

Sunday Worship- May 9, 2021



Fruit of the Spirit: PEACE

First Presbyterian Church of Mount Vernon, Iowa

*“Striving to live as Jesus lived –
confronting injustice with love, compassion, service.”*

Welcome to Worship

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

P: maker of heaven and earth.

L: This is the day that the Lord has made;

P: let us rejoice and be glad in it.

L: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

P: And also with you.

L: Let us worship God together.

SONG #411 God Is Here Today (sung by cantor only)

*God is here today;
as certain as the air I breathe,
as certain as the morning sun that rises,
as certain when I sing you'll hear my song.*

PSALM OF CONFESSION (Psalm 85)

L: God, hear our prayer of confession.

You have been gracious to your land, O Lord;
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

**P: You have forgiven the iniquity of your people
and blotted out all their sins.**

L: You have withdrawn all your fury
and turned yourself from your wrathful indignation.

**P: Restore us then, O God our savior;
let your anger depart from us.**

L: Will you be displeased with us forever?
Will you prolong your anger from age to age?

**P: Will you not give us life again,
that your people may rejoice in you?**

L: Show us your steadfast love, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.

**P: I will listen to what the Lord God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to you.**

L: Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell in our land.

**P: Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.**

L: Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

**P: The Lord will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.**

**All: Righteousness shall go before the Lord
and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

L: God of grace, you so loved the world that you gave your only Son to be our Savior. Help us to rejoice in your redeeming grace by showing mercy and following in the way of justice and peace, for the sake of Jesus Christ, redeemer of the world.

Time of Silence

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

L: Do not be afraid! In Christ, God comes near to us,
bringing hope, joy and forgiveness into our lives.

**All: God gathers up the fragments of our lives
and shapes us into new people.**

For this reason, we lift our thanks to God. Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

L: Friends, the peace of Christ be with you!

P: And also with you!

Please share a no touch sign of peace with others

DISCOVERY TIME

Learn signing for "Spirit of the Living God"

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

SCRIPTURE

L: In the beginning was the Word.

P: And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

L: And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

Galatians 5:13-25 (Common English Bible)

Reader 1: You were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only don't let this freedom be an opportunity to indulge your selfish impulses, but serve each other through love. All the Law has been fulfilled in a single statement: *Love your neighbor as yourself*. But if you bite and devour each other, be careful that you don't get eaten up by each other!

Reader 2: I say be guided by the Spirit and you won't carry out your selfish desires. A person's selfish desires are set against the Spirit, and the Spirit is set against one's selfish desires. They are opposed to each other, so you shouldn't do whatever you want to do. But if you are being led by the Spirit, you aren't under the Law. The actions that are produced by selfish motives are obvious, since they include sexual immorality, moral corruption, doing whatever feels good, idolatry, drug use and casting spells, hate, fighting, obsession, losing your temper, competitive opposition, conflict, selfishness, group rivalry, jealousy, drunkenness, partying, and other things like that. I warn you as I have already warned you, that those who do these kinds of things won't inherit God's kingdom.

Reader 1: But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against things like this. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the self with its passions and its desires.

***Congregation:* If we live by the Spirit, let's follow the Spirit.**

John 14:25-27 (New Revised Standard Version)

Reader 2: "I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

L: For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us,
P: Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION ON THE WORD *Fruit of the Spirit: Peace*

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS & 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.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

L: Jesus is our peace.

Jesus' way guides who we are, what we do,
and the way we give of ourselves.

May our tithes and offerings be given in joyful response to God's love.

Amen.

~Words for Worship 2 by Diane Zaerr Brenneman, #142

OFFERTORY/ANTHEM

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Let us pray our thanks together:

All: God of Abundance,

**all the things we have were yours before they were ours—
your gifts to bring us joy and to meet our need.**

**Let them now become our gifts to others
to bring them joy and to meet their need.**

May we live so that others may have what we have for Jesus' sake. Amen.

HYMN #623 I've Got Peace Like a River

I've got peace like a river

I've got peace like a river

I've got peace like a river in my soul

I've got peace like a river

I've got peace like a river

I've got peace like a river in my soul

I've got joy like a fountain

I've got joy like a fountain

I've got joy like a fountain in my soul

I've got joy like a fountain

I've got joy like a fountain

I've got joy like a fountain in my soul

I've got love like an ocean

I've got love like an ocean

I've got love like an ocean in my soul

I've got love like an ocean

I've got love like an ocean

I've got love like an ocean in my soul

MAY BIRTHDAY BLESSING & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Prayer Chain Requests:

Rudolf, Ann Cannon's stepfather in Germany, has been released from the hospital and is not expected to live much longer.

Diane Clay's mother, Georgiana Nevins, died early in the morning on Friday, April 30 at Mechanicsville.

Larry Petrick's mother, Joanne Dinken, died early in the morning on Monday, April 26 in Colorado, after a long illness. A celebration of her life will take place on Friday, July 9 at 10:00 am at the church.

From Carole Frazee: "Carole would like to thank all of the people that took to time to send a get well card, text or email, that called or visited. It is so appreciated by someone going through such a challenging time. I am still early in the recovery from my back surgery, but making small improvements day by day. Pain remains my biggest challenge."

Steve Valenta, Carol Daly's brother-in-law, multiple complications following open-heart surgery in late March; Judy Vopava, recovering from sinus surgery; Jennifer Fenchel Lengwin and parents, John and Ruth; Jim Winn; Dixie Mackie; Ann Cannon's mother and step-father in Germany, Barbara and Rudolf; Kristin Meyer's father, Mike Peterson.

If you would like to add someone to our prayer list, please contact Pastor Lori (lewunder@gmail.com)