

Sunday Worship- June 20, 2021



Fruit of the Spirit: GENTLENESS

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 (based on Psalm 107)

L: Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good,
for God's mercy endures forever.

**P: Let the redeemed of the Lord proclaim
that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe...**

L: Some wandered in desert wastes;
they found no path to a city where they might dwell.

**P: They were hungry and thirsty;
their spirits languished within them.**

L: Then in their trouble they cried to the Lord,
and you delivered them from their distress.

**P: You led them on a straight path
to go to a city where they might dwell.**

**All: Let them give thanks to you, Lord, for your steadfast love
and your wonderful works for all people.**

*HYMN #366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

*1: Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heav'n, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art.
Visit us with thy salvation;
enter ev'ry trembling heart.*

*2: Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit
into ev'ry troubled breast.
Let us all in thee inherit,
let us find the promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be.
End of faith, as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.*

*3: Come, Almighty, to deliver;
let us all thy life receive.
Suddenly return, and never,
nevermore they temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.*

*4: Finish, then, thy new creation;
true and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee.
Changed from glory into glory,
till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love and praise.*

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

L: Life giving God, hear our prayer of confession.

Let us pray. . .

**All: Almighty God,
in raising Jesus from the grave,
you shattered the power of sin and death.
We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear,
bound by the ways that lead to death.
We overlook the poor and the hungry,
and pass by those who mourn;
we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed,
and indifferent to calls for peace;
we despise the weak,
and abuse the earth you made.**

**Forgive us, God of mercy.
Help us to trust your power
to change our lives and make us new,
that the fruit of the Spirit shows forth
in our daily living, loving and serving.**

Time of Silence

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

L: Amen.

Hear the good news!

Friends in Christ: by the power of the Spirit,
we are united with Christ and given a new spirit.

Live in the joy and peace of that assurance.

P: Thanks be to God! Amen.

***RESPONSE** #288 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.

***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

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 5:13-23 (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.

Congregation: 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.

Matthew 11:28-30 (New Revised Standard Version)

Reader 1: "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

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: Gentleness*

HYMN #183 Come to Me, O Weary Traveler

*1: Come to me, O weary traveler,
come to me with your distress,
come to me you heavy burdened,
come to me and find your rest.*

*2: Do not fear, my yoke is easy,
do not fear, my burden's light;
do not fear the path before you;
do not run from me in fright.*

*3: Take my yoke and leave your troubles;
take my yoke and come with me.
Take my yoke, I am beside you;
take and learn humility.*

*4: Rest in me, O weary traveler,
rest in me and do not fear.
Rest in me, my heart is gentle,
rest and cast away your care.*

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

DOXOLOGY #70 What Does the Lord Require of You?

What does the Lord require of you?

What does the Lord require of you?

Justice, kindness, walk humbly with your God.

To seek justice, and love kindness, and walk humbly with your God.

*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 #683 Lord of All Hopefulness

*1: Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy,
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord,
At the break of the day.*

*2: Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and
the lathe,
Be there at our labours and give us, we pray,
Your strength in our hearts, Lord,
At the noon of the day.*

*3: Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome, Your arms to embrace.
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord,
At the eve of the day.*

*4: Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is
balm,
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord,
At the end of the day.*

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Prayer Chain Requests:

- *Dick Hogan had knee replacement surgery on Wednesday.
- *Kristi Meyer and family. Mike Peterson, Kristi's father, died peacefully on Monday, June 14 at home in Minnesota. A celebration of his life took place on Friday.
- *Marty Gordon, Don Burch's son-in-law, recently diagnosed with cancer in his neck. Had tonsils removed and more exploration on Wednesday. Also, Marty's mother, Joyce, recovering from a brain injury from a fall in skilled rehab.
- *Ann Cannon, recently diagnosed with Stage 0, non-invasive breast cancer; will begin radiation in near future.
- *Dixie's neighbor, Heather, is having a problematic cyst on her pancreas removed on July 6.
- *Dixie Mackie, pneumonia and COPD; on lots of meds and feeling run down.
- *Jennifer Lengwin's parents, John & Ruth Fenchel, in Seattle; mom has Alzheimer's and dad is caregiving
- *Angie and Bernie Paulson's daughter, Rozie
- *Carole Frazee, ongoing recovery from back surgery and pain management
- *Jim Winn, immunotherapy
- *Ann Cannon's mother (Barbara) and step-father (Rudolf) in Germany

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

FirstPresMV has new emails!

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