

**Sunday Worship - June 21, 2026
June Birthday Blessing
Noisy Offering**



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**The Great Church Chill Out - Week 4
OUR REFUGE, WHEN WE FEEL WEAK**

Text: Psalm 61:1-4

First Presbyterian Church of Mount Vernon, Iowa

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

Welcome to Worship

**Please stand if you are able*

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: O God, we come to worship this day,
realizing we need not summon you into our midst, for you are here.

**People: We need not call you into the secret places of our hearts,
for you are there.**

Leader: We need our eyes of faith to be opened, that we may see you;

People: our ears to be unstopped, that we may hear you;

Leader: our minds to be sensitive, that we may know you;

People: our hearts to be tender, that we may receive you.

**ALL: Grant each one a blessing, O Lord, as each has need,
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

*~by Harry Yoder, 117 in *Words for Worship 1*, Arlene M. Mark, editor*

*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.

*PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

L: God offers love from the beginning, simply because we are.
Let us make our confession to this God of Grace 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.**

Time of Silence

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: Beloved people of God:
In Christ, we are a new creation.
Believe this good news and place your trust in God alone.
ALL: Thanks be to God! Amen.

*RESPONSE #48 Rain Down

Rain down, rain down; rain down your love on your people.
Rain down, rain down; rain down your love, God of life.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

DISCOVERY TIME Noisy Offering for One Iowa Action

SCRIPTURE

Leader: In the beginning was the Word.

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

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

Psalm 61:1-4 (NRSVUE)

Leader: Hear my cry, O God;
listen to my prayer.

**All: ²From the end of the earth I call to you,
when my heart is faint.**

Leader: Lead me to the rock
that is higher than I,
³for you are my refuge,
a strong tower against the enemy.

**All: ⁴Let me abide in your tent forever,
find refuge under the shelter of your wings.**

Psalm 61:1-4 (Common English Bible)

Leader: God, listen to my cry;
pay attention to my prayer!

**All: ²When my heart is weak,
I cry out to you from the very ends of the earth.**

Leader: Lead me to the rock that is higher than I am
³because you have been my refuge,
a tower of strength in the face of the enemy.

**All: ⁴Please let me live in your tent forever!
Please let me take refuge
in the shelter of your wings!**

Leader: For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the
Word of God within us,

All: Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION

Rev. Lori Wunder

HYMN #831 I Depend upon Your Faithfulness

I depend upon your faithfulness
I can journey on for you are always there
None compares with you O blessed One
Oh, how great your faithfulness.

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 & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Leader: Everything we have is a gift from God,
and our offerings are a way of acknowledging God as the giver.
Whatever and whenever we give is a vital part of our response to God
and helps us connect our love for God with our life of discipleship.
Let us pray together:

**ALL: May we commit ourselves, Lord God, once again looking ahead to this week:
to find ways to serve,
to find ways to give,
to find ways to use our abilities in bringing about change for justice and peace,
to find ways to use our whole selves in bringing about your Kingdom.
Amen**

*HYMN #275 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

1. A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing.
Our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe.
His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.
2. Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,
were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he.
Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same,
and he must win the battle.

3. And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.
The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him.
His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure.
One little word shall fell him.

*JUNE BIRTHDAY BLESSING & BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

All are welcome in the Social Hall (lower level) to enjoy coffee, juice, treats and conversation.

Thank you to the following people for helping with our service this morning:

Troy Petrick, Liturgist
Scott Larson and Gerald Gerber, AV Crew
Bonewald Family, Coffee Hour

First Pres Mount Vernon Staff:

Lori Wunder, Pastor
Cristina Galán, Office Manager
Rebecca Nickles, Music Director
Nona Hutchinson, Treasurer
María Seda, Nursery
Maryjayne Gerber, Custodian