

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.



Learn More on Page 4



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 24, 2025
11th Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude *Intermezzo No. 1 in E-Flat Major, Op. 117* Brahms

Greeting Psalm 118: 24

This is the day that God has made. | **We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

✦ **Gathering Hymn 35** *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

✦ **Call to Confession**

In our pain and despair, we call upon God to repair the breaches in our lives. Come and confess those that we have caused with our own actions.

✦ **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 pointed fingers and oppressed the people around us. We have sown discord while thinking it was virtue. We have worked to avoid responsibility and not worked toward common ends together. We have not accepted the gift of Sabbath, and let the busyness of our lives overwhelm our ability to reason and give thanks. We have not trusted in you, and so missed the opportunities to find kindness and hope in the midst of our troubled world. 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. God forgives all of us to be the builders of God's new world. Be the restorers of the streets, the repairers of the breaches, and delight in God's love. **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.*)

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 103:1-8

©Order of St. Helena

Bless the Holy One, O my soul,

and all that is within me, bless God's holy Name.

Bless the Holy One, O my soul, and forget not all the gifts of God.

O God, you forgive all our sins and you heal all our infirmities

You redeem our life from the grave and crown us with mercy and loving-kindness;

You satisfy us with good things, and our youth is renewed like an eagle's.

O God, you execute righteousness and judgment for all who are oppressed.

You made your ways known to Moses and your works to the children of Israel.

You are full of compassion and mercy, s

low to anger and of great kindness.

Congregational Sung Response

Students and educators are invited to bring symbols of their work down front to receive a special blessing before the start of classes in Iowa City on Monday.

We sing our prayer of illumination again as they come forward.

Children's Time and Blessing of the Backpacks/Lesson Plans

Pastor Nathan will bless the students and backpacks and give tangible symbols of the blessings. The blessing will conclude with the following words:

Children of God and curious thinkers, be filled with questions about yourself and the world around you. Be blessed with discernment as you decide when, where, and to whom you will ask your many questions. And when there is no answer to be found, or none that satisfy, cling to the greatest promise of **God loves you and will never leave you. Amen.**

We will then have additional prayers, ending with:

God of wonder and curiosity,

open my mind to the amazing world around me today.

When I am confused or curious,

guide me to wise people who can help me understand new things.

And no matter how long it takes for me to learn, I know you are always my patient teacher. Amen.

The Second Lesson

Isaiah 58:9b-14 Pew Bible, Old Testament, p.648

Response

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

Hymn 753

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Message

"Hope to Rebuild"

Pastor Nathan Willard

Anthem

Sonata in F, Allegro

Benedetto Marcello

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.



Want to give
online?
Scan our QR
Code or text
FPCIC to 73256

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Prayer of illumination by Nathan Willard

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.”

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

Camp Bear Creek, Deb Boland/Tom Martin

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 766

The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound

✦Charge and Blessing

Postlude

All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name

arr. Larson

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP THIS MORNING

Preacher: Pastor Nathan Willard
Ministry of Music: Amy Cerniglia, Kathy Smith,
Kimberly and Brian Kinnaird
Liturgist: Mary Linn
Ushers: Tom Martin
Elder: Deb Boland
Fellowship: Sanctuary Choir



As ICCSD and UI begin tomorrow, it's important to keep a eye out for students who may be distracted, chatting with friends, or using their phones.

Looking for ways to volunteer at FPC?

Sept 19: Parents Night Out (PNO) needs leaders: Contact Lara Marsh or use link
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0E44ADAE2AA57-57957269-parents#/>

Oct 5: Hummer Bell Dedication needs luncheon help: Contact Maeleen Thorius or sign up in the Narthex.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, Aug 24

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

Tuesday, Aug 26

6:30pm Personnel Comm, Zoom

Wednesday, Aug 27

10am Staff Meeting, Coover
6pm Compeer Board Mtg, Coover

Saturday, Aug 30

10am Memorial Service for Lois Peterson

Sunday, Aug 31

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

Learn what it means to be Dementia Friendly
on September 28 after worship in Ryerson Hall.



If you have attended a presentation in the past new information will be shared with this updated presentation. A light lunch will be served.

If you have questions contact a member of the Congregational Health Team: Rhonda Barr, Sue Van Duyn, Maeleen Thorius, Janet Williams, Liz Bolin and Tammy Schroeder.

We want to be sure we know what to plan for in the upcoming year!



There is still time to scan the QR Code with your phone or tablet.

First Presbyterian Church Staff

PASTOR

Nathan Willard

nathan.willard@firstpresbiowacity.org

DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Anna Sheetz

anna.sheetz@firstpresbiowacity.org

ORGANIST

Amy Cerniglia

amy.cerniglia@firstpresbiowacity.org

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

William Fecko

william.fecko@firstpresbiowacity.org

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Tammy Schroeder

tammy.schroeder@firstpresbiowacity.org

SEXTON

Gerald Hill

gerald.hill@firstpresbiowacity.org

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Tammy Foster

tammy.foster@firstpresbiowacity.org

MANAGER OF FINANCE & PURCHASING

Krista Livingston

finance@firstpresbiowacity.org