



First Presbyterian Church

Energy • Intelligence • Imagination • Love

**Tenth Sunday After Pentecost
Blessing of the Animals
August 17, 2025 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 age 4). The nursery is staffed by trained and background-checked caregivers from 9 AM to 11 AM (summer). The nursery is on the third floor of the Christian Education (CE) building. Ask a worship host if you need assistance locating this space.

MusikGarten, a program for parents/caregivers and young children (birth through age 4), 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.



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 Šakówiŋ, 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.

Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

Blessing of the Animals

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 Allegro con Brio from Sonata in D Major, Hob.XVI:37 Franz Joseph Haydn
(1732-1809)

Welcome and Announcements The Rev. Pat Halverson

Prelude Vineyard Haven Richard Wayne Dirksen
Jordan Howe - Trumpet, Alex Gilson - Piano (b. 1974)

Call to Worship Jed Steckel, Liturgist

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

One: We gather this day to worship our God.

**All: May you, O Lord restore us.
Let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

✠ **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. O hear our cry, O Lord; Now hear us as we pray.
 2. En - throned a - bove all worlds, You shine with ho - ly light.
 3. O Lord, the God of Hosts, Turn not Your face a - way.
 4. O Lord, our God, re - turn; Bring peace in - to each home.

You guide us as a shep - herd leads, So keep us in Your way.
 Lord, pour Your power up - on us all, And save us with Your might.
 Our tears have been both food and drink, Foes mock us night and day.
 So let Your face shine on us all, Re - store us as Your own.

O come, Lord, come, Re - store and save us now.

Call to Confession

Please be seated.

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; yet we are justified by the gift of God's grace through the redemption that is ours in Christ Jesus. Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

God of compassion, we admit at times we have been complacent: neglecting the poor, forsaking paths of righteousness, ignoring your commands. Clothe us with your forgiveness and love as you reveal our need for your grace. In Christ we pray, amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Looking to Christ, the pioneer and author of our faith, we believe our sins are forgiven. In loving others through Christ's perfect love for us, we are made whole.

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

God, source of all light, by your Word you give light to the soul. Pour out on us the spirit of wisdom and understanding that our hearts and minds may be opened. Amen.

First Lesson

Isaiah 5:1-7

5 I will sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. **2** He dug it and cleared it of stones and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded rotten grapes.

3 And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. **4** What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield rotten grapes?

5 And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. **6** I will make it a wasteland; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

7 For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his cherished garden; he expected justice but saw bloodshed; righteousness but heard a cry!

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson

Luke 12:49-57

49 "I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! **50** I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! **51** Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! **52** From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; **53** they will be divided:

father against son
and son against father,
mother against daughter
and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

54 He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain,' and so it happens. **55** And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat,' and it happens. **56** You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

57 "And why do you not judge for yourselves what is right?

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Texts We Didn't Learn in Sunday School"
The Rev. Pat Halverson

Responding to the Word

✦ Hymn

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

1. My hope is built on nothing less Than Je - sus' blood and
2. When dark - ness veils His love - ly face, I rest on His un -
3. His oath, His cov - e - nant, His blood I port me in the
4. When he shall come with trum - pet sound, O may I then in
righ - teous - ness; I dare not trust the sweet - est frame, But
chang - ing grace; In ev - every high and storm - y gale, My
whelm - ing flood; When all a - round my soul gives way, He
him be found, dressed in his righ - teous - ness a - lone, fault -
Refrain
whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
an - chor holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the sol - id Rock, I stand; All
then is all my hope and stay.
less to stand be - fore the throne.
oth - er ground is sink - ing sand, All oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Prayers of the People

Blessing of the Animals

Almighty and everlasting God,
Creator of all things and giver of all life,
let your blessing be upon all these animals.
May our relationship with them mirror your love,
and our care for them be an example of your bountiful mercy.
Grant these animals health and peace.
Strengthen us to love and care for them
as we strive to imitate the love of Jesus Christ
our Lord and your servant Francis. Amen.

Bring Pets Forward

Remembrance of Pets That Have Crossed the Rainbow Bridge

Loving God, we remember our animal companions who are no longer with us physically. We give thanks for the gifts they gave us and the variety of ways they enriched and blessed our lives. In confidence that you continue to care for them, we pray as Jesus taught us:

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.

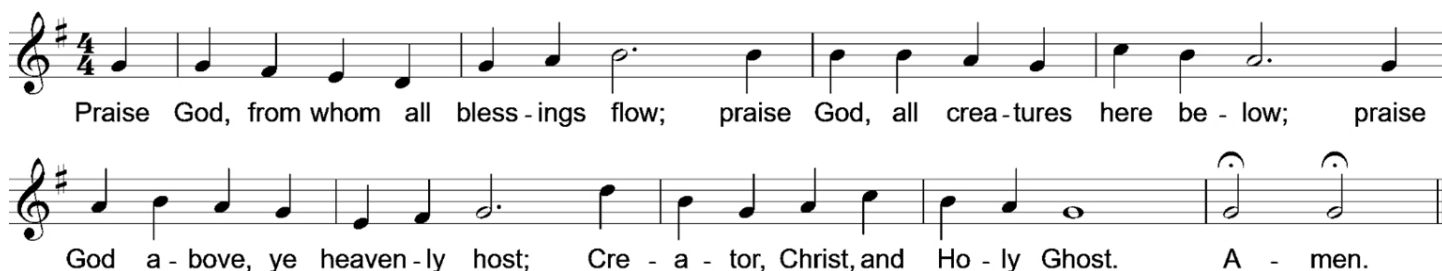
Offertory

This Is My Father's World/He's Got the Whole World in His Hands Arr. Brant Adams
Jordan Howe - Trumpet, Alex Gilson - Piano

✦ Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH



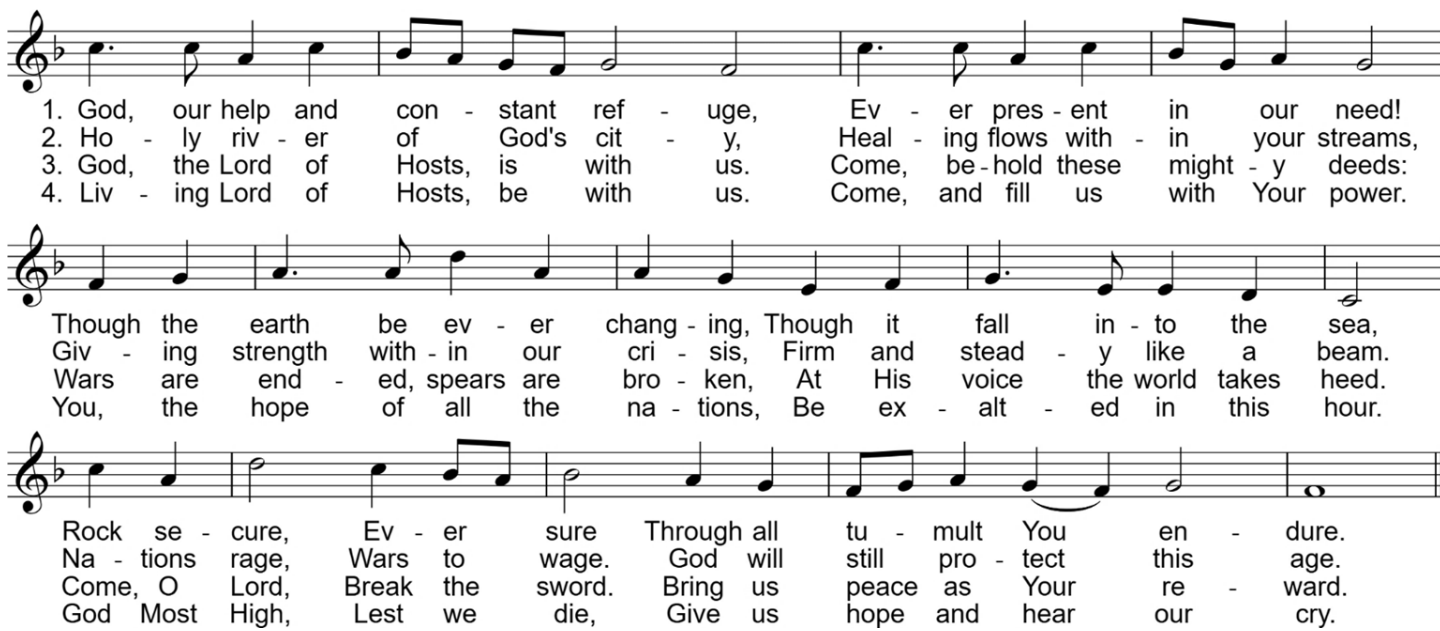
✦ Prayer of Dedication

Creator God, you provide all that we have. We thank you for the abundance of our lives and praise you for the opportunity to share what you have so freely given. As we present these gifts, we dedicate our lives to your service, that all may know you. Amen.

✠ Hymn

God, Our Help and Constant Refuge

MICHAEL



1. God, our help and con - stant ref - uge, Ev - er pres - ent in our need!
2. Ho - ly riv - er of God's cit - y, Heal - ing flows with - in your streams,
3. God, the Lord of Hosts, is with us. Come, be - hold these might - y deeds:
4. Liv - ing Lord of Hosts, be with us. Come, and fill us with Your power.

Though the earth be ev - er chang - ing, Though it fall in - to the sea,
Giv - ing strength with - in our cri - sis, Firm and stead - y like a beam.
Wars are end - ed, spears are bro - ken, At His voice the world takes heed.
You, the hope of all the na - tions, Be ex - alt - ed in this hour.

Rock se - cure, Ev - er sure Through all tu - mult You en - dure.
Na - tions rage, Wars to wage. God will still pro - tect this age.
Come, O Lord, Break the sword. Bring us peace as Your re - ward.
God Most High, Lest we die, Give us hope and hear our cry.

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Fuga in B-flat Major, BuxWV 176

Dietrich Buxtehude
(1637-1707)

WORSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS

Worship Hosts - Tim Nelson (Lead Host), Cathy Weik-Nelson, Luann Field

Sound/Video Technicians - Mitch Doremus, Jim Middleton

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Today's liturgical elements are from sources unknown and used in a spirit of gratitude in the worship of God.

Brant Adams, Arr., "This Is My Father's World/He's Got the Whole World" (©2003 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

JOYS & CONCERNS

In Our Prayers: families and victims of gun violence; the people of Ukraine, Israel and Palestine, and all who groan under oppression, and those in need of God's healing grace; Brenda Boyd, Bill Hawthorne, Bill Weckerley (friend of Sue Ervin), Shawn Lambrecht (son of Cathy Lambrecht), Patti Sothmann, Jim Woods, Carol Phoenix, Julie Pedigo (sister of Carol Phoenix), and Wayne Hean. Also, prayers of protection for Nicholas, grandson of Verna Burrichter, during his deployment with the US Navy.

(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 Deacon Colleen Dueñas (563-514-6396).

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, August 17

Nursery Open	9:00 AM - 11:00 AM	CE Building 3 rd Floor
Worship Service	9:30 AM	Outside - West Lot
Musikgarten	10:35 AM - 11:05 AM	CE Building 3 rd Floor
Fellowship Hour	10:35 AM - 11:30 AM	Fellowship Hall
CEFY Youth Team Meeting	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Fireplace Room
Scout Troop 7 Meeting	7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	Gym

Monday, August 18

Pickle Ball	9:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Gym
FPC Book Club	12:30 PM - 2:00 PM	Parlor
Buildings & Grounds Meeting	5:30 PM - 6:30 PM	Parlor

Tuesday, August 19

Caring Closet & Lunches	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	CE Building 1 st Floor
Cub Scouts Meeting	6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Fellowship / Gym

Wednesday, August 20

Pickle Ball	9:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Gym
Bible Basics 201	6:15 PM - 7:15 PM	Zoom

Thursday, August 21

Library Committee Meeting	9:00 AM - 12:30 PM	Library
Nominating Committee	10:30 AM - 12:30 PM	Parlor
PUNCH Meeting	1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Von Maur Hall
Clean Team	2:00 PM - 4:00 PM	FPC Building
TOPS	5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Von Maur Hall

Friday, August 22

Caring Closet	2:00 PM - 5:00 PM	CE Building 1 st Floor
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Saturday, August 23

Caring Closet	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	CE Building 1 st Floor
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Kick-Off Sunday - September 7th

Mark your calendars now! Plan to join us on **September 7th** 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 and a bounce house for children.

Fellowship Hour Treats Sign-up

Now you can help make it happen! Sign up at the back of the sanctuary (or use the QR code or this link <https://bit.ly/FPCTreats>) to bring 40 servings of any treat—sweet or savory. Two people can split a Sunday (20 each), or one person can bring all 40.

Note: No treats are needed during Manna and More breakfasts or Scout Sundays.

Questions? Contact Andy at 563-340-5268.



CHILDREN & YOUTH

Blessing of the Backpack

Join us **Sunday, September 7**, 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 backpacks. 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

ADULT SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Bible Basics for August 20, 2025

Join us on Wednesday, August 20, at 6:15PM on Zoom. This week we will watch a video that will provide some history about the differences between the Pharisees and Sadducees. Please contact Mark Jones (markandkarla75@gmail.com) for more information.

<https://www.zoom.us/join> Meeting ID: 881 1687 5549 Passcode: 630481

MISSION & SERVICE

Caring Closet Request - Homecoming Dress Give Away

The Caring Closet is once again hosting a Homecoming and Prom Dress Give Away on September 9 & 10 from 2:00 to 5:30 PM here at FPC.

The staff at the Caring Closet is asking for donations of Party, Prom, or Homecoming dresses that you no longer need. They can be dropped off at church during the week from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM or on Sunday before or after the church service.

Session Highlights for August 2025

- Pastor Kris used the devotion time to review the new FPC Website design and information with Session. The website is close to completion.
- Clare Kraklow was approved for membership by Session. She will publicly reaffirm her faith during an upcoming Sunday service.
- Finance reported that the YTD numbers look good, but they don't expect it to continue.

The FPC Caring Closet - Updated Request

Caring Closet Request: *The Caring Closet is requesting the following:* hygiene products such as diapers, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, body wash, and feminine pads. The Dollar Tree provides a great variety. We also need towels and sheets of all sizes. Thank you for your continued support!

The Caring Closet Now Open on Saturday: Join our team of dedicated volunteers at the Caring Closet. We need volunteers to commit to one Saturday morning a month to work in our "store" from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. If you can volunteer, please contact the church office or text or call Ruth Ann at 563-370-6215.

STAFF

Staff Time Away in August 2025

Rev. Dr. Kristopher D. Schondelmeyer will be away from **August 11 through August 18** and from **August 22 through August 24**. Please contact the church office if you have urgent pastoral needs while he is away.

Matt Bishop will be away from **August 8 through August 23**, followed by continuing education time from **August 24 through August 28**.

Kristine Olson will be away from **August 15 through August 22**.

Tammy Versluis will be away from **August 15 through August 22**.

Diana Miller-Bur will be away from **August 16 through August 24**.

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>		
Madison Hanssen*, <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
Linda Bengfort*, <i>Assistant Choral Director</i>		
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
Chad Dean*, <i>Custodian</i>		

* Part-time employee

ELDERS AND DEACONS

Elders

<i>Class of 2025</i>	<i>Class of 2026</i>	<i>Class of 2027</i>	<i>Co-Clerks of Session</i>
Dan Breinich	Dianna Darland	Dan Darland	Julia Meyer
Nancy Chapman	Denny Jorgenson	David Edwards	Mark Jones
Bonnie Johnson	Kathy Knox	Craig Foster	
Nathan Kabel	Cathy Pratscher-Woods	Paula Hartmann	
Zoe McCullum	Jed Steckel	Sharon Simmonds	
Julia Meyer		Jay Williams	
Kristine Oswald		Erin Yingling	
Mark Ruebling			
Vicki Stegall			

Deacons

<i>Class of 2025</i>	<i>Class of 2026</i>	<i>Class of 2027</i>
Colleen Dueñas (<i>Vice Moderator</i>)	Andy Bowles Edwards	Elizabeth Breinich
Terri Sheetz (<i>Moderator</i>)	Lois Boyer	Andrew Darland
Doug Wells	Connie Connolly	Steve Earp
	John Gere	Sue Ervin
	Al Frohlich	Heidi Pedersen
	Bob Lehnherr	Mason Pedersen
	Amy Saskowski	Sherry Williams
	Sarah Soenksen	
	Katrina Williams	