



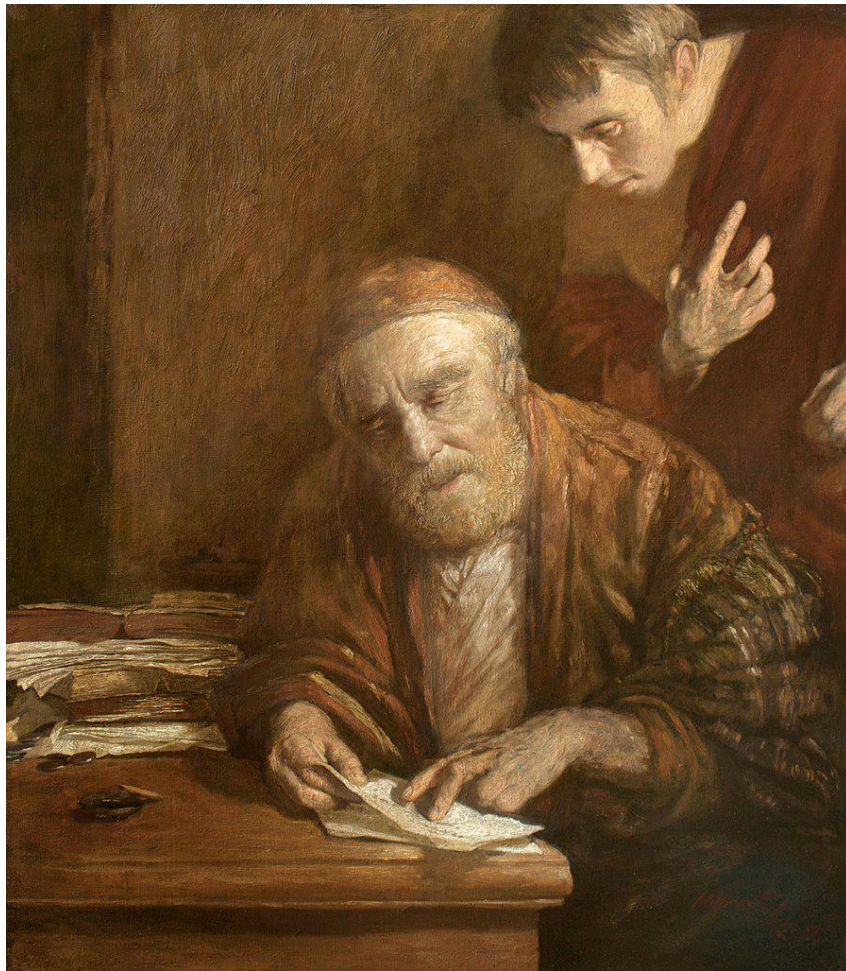
# First Presbyterian Church

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*Energy • Intelligence • Imagination • Love*

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**Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
September 21, 2025 at 9:30 AM**



*Parable of the Unjust Steward, Andrei Mironov (b. 1975)*

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.

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**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 program year.

**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.

# 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

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#### Prelude

Choral Varié sur le thème du 'Veni Creator,' Op.4

Maurice Duruflé  
(1902-1986)

#### Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer

#### Introit

God Is Gone Up with a Shout  
The Sanctuary Choir

Eric Thiman  
(1900-1975)

#### ✠ Call to Worship

Bonnie Parriott, Liturgist

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

One: Come, let us bow our hearts before our God, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name.

**All: We come seeking to be strengthened with power through the Spirit in our inner being.**

One: May Christ dwell in our hearts through faith, that we, being rooted and grounded in love, may grasp the breadth and length, height and depth of God's love.

**All: May we know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that we may be filled with all the fullness of God.**

One: Now to the One who is able to do far more than all we can ask or imagine, according to the power at work within us—

**All: To God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen!**

#### ✠ 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. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;  
 2. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give light;  
 3. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;  
 lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."  
 the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; your stoop down and drink my  
 look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day and be bright."  
 I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;  
 I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;  
 I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;  
 I found in him a rest - ing place, and he has made me glad.  
 my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.  
 and in that light of life I'll walk till trav - eling days are done.

## Call to Confession

Please be seated.

God's love for us is deeper than we can comprehend, wider than we can measure, and more abundant than we can imagine. Yet, we often live as though we are separated from that love. We rely on our own strength instead of the Spirit's power, and we struggle to grasp the fullness of God's grace. Let us come before God in humility, trusting in the One who strengthens us and fills us with mercy. Let us confess our sins together.

## Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God, we come before You knowing that we are in need of Your mercy and grace. You are the Creator from whom all things come, and yet we often forget to root ourselves in Your love. We confess that we have relied on our own strength instead of being strengthened by Your Spirit in our inner being. Forgive us, Lord, for the times we have lived as though Your love is not enough—as if we can grasp the fullness of life without You. We confess that we have failed to truly know the love of Christ and have let fear and doubt cloud our hearts. Fill us anew with Your Spirit, strengthen us in our inner being, and remind us of the deep, wide, and unshakable love that is ours in Christ Jesus. Help us to live in Your fullness, so that we may reflect Your grace to the world around us. Amen.**

### *A Time of Silence*

*(Please take this time in silence to offer your own prayers of confession—confessing your need for God and naming those barriers that keep you from knowing life as God's beloved child.)*

## Assurance of Forgiveness

One: Hear the good news: God, who is able to do far more than we can ask or imagine, has heard our confession and offers us forgiveness.

**All: Through the power of the Spirit and the love of Christ, we are strengthened and made whole. In Christ, we are rooted and grounded in love, and we are filled with the fullness of God.**

One: Friends, believe the good news. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, and in Him, we are made new.

**All: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## Recognition of New Member

Presentation

Scripture

Profession of Faith

Questions for New Member

Pastor: Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

**New Member: I Do**

Pastor: Do you turn to Jesus Christ, and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love?

**New Member: I Do.**

Pastor: Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love?

**New Member: I Will.**

Pastor: You have publicly professed your faith. Will you be a faithful member of this congregation, share in its worship and ministry, through your prayers and gifts, your study and service, and so fulfill your calling to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?

**New Member: I Will.**

Welcome

## Listening for the Word

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### Children's Message

### Prayer for Illumination

Listen to the Word That God Has Spoken  
The Sanctuary Choir

*Listen to the word that God has spoken;  
listen to the One who is close at hand;  
listen to the voice that began creation;  
listen even if you don't understand.*

## First Lesson

Amos 8:4-7

<sup>4</sup>Hear this, you who trample on the needy,  
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,  
<sup>5</sup>saying, "When will the new moon be over  
so that we may sell grain,  
and the Sabbath,  
so that we may offer wheat for sale?  
We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier  
and practice deceit with false balances,  
<sup>6</sup>buying the poor for silver  
and the needy for a pair of sandals  
and selling the sweepings of the wheat."  
<sup>7</sup>The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob:  
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Second Lesson

Luke 16:1-13

**16** Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. <sup>2</sup>So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.' <sup>3</sup>Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. <sup>4</sup>I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' <sup>5</sup>So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' <sup>6</sup>He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' <sup>7</sup>Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' <sup>8</sup>And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. <sup>9</sup>And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

<sup>10</sup>"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. <sup>11</sup>If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? <sup>12</sup>And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? <sup>13</sup>No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon

"The Gospel of 'Gotcha!'"  
Rev. Denise Anderson

## Responding to the Word

✦ Hymn

O For a World

AZMON



1. O for a world where ev - ery - one Re - spects each oth - er's ways.  
2. O for a world where goods are shared And mis - er - y re - lieved,  
3. We wel - come one world fam - i - ly And strug - gle with each choice  
4. The poor are rich, the weak are strong, The fool - ish ones are wise.  
5. O for a world pre - par - ing for God's glo - rious reign of peace,

Where love is lived and all is done With jus - tice and with praise.  
Where truth is spo - ken, chil - dren spared, E - qual - i - ty a - chieved.  
That o - pens us to u - ni - ty And gives our vi - sion voice.  
Tell all who mourn; Out - casts be - long, Who per - ish - es will rise.  
Where time and tears will be no more, And all but love will cease.

## 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](http://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.

***"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much,  
and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much."***



## Anthem

I Will Celebrate  
The Sanctuary Choir

William Mathias  
(1934-1992)

*I will celebrate your love for ever, O Lord, age after age my words shall proclaim your faithfulness;  
for I will claim that love is built to last for ever and your faithfulness founded firmly in the heavens.  
Yours was the arm, and yours the prowess, mighty and exalted your right hand;  
Righteousness and Justice support your throne, Love and Faithfulness are your attendants.*

*Lord, you have been our refuge age after age.  
Before the mountains were born, before the earth or the world came to birth,  
you were God from all eternity and for ever.  
You can turn us back into dust by saying, "Back to what you were, you sons and daughters of men!"  
To you, a thousand years are a single day, yesterday now over, an hour of the night.  
You brush us away like waking dreams, they are like grass sprouting and flowering in the morning,  
withered and dry before dusk. Teach us to count how few days we have and so gain wisdom of heart.*

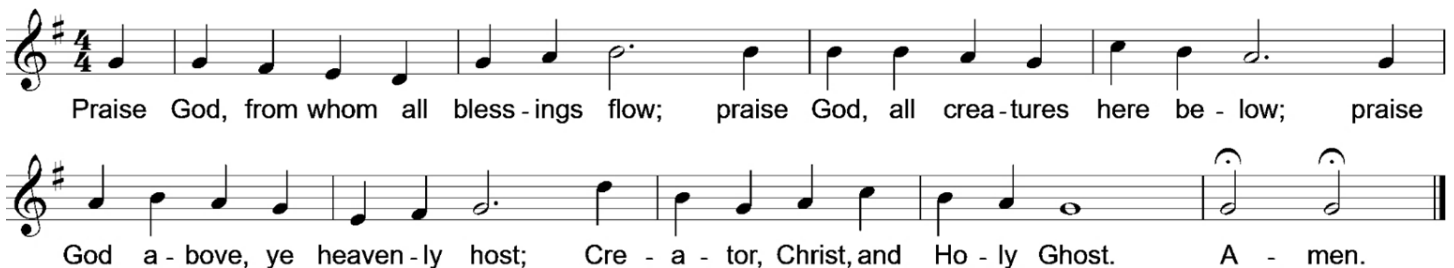
*Happy the people who learn to acclaim you! O Lord, they will live in the light of your favour;  
they will rejoice in your name all day and exult in your righteousness.  
You are their glory and their strength, you, by your kindness, raise our fortunes,  
since both our shield and our king belong to you, O Lord most high!*  
(adapted from Psalms 89 and 90)

(This anthem was commissioned for the sesquicentennial celebrations (1988-1989) of FPC-Davenport and premiered on April 9, 1989 by the Sanctuary Choir and Ruth E. Baker (organist), directed by Ronald Kauffmann.)

## ✠ Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all crea - tures here be - low; praise  
God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host; Cre - a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

## ✠ Prayer of Dedication

***If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth,  
who will entrust to you the true riches?***



# ♣ Hymn

## We Will Go Out with Joy



1. We will go out with joy in the Spir - it; we will go out with God.  
2. Now an - y - one who's born of the Spir - it, sing a new song of joy.  
3. We will go out with joy in the Spir - it; we will go out with God.



We will go out with joy in the Spir - it; we will go out with God.  
Now an - y - one who's born of the Spir - it, sing a new song of joy.  
We will go out with joy in the Spir - it; we will go out with God.



Al - le - lu - ia! We will go out with joy.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

## Charge and Benediction

### Postlude

Allegro from *Concerto in A minor, BWV 593*

J. S. Bach  
(1685-1750)

## WORSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS

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**Worship Hosts** - Judy Hawthorne (Lead Host), Mary Meehan, Vaughn Meehan, Sue Evans, Bruce Bufe

**Sound/Video Technicians** - Andy McNeil, Jim Middleton

**Acolyte** - Hazel Romanello

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

William Mathias, "I will celebrate" (©1990 Oxford University Press)

## JOYS & CONCERNS

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**In Our Prayers:** families and victims of gun violence; the people of Ukraine, Israel and Palestine, and all who groan under oppression, for God's mercy and grace to touch Carole Scherz on the passing of her son Mitchel Williams, and those in need of God's healing grace; Alan Haverkamp, Linda Bengfort, Brenda Boyd, Bill Hawthorne, 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

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Visit the First Pres website to view the full calendar

[www.fpcdavenport.org/calendar](http://www.fpcdavenport.org/calendar)

## Sunday, September 21

Nursery Open	8:15 AM - 11:30 AM	CE Building 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor
Worship Service	9:30 AM	Sanctuary & Online
Kirkwood Choir	In Recess	
Fellowship Hour	10:35 AM - 11:30 AM	Fellowship Hall
Sunday School	10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	CE Building 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor
Musikgarten	In Recess	
Adult Sunday School	10:45 AM - 11:30 AM	Von Maur Hall
Chamber Chorale Rehearsal	11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	Choir Room
Youth Group	5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	CE Building 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor
Justice Choir Rehearsal	5:30 PM - 7:00 PM	Choir Room
Scout Troop 7 Meeting	7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	Gym

## Monday, September 22

Pickle Ball	9:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Gym
Staff Meeting	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Von Maur Hall
Worship & Music Meeting	7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	Zoom

## Tuesday, September 23

Caring Closet & Lunches	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	CE Building 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor
SDT-Paint/Plaster walkthrough	11:15 AM - 1:14 PM	FPC Building
Contemplative Prayer Group	7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Von Maur Hall
Hospitality & Welcoming Committee	7:30 PM - 9:00 PM	Parlor

## Wednesday, September 24

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

## Thursday, September 25

Sermon Talks	9:30 AM - 10:30 AM	Von Maur Hall
Clean Team	2:00 PM - 4:00 PM	FPC Building
TOPS	5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Von Maur Hall
Vesper Bells Rehearsal	6:00 PM - 6:45 PM	Chapel
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Choir Room

## Friday, September 26

Caring Closet	2:00 PM - 5:00 PM	CE Building 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor
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## Saturday, September 27

Caring Closet	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	CE Building 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor
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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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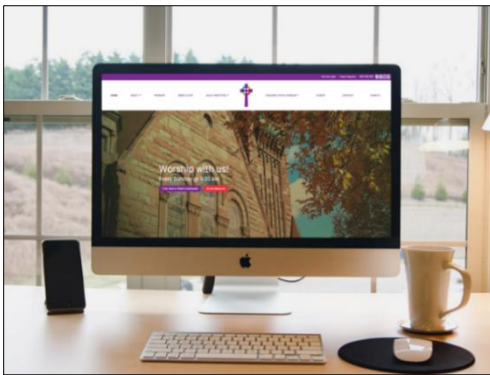
## LIFE OF THE CHURCH

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### This Sunday: Guest Preacher Rev. Denise Anderson

We are delighted to welcome the Rev. Denise Anderson, former Co-Moderator of the General Assembly of the PC(USA), to our pulpit today. Rev. Anderson will preach in worship and then lead our Adult Sunday School immediately following the service.

Join us after worship as Rev. Anderson introduces the work of the PC(USA) Unified Mission Agency (our national office in Louisville) and explores practical ways they can partner with local congregations like ours – resourcing mission, discipleship, and community engagement. All are welcome.



### Our Brand-New Website is Now LIVE!

The updated site is designed not only to make it easier for our members to stay connected, but also to help visitors learn more about who we are as a community of faith.

We invite you to take a look, explore the new features, and let us know what you think! Even better—help us spread the word! Share the website with your friends, family, and neighbors so they can get connected, too.

Visit us at: [www.fpcdavenport.org](http://www.fpcdavenport.org)

### Can You Smell Pancakes Grilling In Fellowship Hall?

Manna and More is **October 12<sup>th</sup>!! - 10:30-11:30 AM**

Mark your calendars and bring your neighbors and friends to church on October 12<sup>th</sup> for inspiring worship and fellowship. Follow your church family downstairs for a delicious Pancake, Sausage, Fruit breakfast right after worship. Our round tables, seating 6, are perfect for conversation. Sit with someone you don't know! Make a new friend!

**Volunteer opportunity!** The Congregational Fellowship committee can always use an extra hand serving or cleaning up each month. Email: [dmjorgenson@hotmail.com](mailto:dmjorgenson@hotmail.com)



### New Member Highlight - Clare Kraklow

Clare calls Davenport her home and enjoys playing the violin, home remodeling, hiking, and camping. She is passionate about music and can be found singing with the Sanctuary Choir and the Justice Choir of the Midwest.

## 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.

## MISSION & SERVICE

### The FPC Caring Closet - Updated Requests

#### Caring Closet Request:

- Children's clothes for the new school year. If you have any clothes that your children have outgrown, please consider dropping them off.
- 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.

### Session Highlights for September 2025

- Pastor Kris led a devotion after reading Joshua 1:9, Micah 6:8 and Hebrews 10: 24-25. As Elders we are encouraged to ask God for strength in leadership to make hard decisions with love and mercy and to encourage each other to do good works, as Session shapes how the Church lives out its mission.
- Pastor Kris is working on the App being generated from the website as well as finalizing the congregational directory portion of Breeze.
- Our Volunteer Coordinator, RuthAnn Tobey-Brown, handed out congregational volunteer lists to all the committee chairs.
- Finance reported that because expenses are being kept below budget and with the expected contribution from Birdies for Charity the budget deficit could be significantly reduced.

## ADULT SPIRITUAL GROWTH

### NEW THIS FALL: Contemplative Prayer Group

The Contemplative Prayer Group will meet on the **fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM** in Von Maur Hall. Engaging in a variety of compassion-based contemplative practices – such as silence, centering prayer, and guided meditation – the Contemplative Prayer Group is designed to cultivate compassion for self and others. Rooted in ancient Christian traditions, the group offers a peaceful space for deep listening, reflection, and connection with the Divine. All are welcome.

### Bible Basics for September

Join us on Wednesdays at 6:15PM on Zoom. In September, we are beginning a new video series on Biblical Wisdom Literature. Our topic for the month will be the book of Proverbs. All are welcome.

Please contact Mark Jones ([markandkarla75@gmail.com](mailto:markandkarla75@gmail.com)) for more information.

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

## NEW THIS FALL: Sermon Talks

Sermon Talks is a midweek daytime Bible study led by Pastor Kris where participants explore the Scripture passage for the upcoming Sunday sermon. Through open discussion and shared reflection, the group engages deeply with the text—asking questions, making connections, and preparing hearts and minds to hear God's Word in worship. Sermon Talks meets in person in Von Maur Hall **each Thursday from 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM**. A Zoom option is not available. All are welcome to join the conversation.

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## CHILDREN & YOUTH

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### Confirmation Class

We are excited to announce that a brand-new **Confirmation Class** will begin this fall for all youth in **6<sup>th</sup> grade and up** who are ready to take the next step in their faith journey!

*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 brand-new Confirmation Class will be a 3-year program with youth having the opportunity to be Confirmed at the end of 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Those currently in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and above will have an opportunity to participate in a retreat next spring making it possible to be Confirmed at the end of this school year.

We will meet on Sundays (during the Sunday School hour) after worship in the Youth Room (Fireplace Room). We ask at least 1 grown-up attend this first meeting with their youth. Please reach out to Abby Schondelmeyer: [abby@fpcdavenport.org](mailto:abby@fpcdavenport.org) with questions or if your youth plans to attend Confirmation.

### Child Protection Training - September 28 at 11:30 AM

We are offering Child Protection Trainings this September. Not only is it a requirement of the Book of Order of the PC(U.S.A.), it is also part of our ongoing commitment to creating safe and sacred space for all children and youth. All staff, officers (elders and deacons), and anyone working with children and youth need to attend. All other members of our church family are welcome and encouraged to sign-up, especially if you are interested in preventing child sexual abuse.



- **To RSVP to attend on Sunday, September 28 at 11:30 AM**
  - o **Please go to: <https://fpcdavenport.breezechms.com/form/46b233>**

### 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](mailto:cefy@fpcdavenport.org)

## Family Ministry - SAVE THE DATES

**Sunday, October 19:** Pride of the Wapsi – 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM (leave when your family is ready)

**Saturday, October 25:** Trunk or Treat – 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

More details will be coming soon!

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## MUSIC AT FIRST PRES

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### Justice Choir of the Midwest

The Justice Choir of the Midwest is a community choir of people from across eastern Iowa and western Illinois with a goal to engage in the collaborative and collective power of singing about justice and using their voices to bring about change. JCM's fall concert is on the theme of **LGBTQ+ Justice** and will include music of remembrance to victims of hate crimes, songs of protest for equal rights for LGBTQ+ people, and songs of celebration of queer joy. The concert is **Sunday, November 16 at 7:00 PM** at First Pres and will be a benefit concert to support the incredible work Clock, Inc. does in the Quad Cities.

For more information about supporting the work this ensemble is doing, talk to Matt Bishop.

### Lyyra

The 2025-2026 PAS Season kicks off on **Tuesday, October 21 at 7:30 PM** with a concert by internationally acclaimed vocal group Lyyra. Tickets are **\$15/adults, \$10/students**.

Lyyra is a new all-women vocal ensemble based in the USA from The VOCES8 Foundation. Creating world-class musical experiences to inspire audiences, Lyyra seeks to redefine the genre of upper-voice music in the choral landscape, highlighting the astonishing capabilities within the full spectrum of women's singing. The sound of this bright, young group combines velvety richness alongside star-like brilliance. With a broad texture and exhilarating range of sound, the group's talented members specialize in classical, jazz, pop, and folk music from diverse traditions and backgrounds.



## FPC STAFF

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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	<a href="mailto:schondelmeyer@fpcdavenport.org">schondelmeyer@fpcdavenport.org</a>
Rev. Pat Halverson*, <i>Parish Associate</i>		
Marty Bowles-Edwards*, <i>Co-Director of Christian Education</i>		<a href="mailto:cefy@fpcdavenport.org">cefy@fpcdavenport.org</a>
Abby Schondelmeyer*, <i>Co-Director of Christian Education</i>		<a href="mailto:cefy@fpcdavenport.org">cefy@fpcdavenport.org</a>
Kathy Knox*, <i>Nursery Caregiver</i>		
Madison Hanssen*, <i>Nursery Caregiver</i>		
Matt Bishop, <i>Director of Music &amp; Arts</i>	Ext 201	<a href="mailto:bishop@fpcdavenport.org">bishop@fpcdavenport.org</a>
Alex Gilson, <i>Principal Organist &amp; Assistant Director of Music</i>	Ext 223	<a href="mailto:gilson@fpcdavenport.org">gilson@fpcdavenport.org</a>
Linda Bengfort*, <i>Assistant Choral Director</i>		
Kathy Middleton*, <i>Assistant Choral Director for Children</i>		
Jim Middleton*, <i>Director of Office Administration</i>		<a href="mailto:office@fpcdavenport.org">office@fpcdavenport.org</a>
Diana Miller-Bur*, <i>Administrative Assistant to the Pastor</i>	Ext 235	<a href="mailto:millerbur@fpcdavenport.org">millerbur@fpcdavenport.org</a>
Kristine Olson, <i>Director of Financial and Business Administration</i>	Ext 219	<a href="mailto:olson@fpcdavenport.org">olson@fpcdavenport.org</a>
Tammy Versluis*, <i>Accounting Assistant</i>		
Darren Long, <i>Director of Building and Grounds</i>	Ext 205	<a href="mailto:long@fpcdavenport.org">long@fpcdavenport.org</a>
Chad Dean*, <i>Custodian</i>		

\* Part-time employee

## ELDERS AND DEACONS

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### 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 Lehnher	Mason Pedersen
	Amy Saskowski	Sherry Williams
	Sarah Soenksen	
	Katrina Williams	