



First Presbyterian Church

Energy • Intelligence • Imagination • Love

**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 6, 2026 at 9:30 AM**



Leslie Brewer, *Living Water*

**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 pre-school). 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 pre-school), 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

Fifteenth 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

Just As I Am

Arr. William Bolcom
(b. 1938)

Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer

Prelude

There is a Balm in Gilead

Arr. Adolphus Hailstork
(b. 1941)

✠ Call to Worship

Julia Meyer, Liturgist

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

One: All who thirst—

All: Come to the water.

One: Christ offers living water.

All: We come to drink deeply of God's grace.

✠ 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.)

“Let anyone who is thirsty come to me...”

♣ Hymn

As the Deer

1. As the deer pants for the wa - ter, so my
soul longs af - ter you. You a - lone are my
heart's de - sire, and I long to wor - ship you.
You a - lone are my strength, my shield; to you a - lone
may my spir - it yield. You a - lone are my
heart's de - sire, and I long to wor - ship you. *sing 2x*

Call to Confession

Too often we drink from wells that cannot satisfy. Let us return to Christ, the fountain of life. Let us pray.

Prayer of Confession

Living Christ, we confess that we often seek satisfaction in things that cannot sustain us. Fill us again with your Holy Spirit. May rivers of living water flow through us for the blessing of the world. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

One: Christ says, "Whoever comes to me will never thirst." The living water is yours.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

"...let the one who believes in me drink."

Listening for the Word

Children's Message

Prayer for Illumination

Quench our deepest thirst, O God. Let your Word become living water within us. Amen.

Scripture Lesson

John 7:37-39

³⁷ On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, ³⁸ and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, 'Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water.'" ³⁹ Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive, for as yet there was no Spirit because Jesus was not yet glorified.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Come and Drink: The Water of Life"
The Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer

Responding to the Word

♣ Hymn

Ho, All Who Thirst

JACOB'S WELL

Refrain



Ho, all who thirst, come now to the wa - ter, and
all whose souls are parched and wea - ry, come and drink!
Ho, all who thirst, come now to the wa - ter, and
from your heart will flow a nev - er - fail - ing spring!
1. Why for - sake the Lord, the fount of liv - ing wa - ter,
2. For the Lamb will be our shep - herd and will guide us,
3. All who come may take this gift of liv - ing wa - ter.
choos - ing bro - ken cups that can - not be filled?
to the well - springs of the wa - ter of life.
They will thirst no more, for they shall be filled.

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

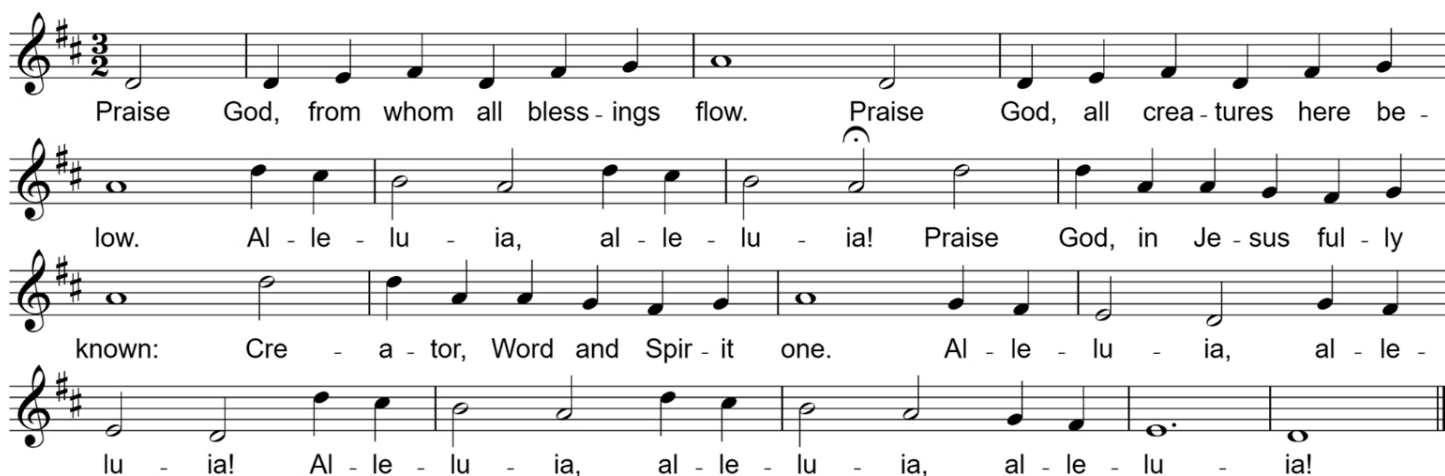
O for the Wings of a Dove
Brighton Greim, Voice; Alex Gilson, piano

Felix Mendelssohn
(1809-1847)

✠ Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures 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!

✠ Prayer of Dedication

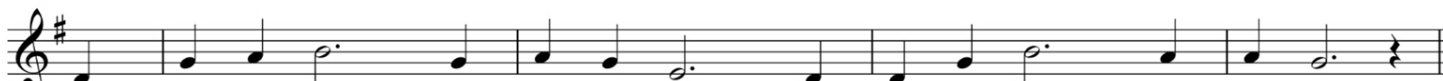
*“As the scripture has said,
‘Out of the believer’s heart shall flow rivers of living water.’”*

♣ Hymn

My Life Flows On



1. My life flows on in end-less song, a - bove earth's lam - en - ta - tion.
 2. Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring - ing.
 3. What though my joys and com-forts die? I know my Sav - ior liv - eth.
 4. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring - ing!



I hear the clear, though far off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.
 It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing - ing?
 What though the dark - ness gath - er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.
 All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing - ing?

Refrain



No storm can shake my in - most calm while to that Rock I'm cling - ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from sing - ing?

♣ Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Fuga from *Sonata No. 2, Op. 65*

Felix Mendelssohn
 (1809-1847)

WORSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS

Worship Hosts - Susie Kardel (Lead Host), Lois Boyer, Judy Guenther, Harry Hoyt

Sound/Video Technicians - Mitch Doremus, Jim Middleton

Copyright Information

Permission to podcast and reprint this music was obtained from WorshipCast License #13952 from Christian Copyright Solutions. All other works are in the public domain.

First Presbyterian Church holds license #505513408 from Christian Video Licensing International, LLC allowing it to publicly show certain legally obtained movies and programs (such as DVDs) at approved locations, even though those materials are normally for private use.

Adolphus Hailstork, Arr., "There is a Balm in Gilead," ©2021 GIA Publications, Inc.

William Bolcom, Arr., "Just As I Am," ©1980 Edward B. Marks Music Company

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 Martha Kubajak (mother of member Abby Pitcher).

We also pray for those in need of God's healing grace; Paul Hartmann, Gloria Osborne, Col. Thomas Boyd, Pat Cresap, Frances Keller, 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 assure 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, September 6

Nursery Open	9:00 AM – 11:00 AM	CE Building 3 rd Floor
Worship Service	9:30 AM	Sanctuary & Online
Fellowship Hour	10:35 AM – 11:30 AM	Fellowship Hall
Nominating Committee Meeting	11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Parlor
Scout Troop 7	7:00 PM – 8:30 PM	FPC Building

Monday, September 7

Office Closed - Labor Day

Tuesday, September 8

Caring Closet & Lunches	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	CE Building 1 st Floor
Staff Meeting	11:30 AM – 2:00 PM	Von Maur Hall

Wednesday, September 9

Pickle Ball	9:00 AM – 11:00 AM	Gym
Women of Hope Bible Study	10:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Parlor
HND Choir Rehearsal	6:00 PM – 7:30 PM	Choir Room

Thursday, September 10

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

Friday, September 11

Picnic Tent Setup	12:00 PM – 4:00 PM	West Parking Lot
Caring Closet	2:00 PM – 5:00 PM	CE Building 1 st Floor
FNO Movie Night	6:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Von Maur Hall

Saturday, September 12

FPC Men's Breakfast	8:00 AM – 10:30 AM	Off Site
Caring Closet	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	CE Building 1 st Floor

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 on **Saturday, November 7**. There will be a **10:00 AM** program for children and their families, followed by an evening presentation at **6:30 PM** titled "You Are Changing the World Whether You Like It or Not" and at **7:45 PM** - David LaMotte in Concert. Then on Sunday, David LaMotte will be leading us in worship, followed by an Adult Sunday School program.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Breaking News: Pastor Kris Volunteers to Get Dunked!

After successfully rearranging his flight schedule to leave Sunday evening, Pastor Kris has agreed to take a seat in the **Community Picnic Dunk Tank**. Join us after the **Congregational Conversation** on **September 13** and make your way to the west parking lot. Bring your encouragement, your laughter, your dollars, and maybe your best pitching arm!

All funds raised will support the work of our deacons.

First Night Out - Movie Night

The **Friday, September 11** event for First Night Out will be a movie at **7:00 PM** in Von Maur Hall. The movie will be the comedy, **"The Out-of-Towners"** starring Jack Lemmon and Sandy Dennis. Popcorn and water will be provided. You are encouraged to bring a snack to share and your own beverage if you want something other than water. You can respond to Mitch Doremus at mitchotron@gmail.com.

Men's Breakfast

Reminder that the **Men's Breakfast** is this coming **Saturday, September 12, 8:00 AM** at the **Village Inn** on the corner of Harrison and Locust. Please notify Steve Earp (563-320-0398; sdearp46@gmail.com) or the church office by Friday morning if you plan to attend so we know how many tables to reserve. We will order off the menu individually. Hope to see you Saturday! (If you decide to come but didn't sign up, be sure to come anyway. There is "room at the table for all")

Kick-Off Sunday - September 13th



Mark your calendars now! Plan to join us on **September 13th** for our **Kick-Off Sunday** as we kick off a new season of ministry here at First Presbyterian Church. We will begin with inspiring worship at our regularly scheduled time of **9:30 AM**.

Immediately following worship will be a **Congregational Conversation** in the Sanctuary. It will be a time for sharing with the congregation information and highlights on ministry initiatives and programs at FPC.

Then we will move on to the **Community-Wide Picnic** sponsored by our Deacons in the West Parking Lot. Please bring your favorite side dish or dessert to share with the congregation. During the picnic there will be yard games, activities for all ages, sno-cones, and a bounce house for children.

Member Inquiry Class

Are you excited about the new things that are happening here at FPC? Are you a new visitor or long-time attendee who is not yet a member? Would you like to transfer your membership from another church to First Pres.? Please speak with Andy Bowles Edwards or Pastor Kris about the process for making a commitment to the FPC community. This is a wonderful church, and we are blessed as we welcome new members like you. Our next new member inquiry class will be held on **September 27**.

For more information: volunteer@fpcdavenport.org

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Blessing of the Backpack

Join us **Kick-off Sunday, September 13**, as we invite all students (no matter your age), teachers, those starting a new job, or new opportunity to bring their backpack, purse, or whatever you use for a blessing of the backpack. We will have a special gift for each person as we celebrate the start of a new year!

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

Bible Milestone

On **September 6** all 3rd - 5th graders are invited to a fun Bible Discovery class with Pastor Kris after worship. Third graders and those that have not received their Bibles are encouraged to attend. Those that have received their Bibles are encouraged to attend and bring their Bibles to support their friends (and refresh their Bible knowledge). On **September 13**, during worship, third graders and those who have not received Bibles will get them during a special moment. Please speak with Abby or Marty or e-mail: cefy@fpcdavenport.org with questions or to attend.

Confirmation Class

Confirmation Class will begin this fall for all youth in **6th grade and up** who are ready to take the next step in their faith journey! Youth that have been confirmed are encouraged to attend on Sundays with the youth that are in the confirmation process.

What is Confirmation? - In the **Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)**, Confirmation is a special season of learning, growth, and exploration. It's a time for young people to ask big questions, deepen their understanding of the Christian faith, and explore what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ within the Presbyterian tradition. At the end of the class, participants will have the opportunity to **profess their faith, become full members** of the church, and take ownership of their faith journey.

Our Confirmation Class will be a 3-year program with youth having the opportunity to be Confirmed at the end of 8th grade.

We will meet on Sundays (during the Sunday School hour) after worship in the Youth Room (Fireplace Room). Please reach out to Abby Schondelmeyer: abby@fpcdavenport.org with questions or if your youth plans to attend Confirmation.

MISSION & SERVICE

Caring Closet - Free Homecoming Dresses Event

A Free Homecoming Dresses Event on **September 8-9** from **5:00 to 7:00 PM** in Fellowship Hall.

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
Tyler Powell*, <i>Custodian</i>		

* 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		