

Sunday Worship- November 14, 2021



Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.



Together for Joy: Service and Sharing

First Presbyterian Church of Mount Vernon, Iowa

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

Welcome to Worship

PRELUDE AND RINGING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

*CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 98)

L: From the small to the great,
and from the great to the small,
sing to God,
for God has done marvelous things.

Pulpit Side: Let the electrons circle their nuclei,

Piano Side: Let the earth spin on its axis,

Pulpit Side: Let the moons orbit the planets,

Piano Side: Let the planets orbit the Sun,

Pulpit Side: Let the Sun spiral in its galaxy,

Piano Side: Let the galaxies revolve around their Creator,

All: Together for joy!

L: From the small to the great,
and from the great to the small,
sing to God,
for God has done marvelous things.

*HYMN #276 Sing a New Song unto the Lord

*Refrain: Sing a new song unto the Lord;
let your song be sung from mountains high.
Sing a new song unto the Lord,
singing alleluia.*

*2: Rise, O children, from your sleep;
your Savior now has come.
He has turned your sorrow to joy,
and filled your soul with song. (Refrain)*

*1: Shout for gladness! dance for joy.
O come before the Lord.
And play for him on glad tambourines,
and let your trumpet sound. (Refrain)*

*3: Glad my soul for I have seen
the glory of the Lord.
The trumpet sounds; the dead shall be raised.
I know my Savior lives. (Refrain)*

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: In humility and faith, let us make our confession
before God and one another. Let us pray:

O God of life,
eternity cannot hold you,
nor can our little words catch
the magnificence of your kindness.
Yet in the space of hearts and in silence
you can come close and repair us.
O God of life, grant us your forgiveness

**ALL: for our careless thoughts,
our thoughtless deeds,
our empty speech,
and the words with which we have wounded.**

Time of silence

L: O God of life, grant us your forgiveness

**ALL: for our false desires,
our hateful actions,
our wastefulness
and all we have left untended.**

Time of silence

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

L: The God who challenges us
is also the God who encourages us.
The God who confronts us
is also the God who accepts us.
Be assured that God is with us even now,
accepting, guiding, and forgiving.
All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

*RESPONSE #581 Glory Be to the Father

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.*

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of Christ be with you.
P: And also with you.

DISCOVERY TIME

SCRIPTURE READING

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.

Exodus 3:1-10 (Common English Bible)

Reader 1: After this Jesus went across the Galilee Sea (that is, the Tiberias Sea). A large crowd followed him, because they had seen the miraculous signs he had done among the sick. Jesus went up a mountain and sat there with his disciples. It was nearly time for Passover, the Jewish festival.

Reader 2: Jesus looked up and saw the large crowd coming toward him. He asked Philip, "Where will we buy food to feed these people?" Jesus said this to test him, for he already knew what he was going to do.

Reader 1: Philip replied, “More than a half year’s salary worth of food wouldn’t be enough for each person to have even a little bit.”

One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said, “A youth here has five barley loaves and two fish. But what good is that for a crowd like this?”

Reader 2: Jesus said, “Have the people sit down.” There was plenty of grass there. They sat down, about five thousand of them. Then Jesus took the bread. When he had given thanks, he distributed it to those who were sitting there. He did the same with the fish, each getting as much as they wanted. When they had plenty to eat, he said to his disciples, “Gather up the leftover pieces, so that nothing will be wasted.” So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves that had been left over by those who had eaten.

Reader 1: When the people saw that he had done a miraculous sign, they said, “This is truly the prophet who is coming into the world.”

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.

HOMILY *Together for Joy: Every Little Bit Counts*

SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS AND 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: God has shown us the meaning of generosity
in the beautiful diversity of creation,
in the overflowing love of Jesus Christ,
in the never-ending gift of the Holy Spirit.

God has abundantly blessed us and called us
to be a community that honors each other,
to serve others with joy,
to share our love and material possessions.

Let us rejoice in what we have been given
and in what is ours to give.

GATHERING OF THE GIFTS

OFFERTORY

*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

#70 What Does the Lord Require of You?

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

L: Let us pray:

**ALL: Ever-giving God,
source of all goodness and charity,
your ear is always open to our needs.
When we cry to you,
you are faithful and provide for us.
With joy we bring our thanksgiving.
For all your mercies,
we return to you from our abundance.
All that we give, we dedicate to your glory.
All that we keep, we commit to your care,
for we are only stewards of your bounty.
Bless what we give and what we keep,
for all is your creation. Amen.**

*HYMN #727 Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

*1: Will you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant, too.*

*2: We are pilgrims on a journey,
we are trav'lers on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.*

*3: I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the nighttime of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.*

*4: I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.*

*5: Will you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant, too.*

*NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY BLESSING

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Prayer Requests:

- *Tex Clay, recovering from oral surgery on Thursday.
- *Fran Bray, recovering from knee replacement surgery November 4th. PT has begun!
- *Ann Cannon and her mother, Barbara, after the death of Rudolf. Ann will be with her mother in Germany through the end of November, preparing her to move back to the U.S.
- *Roger Johanson, recovering from prostate surgery October 18th.
- *Alyson West, intensive inpatient physical therapy and rehab at Shirley Ryan AbilityLab in Chicago through November 19. Outpatient rehab will follow.
- *Nick Lengwin, continued healing of his lung.
- *Brian, Rozanne Petrick's brother, has an infection in his back.
- *Rozie, Angie and Bernie Paulson's daughter, is at home following the completed stem cell therapy. Recovery is ongoing.
- *Ongoing prayers: Dixie Mackie; Dick Hogan; Kenn, Penny Gerber's brother; John & Ruth Fenchel, Jennifer Lengwin's parents.

Upcoming Events:

- *Wednesday Early Out (WEO)
November 17th
1:15ish to 3:30pm
Theme: Exploring Nature, Palisades-Kepler State Park

Join us at Palisades-Kepler State Park for another adventure in the fresh air! We will meet at the Cedar Cliff Trail parking lot (go down the hill and all the way to the right). Snacks and drinks provided.

We have rides available and willing volunteers to pick-up and bring back your kids if needed!

Understanding the special challenges we all are facing with in-person get-togethers, we are keeping this an outdoor activity with plenty of room for distancing. Masks will not be required. Parents are welcome to stay, but drop-off and pick-ups are fine. Palisades-Kepler State Park, affectionately known as "the Pal", is an oasis of serenity and a refuge from a busy world. Come join us!

Please RSVP so we know if you are coming! Jonathan (education@firstpresmv.com or 319-360-6881) or Lori (lori.wunder@firstpresmv.com or 319-431-2227)

- *THE BLIND SPOT
Wednesday, November 17 at 7:00pm via Zoom

Discussion: Caste: The Origin of Our Discontents by Isabel Wilkerson
Topic: Blind Spot Group Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://uiowa.zoom.us/j/98526044167>

Meeting ID: 985 2604 4167