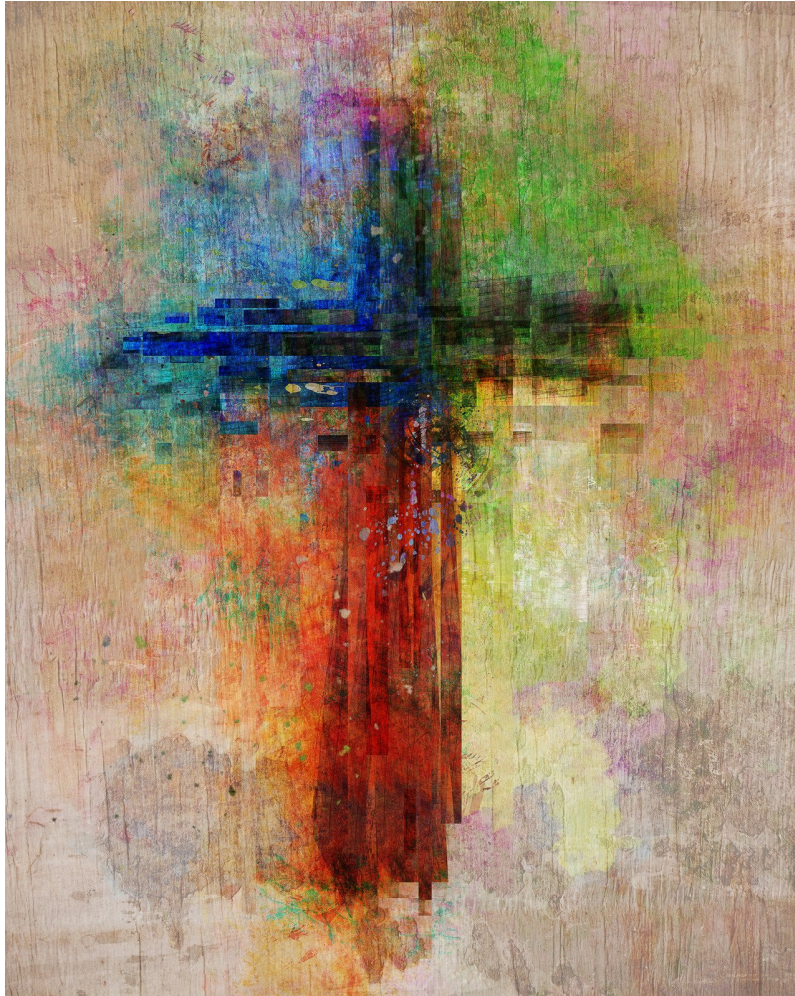


**Sunday, January 16, 2022**



**The Meaning of Membership: Gifts for Everyone!**

**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.**

### INTROIT

#### CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 36:5-10)

L: Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,  
your faithfulness to the clouds.

**P: Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,  
your judgments are like the great deep;  
you save humans and animals alike, O Lord.**

L: How precious is your steadfast love, O God!  
All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

**P: They feast on the abundance of your house,  
and you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

L: For with you is the fountain of life;  
in your light we see light.

**P: O continue your steadfast love to those who know you,  
and your salvation to the upright of heart!**

**ALL: Let us worship God together!**

\*HYMN #409 God Is Here!

*God is here as we your people  
Meet to offer praise and prayer  
May we find in fuller measure  
What it is in Christ we share  
Here as in the world around us  
All our varied skills and arts  
Wait the coming of the Spirit  
Into open minds and hearts*

*Here are symbols to remind us  
Of our lifelong need of grace  
Here are table, font, and pulpit  
Here the cross has central place  
Here in honesty of preaching  
Here in silence as in speech  
Here in newness and renewal  
God the Spirit comes to each*

*Here our children find a welcome  
In the Shepherd's flock and fold  
Here as bread and wine are taken  
Christ sustains us as of old  
Here the servants of the Servant  
Seek in worship to explore  
What it means in daily living  
To believe and to adore*

*Lord of all of church and kingdom  
In an age of change and doubt  
Keep us faithful to the Gospel  
Help us work Your purpose out  
Here in this day's dedication  
All we have to give, receive  
We, who cannot live without You,  
We adore You we believe*

## \* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: When we pass through deep waters  
or go through times of fiery trial,  
the Lord our God is with us.

With confidence in God, our creator and redeemer,  
let us make our confession together:

**All: Into our bottomless anxiety,  
into our fearful bewilderment,  
our fretful minds and aching hearts,  
you come to rebuild and repair and restore.  
You walk right into our hand-wringing and with calming serenity,  
you breathe peace.**

**Renewing God, you know we are spiritually and emotionally dehydrated.**

**Pour into us your Holy Spirit that refreshes.  
Soak your song of hope into our dust-dry lives,  
and fill us with the endless love of Jesus Christ  
by loving you and by loving and serving others.**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

L Our God is a loving God, full of mercy.

In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

Believe in this forgiveness, be at peace,  
and respond in grateful service. Amen.

~© Presbyterian Outlook, 2022 written by Teri McDowell Ott

## \*RESPONSE #596 You Are Holy

*You are holy, you are whole.  
You are always evermore than we ever understand.  
You are always at hand.  
Blessed are you coming near.  
Blessed are you coming here  
to your church in wine and bread,  
raised from soil, raised from dead.  
You are holy, you are wholeness; you are present.  
Let the cosmos praise you, Lord!  
Sing hosanna in the highest!  
Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna to our God!*

## \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

L: Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

To this peace we were called as members of a single body.

The peace of Christ be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

## DISCOVERY TIME

## ANTHEM

## 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.

1 Corinthians 12:1-11 (Common English Bible) – Spiritual Gifts

*Reader 1:* Brothers and sisters, I don't want you to be ignorant about spiritual gifts. You know that when you were Gentiles you were often misled by false gods that can't even speak. So I want to make it clear to you that no one says, "Jesus is cursed!" when speaking by God's Spirit, and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.

*Reader 2:* There are different spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; and there are different ministries and the same Lord; and there are different activities but the same God who produces all of them in everyone.

*Reader 1:* A demonstration of the Spirit is given to each person for the common good. A word of wisdom is given by the Spirit to one person, a word of knowledge to another according to the same Spirit, faith to still another by the same Spirit, gifts of healing to another in the one Spirit, performance of miracles to another, prophecy to another, the ability to tell spirits apart to another, different kinds of tongues to another, and the interpretation of the tongues to another.

*Reader 2:* All these things are produced by the one and same Spirit who gives what the Spirit wants to each person.

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.**

SERMON *The Meaning of Membership: Gifts for Everyone!*

HYMN #300 We Are One in the Spirit

*1: We are one in the Spirit,  
We are one in the Lord,  
We are one in the Spirit,  
We are one in the Lord,  
And we pray that all unity  
may one day be restored:*

*REFRAIN  
And they'll know we are Christians  
by our love, by our love.  
Yes, they'll know we are Christians  
by our love.*

*2: We will walk with each other,  
We will walk hand in hand,  
We will walk with each other,  
We will walk hand in hand,  
And together we'll spread the news  
That God is in our land. REFRAIN*

*3: We will work with each other,  
We will work side by side,  
We will work with each other,  
We will work side by side,  
And we'll guard each one's dignity  
And save each one's pride: REFRAIN*

*4: All praise to the Father,  
from who all things come,  
And all praise to Christ Jesus,  
His only Son,  
And all praise to the Spirit  
Who makes us one: REFRAIN*

## 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: Everything we have is a gift from God, and our offerings are a way of acknowledging God as the giver. They are no less an act of worship than our presence, prayers and praise. Let us make our offering to God as a sign of our thanks and our commitment to Jesus, the light of the world.

## GATHERING OF THE GIFTS

### OFFERTORY

\*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING #70 What Does the Lord Require?

### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

L: Let us pray our thanks together:

**All: Giver of every good and perfect gift,  
we marvel at your love and care for us  
and for all that you have made.**

**Help us by your Holy Spirit to lift our hearts to you,  
to taste and see that you are good,  
and to live lives of abundant generosity,  
full of gratitude and grace,  
through Jesus, our Lord. Amen.**

~Worship Sourcebook 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, p. 254

\*CLOSING HYMN #765 May the God of Hope Go with Us

*May the God of hope go with us every day,  
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.  
May the God of justice speed us on our way,  
bringing light and hope to every land and race.*

*Praying, let us work for peace;  
singing, share our joy with all;  
working for a world that's new,  
faithful when we hear Christ's call.*

### \*BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

G-1.0304 The Ministry of Members  
(from the *Book of Order*, Form of Government)

Membership in the Church of Jesus Christ is a joy and a privilege. It is also a commitment to participate in Christ's mission. A faithful member bears witness to God's love and grace and promises to be involved responsibly in the ministry of Christ's Church. Such involvement includes:

- proclaiming the good news in word and deed,
- taking part in the common life and worship of a congregation,
- lifting one another up in prayer, mutual concern, and active support,
- studying Scripture and the issues of Christian faith and life,
- supporting the ministry of the church through the giving of money, time, and talents,
- demonstrating a new quality of life within and through the church,
- responding to God's activity in the world through service to others,
- living responsibly in the personal, family, vocational, political, cultural, and social relationships of life,
- working in the world for peace, justice, freedom, and human fulfillment,
- caring for God's creation,
- participating in the governing responsibilities of the church, and
- reviewing and evaluating regularly the integrity of one's membership, and considering ways in which one's participation in the worship and service of the church may be increased and made more meaningful.

## **Prayer Requests:**

- \*Diane Clay and family, after Tex's death on January 12- Visitation 9-10:30, Service 10:30 on Tuesday, January 18 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church
- \*Alyson West, doing OT and PT outpatient at Vanderbilt in Nashville, started back to work 3 days per week
- \*Amy Weber, ongoing recovery from back surgery October 22

Ongoing prayers: Ann Cannon and her mother, Barbara; Mark Andresen; Dixie Mackie; Paul and Pam Jerabek; Dick Hogan; Kenn, Penny Gerber's brother; Rozie, Angie and Bernie Paulson's daughter; John & Ruth Fenchel, Jennifer Lengwin's parents.

## **January Calendar:**

Sunday, January 16

- 8:30 am Choir Rehearsal in Community Room
- 9:30 am Worship in the Sanctuary (and online)
- \*\* Sunday School for PreK-Grade 8 during worship\*\*
- 10:45 am Coffee Hour in Social Hall
- 4:00 pm MVHS Discussion Group in Community Room

Tuesday, January 18

- 7:00pm Community Painting Group in Community Room

Wednesday, January 19

- 9:00am Quilting Group in the Social Hall
- 6:00pm Confirmation Class in the Social Hall

Thursday, January 20

- 4:30 pm Yin, Yogic Sleep and Sound Healing in Community Room

Sunday, January 23

- 8:30 am Choir Rehearsal in Community Room
- 9:30 am Worship in the Sanctuary (and online)
- \*\* Sunday School for PreK-Grade 8 during worship\*\*
- 10:45 am Coffee Hour in Social Hall
- 4:00 pm MVHS Discussion Group in Community Room

Tuesday, January 25

- 7:00pm Community Painting Group in Community Room

Wednesday, January 26

- 6:00pm The Blind Spot via Zoom

Sunday, January 30

- 8:30 am Choir Rehearsal in Community Room
- 9:30 am Worship in the Sanctuary (and online)
- 10:45 am ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION
- 4:00 pm MVHS Discussion Group in Community Room

Monday, January 31

- 6:00pm Community Women's Circle in Community Room