as we look more closely at today's scripture, may your servant be in tune with you, and may our minds be attentive, and our hearts open to whatever your Spirit wants to reveal to us. Amen.

First Lesson

Matthew 13:31-3

³¹ He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

³³ He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson

Romans 8:18, 24-39

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us.

²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸ We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. God's Love in Christ Jesus

³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else?

³³ Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. ³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? ³⁶ As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Knowing God through God's Love"
The Rev. Pat Halverson

Responding to the Word

♣ Hymn #336

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL



1. Love di - vine all loves ex - cel - ing, Joy of heav'n, to
2. Breathe, O breathe Thy lov - ing Spir - it In - to ev - 'ry
3. Come, Al - might - y to de - liv - er, Let us all Thy
4. Fin - ish, then, Thy new cre - a - tion; Pure and spot - less

earth come down, Fix in us Thy hum - ble dwell - ing, All Thy
trou - bled breast! Let us all in Thee turn, in - her - it, Let us
life re - ceive; Sud - den - ly see Thy re - nev - er, Nev - er -
let us be; Let us see Thy great sal - va - tion Per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown! Je - sus, Thou art all com - pas - sion,
find the prom - ised rest; Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
more Thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
ly re - stored in Thee; Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

Pure, un - bound - ed love Thou art; Vis - it us with
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; End of our faith, as
Serve Thee as Thy hosts a - bove; Pray, and we praise Thee
Till in heav'n we take our place, Till we cast our

Thy sal - va - tion, En - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
its be - gin - ning, Set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
with - out ceas - ing, Glo - ry in Thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore Thee, Lost in won - der, love, and praise.

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

Our Creator who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kin-dom 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 kin-dom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering Our Gifts and Lives to God



To share your pledge or offering, you may place it in the offering plate as it is passed down the aisle. If it is more convenient for you, please visit the church website at www.fpcdavenport.org, and click on "Donate Now," or you may donate directly from your smartphone by scanning the QR code with your phone's camera. You may also mail your pledge or offering to the church office.

Offertory

Agnus Dei

Arr. Phillip Keveren
(b. 1961)

♣ **Doxology**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise God, all crea - tures here be -
low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise God, in Je - sus ful - ly
known: Cre - a - tor, Word and Spir - it one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

♣ **Prayer of Dedication**

Gracious God, thank you for your many blessings. We offer a portion of that which you have given to us, and ask that these gifts offered in your name, help further the works of ministry you have called us to do. Amen.

♣ **Hymn #276**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1. Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God, Cre - a - tor.
2. Sum - mer and for win - ter, and a spring - time that and en - dur - eth,
3. Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,
There is no shad - ow in of their turn - ing with Thee;
Sun, moon, and stars pres - ence their to cours - es and a - bove;
Thine own, dear pres - ence their to cheer - es and a - to guide;
Thou chang - est not, Thy com - pas - sions they fail not;
Join with all to - day - ture and in bright man - i - fold to wit - ness
Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,
As Thou hast been Thou for - ev - er wilt be.
To Bless Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
Bless - ings all mine, with ten - thou sand be - side!
Refrain
Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by
morn - ing new mer - cies I see; All I have need - ed Thy
hand hath pro - vid - ed; Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me.

♣ **Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

How Great Is Our God

Arr. Lloyd Larsen

WORSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS

Worship Hosts - Jeanne Sherwood (Lead Host), Kirk Christie, Matt Kabel, Mariann Kabel

Sound/Video Technicians - Mitch Doremus, Jim Middleton

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JOYS & CONCERNS

In Our Prayers: families and victims of gun violence; the people of Ukraine, Israel and Palestine, all who groan under oppression.

For God's mercy and grace to touch friends and family on the passing of Judy Wereley, wife of former FPC Pastor/Head of Staff Rev. Dick Wereley.

We also pray for those in need of God's healing grace; Col. Thomas Boyd, Pat Cresap, Frances Keller, Judy Brumbaugh (mother of Julie VanPelt), Sandra and Dave Millage, Alan Haverkamp, Jim Woods, Carol Phoenix, and Julie Pedigo (sister of Carol Phoenix).

(Names will be listed in the list above for 30 days unless otherwise requested.)

Mission Partners: Humility Homes and Services; Churches United; Habitat for Humanity Quad Cities; and P.U.N.C.H.

Hospital Visits: The Pastors and Deacons make hospital visits when patients give permission.

In-Touch Information: For anyone who is homebound and would enjoy contact from one of First Presbyterian's In-Touch members, please contact the FPC Office at 563-326-1691 x200 or office@fpcdavenport.org.

The Prayer Chain: Connects those who need prayer with those who commit to a ministry of prayer. Contact Mary Ann Francois (563-355-5292).

Printed Prayer Requests: Require permission from the person(s) in need of prayer before prayers are printed in the bulletin. The best way to ensure a hospital visit or a prayer is to contact the church office directly (563-326-1691).

Prayer Shawls: Prayer shawls are available for you to give to those you know who are experiencing a challenge or joy. For your choosing, a variety of shawls are hanging on the coat rack near the main office.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Visit the First Pres website to view the full calendar

www.fpcdavenport.org/calendar

Sunday, July 26

Sanctuary Choir Kansas City Tour	All Day	Off-Site
Nursery Open	9:00 AM - 11:00 AM	CE Building 3 rd Floor
Worship Service	9:30 AM	Sanctuary & Online
Scouts Donut Sunday	10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	Fellowship Hall
Fellowship Hour	10:35 AM - 11:30 AM	Fellowship Hall
Musikgarten	10:35 AM - 11:05 AM	CE Building 3 rd Floor
Scout Troop 7 Meeting	7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	Gym

Monday, July 27

Pickle Ball	9:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Gym
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Tuesday, July 28

Caring Closet & Lunches	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	CE Building 1 st Floor
Hospitality & Welcoming Committee	7:30 PM - 9:00 PM	Parlor

Wednesday, July 29

Pickle Ball	9:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Gym
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Thursday, July 30

Clean Team	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	FPC Building
TOPS	5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Von Maur Hall

Friday, July 31

Bix Cruise on the Mississippi	10:30 AM - 2:00 PM	Off-Site
Caring Closet	2:00 PM - 5:00 PM	CE Building 1 st Floor

Saturday, August 1

Caring Closet	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	CE Building 1 st Floor
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Staff Time Away - August 2026

Pastor Kris, Abby, and kids will be away 7/24 - 8/15.

Matt Bishop is away 8/3 - 8/16.

Alex Gilson is away 8/2 - 8/9.

Marty Bowles Edwards is away 8/13 - 8/20.

Kristine Olson & Tammy Versluis are away 8/13 - 8/23.

NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY

Looking for Something to Read during the Summer?

FPC's Library has received some exciting new books from generous donations! They can be found in the "New Books" bookcase.

The Final Target, Nora Roberts
A Woman's Place, Danielle Steel
Somewhere Safe with Someone Good, Jan Karon
Freedom Lost, Freedom Won, Eugene Robinson

The Pioneers, David McCullough
Five Presidents, Clint Hill
Love Wins, Rob Bell
Great Dechurching, Jim Davis & Michael Graham

Thanks for using the library! The Library Committee - Kirk Christie, Bev Koos, Vicki Stegall, Dan Breinich

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

"In Life and in Death, We Belong to God"

It is with heavy hearts that we share the news of the passing of Judy Wereley, who went home to be with the Lord, Tuesday, July 14, 2026. Judy was the wife of FPC's former Pastor/Head of Staff, Rev. Richard (Dick) Wereley. She was a cherished member of our congregation for many years, and she will be deeply missed by many.

A **memorial service** will be held on **Saturday, August 15, 11:00 AM** at the First Presbyterian Church of Wooster, Ohio.

SAVE THE DATE - Saturday, November 7

FPC's BRAND NEW *Kirkwood Seminars on Faith and Life* is hosting award-winning speaker, songwriter, and writer David LaMotte. There will be a 10:00 AM program for children and their families, followed by an evening presentation at 6:30 PM "You Are Changing the World Whether You Like It or Not" and at 7:45 PM - David LaMotte in Concert.

MISSION & SERVICE

Caring Closet Needs Donations - Hygiene Products

The Caring Closet is currently in need of **hygiene products** (baby wipes, diapers, soap, deodorant, shampoo/conditioner, etc.). Donations may be dropped off at the church during the week or on Sunday morning. Thank you for helping us care for our community!

CHILDREN & YOUTH

NEW DATE - Summer Pool Party for incoming 6th-12th Graders

All incoming 6th through 12th graders are invited to a pool party at the home of Marty and Andy Bowles-Edwards on **Sunday, August 30**. Drop off is at 5:00 PM and pick up is at 7:00 PM. Join us for a chance to swim, relax, eat and hang out with friends as we enjoy summer. Just bring a towel, sunscreen, and whatever you need for the pool. The address will be shared with families before the event. Please RSVP by Thursday, August 27, so we can ensure we have enough food. If there are dietary restrictions, please note that as well. For questions and to RSVP, reach out to Abby Schondelmeyer: abby@fpcdavenport.org

Christian Ed Needs You!

Do you enjoy working with children and helping them grow in faith?

We're looking for caring volunteers to teach Sunday School one Sunday a month—or more if you're able. The Sunday School hour happens after church so you will still be able to attend worship. The lessons will already be planned we just need you to teach the lesson and come with excitement and joy! We have different age groups so you can choose your preference. If you don't feel called to lead the lesson, we also need a helper in each classroom. Questions? Want to volunteer? Please reach out to Marty Bowles-Edwards or Abby Schondelmeyer: cefy@fpcdavenport.org



Announcing the 2027 FPC Travel Fellowship - Wales: Land of Song

The Congregational Fellowship and Worship & Music committees have partnered to present FPC's next travel fellowship: Wales! Known for its rich tradition of men's choirs dating back to the heyday of the mining industry, this trip will include sightseeing in some of the United Kingdom's most attractive and welcoming towns such as Cardiff and Llandudno, breathtaking natural beauty including Snowdonia and the Brecon Beacons National Park, and attending rehearsals and performances of Welsh and English choirs.

The itinerary includes a flight to London (we will depart from Moline) and two nights enjoying some of the many things that city has to offer (including attending a choral evensong service at St. Paul Cathedral and possibly a show in the West End). We then depart to Northern Wales by bus, stopping for a brief time in Birmingham, England. On the northern coast we will tour Snowdonia National Park, Conwy Castle, and fellowship with one of the most established men's choirs in Wales. Our tour continues in the Welsh capital of Cardiff, a cosmopolitan city steeped in history and culture. After a few nights in Cardiff, we cross back into England to tour Stonehenge and enjoy the historic city of Bath, where we spend our final evening before traveling back to London to fly home.

Because of the nature of this trip, we are limiting the group size to 20 (same as the Scotland travel fellowship). Travel dates are **February 12-20, 2027**, and the cost for the trip is estimated at just over \$4,000/person (subject to change with fuel/flight prices). Sign-ups are now open and will be accepted until the cap of 20 people is met. You may reserve your spot on the tour with a \$1000/person deposit (non-refundable but transferable) and by contacting Director of Music & Arts Matt Bishop (bishop@fpcdavenport.org). You must have a passport valid through August 2027. The total cost above includes flights, ground transportation, accommodation in superior tourist class hotels with twin rooms (single rooms available at a higher cost upon request), daily breakfast, two group dinners, and guided sightseeing tours and entrance fees. Travel insurance is not included but highly recommended (contact Matt Bishop or Linda Meadors for more information).

FPC STAFF

First Presbyterian Church ♦ 1702 Iowa Street ♦ Davenport, Iowa 52803 ♦ Phone: 563-326-1691

Our Staff

Rev. Dr. Kris Schondelmeyer, <i>Pastor/Head of Staff</i>	Ext 230	schondelmeyer@fpcdavenport.org
Rev. Pat Halverson*, <i>Parish Associate</i>		
Marty Bowles-Edwards*, <i>Co-Director of Christian Education</i>		cefy@fpcdavenport.org
Abby Schondelmeyer*, <i>Co-Director of Christian Education</i>		cefy@fpcdavenport.org
Kathy Knox*, <i>Nursery Caregiver</i>		
Deanna Herman*, <i>Nursery Caregiver</i>		
Matt Bishop, <i>Director of Music & Arts</i>	Ext 201	bishop@fpcdavenport.org
Alex Gilson, <i>Principal Organist & Assistant Director of Music</i>	Ext 223	gilson@fpcdavenport.org
Kathy Middleton*, <i>Assistant Choral Director for Children</i>		
Jim Middleton*, <i>Director of Office Administration</i>		office@fpcdavenport.org
Diana Miller-Bur*, <i>Administrative Assistant to the Pastor</i>	Ext 235	millerbur@fpcdavenport.org
Kristine Olson, <i>Director of Financial and Business Administration</i>	Ext 219	olson@fpcdavenport.org
Tammy Versluis*, <i>Accounting Assistant</i>		
Darren Long, <i>Director of Building and Grounds</i>	Ext 205	long@fpcdavenport.org

* Part-time employee

ELDERS AND DEACONS

Elders

<i>Class of 2026</i>	<i>Class of 2027</i>	<i>Class of 2028</i>	<i>Clerk of Session</i>
Dianna Darland	Dan Darland	Nancy Chapman	Julia Meyer
Denny Jorgenson	Craig Foster	Colleen Dueñas	
Kathy Knox	Wendy Hammen	Nathan Kabel	
Cathy Pratscher-Woods	Paula Hartmann	Linda Meadors	
Jed Steckel	Sharon Simmonds	RuthAnn Tobey-Brown	
	Jay Williams		
	Erin Yingling		

Deacons

<i>Class of 2026</i>	<i>Class of 2027</i>	<i>Class of 2028</i>
Andy Bowles Edwards (Moderator)	Elizabeth Breinich (Vice Moderator)	Carrie Braun
Lois Boyer	Andrew Darland	Dan Breinich
Connie Connolly	Steve Earp	Scott Johnson
John Gere	Heidi Pedersen	Cherrie Umland-Burns
Al Frohlich	Mason Pedersen	Kris Woodard
Bob Lehnerr	Doug Wells	Bill Yingling
Amy Saskowski	Sherry Williams	Gail Yingling
Sarah Soenksen		
Katrina Williams		