

Sundays

Nursery Care 10:15 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

Fellowship following service

2701 Rochester Avenue
Iowa City, IA 52245
319-351-2660
www.firstpresidiowacity.org

Welcome to FPC!

Our prayer is that all will be blessed by the Word read and proclaimed as we are bound together by the Spirit as a community of faith. Children are invited to participate in our worship and welcome as loved, squirmy, laughing, crying children of God. We have busy bags for younger children and binders for young readers to help them in their journey, and a staffed nursery is available for children under 5.

✦ *Please rise, in body or spirit.*

Bold lines are spoken or sung by All. *Non-bold lines* are spoken or sung by one.

Please be seated by a Gathered Community Pad and sign in so that we may have a record of your time with us.



We seek to share the good news of Jesus Christ and his call to the realm of God: the practice of justice, mercy and faith. Our mission is represented by the Celtic cross, a shepherd's crook, the extension of the right arm of fellowship into the world and the church's hospitality toward the world.

August 10, 2025
9th Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude 24 Preludes, Op. 11: No. 5 in D Major Scriabin

Greeting Psalm 118: 24
This is the day that God has made. | **We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

✦ **Gathering Hymn 815** Give to the Winds Thy Fears

✦ **Call to Confession**
God calls each of us to our journeys of faith in different ways. Always, we ask “why us, why now?” Come and confess those times that you turned away.

✦ **Prayer of Communal Confession**
Gracious and most merciful God, we have sinned against you in thought and word and deed, both in what we have done and in what we have left undone. We have not seized the opportunities to offer witness to your grace and peace. When people are in prison, we do not visit. When people are scared of arrest and deportation and unsure where to turn, too often we do not stand with them. When your children come into our doors thirsting for your Word, too often we do not sit and explore it with them. When our faith is tested and stretched, we do not remember that we were not the first. For these and all the sins we now lift up silently and aloud, we confess and humbly repent.

✦ **Time of Individual Confession**

✦ **Words of Assurance**
Hear the Good News. Faith is an everlasting journey. It is hard to believe in the world that exists just out of our sight, but Jesus forgives us to reach for it until we do. **Amen.**

✦ **Confessional Response 586** Alleluia
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu—ia.
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu—ia.

✦ **The Peace**
The peace of Jesus Christ be with you. | **And also with you.**
(The people may exchange signs of Christ's peace and reconciling love.)

JUST Like Me
(Theme Song to VBX 2025)

Verse

God made me just the way I am.
God gave me gifts that I can share.
God calls me a special part of
God's family,
And I know that I belong.

Chorus (Refrain)

Just-like-me is who I want to be.
God loves me for who I am.
No matter what people say,
we're better together, we can
weather whatever.
You be you and I'll be Just Like
Me.

Verse

God made you special Just Like
Me.
You have gifts that I can't wait
to see,
Like colors of the rainbow in its
beautiful design.
We all have room to shine

Chorus (Refrain)

Bridge

I am strong, I'm courageous, I
am loved by the God who made
us.
I have a song that I can sing, I
have a gift that I can bring.
I have a voice, something to say,
I have a purpose and a place.
I can be myself and you can too,
I'll be me and you be you.

Chorus (Refrain)

Sung Prayer for Illumination (Tune: 653)

*We sing before the reading of scripture and while the children come forward
after the reading.*

**Now hear all you who seek the Word and gath-er close to hand.
Come lis-ten now for sav-ing grace and pray to un-der-stand.**

The First Lesson

Psalm 33:12-22

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Happy is the nation that worships you, O Most High;
happy the people you have chosen to be your own!
You look down from heaven **and behold all the people in the world.**
From where you sit enthroned you turn your gaze on all who dwell on the
earth.
You fashion all the hearts of them and understand all their works.
There is no ruler that can be saved by a mighty army;
the strong are not delivered by their great strength.
The horse is a vain hope for deliverance;
for all its strength, it cannot save.
But your eye, O God, is upon those who fear you,
on those who wait upon your love,
To pluck their lives from death, **and to feed them in time of famine.**
Our soul waits for you; **you are our help and our shield.**
Indeed, our heart rejoices in you, for in your holy Name we put our trust.
**Let your loving-kindness, O God, be upon us, as we have put our trust
in you.**

Congregational Sung Response

*All children, if they are so moved, are invited to gather on the steps as we all
sing our prayer of illumination again.*

Children's Time

*Today, our Vacation Bible Experience students will share some of the music
they learned during the week.*

The Second Lesson

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 Pew Bible, New Testament, p. 198

Response

The words of the prophets for the people of God. | **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 815

Give to the Winds Thy Fears

Message

"Faith in the Unknown"

Pastor Nathan Willard

Anthem

Land of Rest

arr. Anne Krentz

Preparation for Prayer 653 v2 *Give Thanks to God Who Hears Our Cries*
We will sing again after the Silent Prayer

**If you have ev-er wan-dered where no hu-man help was near,
And in your trou-ble cried to God, who res-cued you from fear,
Then thank the God of stead-fast love who dries your ev-ery tear.**

Prayers of the People and Silent Prayer

*During the prayers of the people, please respond to the words "God in
your mercy" with "Hear our prayer."*



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Doxology text © 1990 Neal Weatherhogg
Alleluia by Jacques Berthier © 1984 Les
Presses de Taizé, administered GIA. Give
Thanks to God Who Hears Our Cries by
Ruth Duck © 2011 GIA, Music Harmony
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Prayer of Illumination by Nathan Willard

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, thy kingdom 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 kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen

Moment for Mission

In our Moment for Mission, we shine a light on a ministry supported by First Presbyterian Church, and how our commitment of Time, Talent and Treasure affects the world around us. Boxes for tithes and offerings are at the back of the sanctuary, and we invite you to give to the mission of the church on your way in or out of the church.

✦Doxology 607

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow;
Praise Christ, all peo-ple here be-low;
Praise Ho-ly Spir-it ev-er-more;
Praise Tri-une God, whom we a-dore. Amen.**

Commissioning

✦Sending Hymn 817 *We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight*

✦Charge and Blessing

Postlude *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying* arr. Carter

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP THIS MORNING

Preacher: Pastor Nathan Willard
Ministry of Music: Amy Cerniglia, JuBELLation
ensemble: Ann Grosscup, Deb Boland,
Nancy Gardner, Rhonda Barr
Liturgist: Tom Martin
Ushers: Lee Tippe
Elder: Lara Marsh
Fellowship: Nominating Committee

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, Aug 10

No CE Offerings
9 am CE meeting, Beach rm
10:15 am Nursery Open
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Fellowship time

Tuesday, Aug 12

7 pm Deacons, Coover

Wednesday, Aug 13

10:30 am Staff Meeting, Coover

Sunday, Aug 17

No CE Offerings
10:15a m Nursery Open
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Fellowship time

Stop at the Narthex table and fill out a Green Sheet!

As we look forward to the 2025-2026 Program year at First Presbyterian Church, we want to know what you think! By filling these out you are helping direct the opportunities available at FPC.

The green interest forms to fill out are located on the Narthex table. Once complete place in folder.

To submit electronically scan the QR code below.

Thank you! Contact Anna with questions.



New Director of Music

We are excited to announce that FPC has a new Director of Music, Will Fecko.

Will's first day will be August 18. He brings with him experience leading adult and youth choirs, handbell choirs, and brass and woodwind ensembles in church and school settings.

WELCOME



New Nursery Supervisor

We are excited to introduce Jordan Babcock as our new Nursery Supervisor! **Her first day in our nursery will be August 17.** Jordan is currently a graduate student at the University of Iowa in the Speech and Hearing Program.

First Presbyterian Church Staff

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