

## Sundays

Nursery Care 9:00 a.m.  
Breakfast 9:00 a.m.  
Christian Education 9:30 a.m.  
Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Fellowship following service  
Youth activities 4:00 p.m.

2701 Rochester Avenue  
Iowa City, IA 52245  
319-351-2660  
[www.firstpresidiowacity.org](http://www.firstpresidiowacity.org)

## Welcome to FPC.

Our prayer is that all will be blessed by the Word read and proclaimed as we are bound together by the Spirit as a community of faith. Children are invited to participate in our worship and welcome as loved, squirmy, laughing, crying children of God. We have busy bags for younger children and binders for young readers to help them in their journey, and a staffed nursery is available for children under 5.

✦ *Please rise, in body or spirit.*

***Bold lines*** are spoken or sung by ***All***. *Non-bold lines* are spoken or sung by one.

*Please be seated by a Gathered Community Pad and sign in so that we may have a record of your time with us.*



*We seek to share the good news of Jesus Christ and his call to the realm of God: the practice of justice, mercy and faith. Our mission is represented by the Celtic cross, a shepherd's crook, the extension of the right arm of fellowship into the world and the church's hospitality toward the world.*

25 February 2024  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent

### Prelude

*Etude in A-flat Major, WoO no. 4*

by Clara Schumann

### Greeting

Psalm 118: 24

This is the day that the Lord has made | **We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

### ✦ Gathering Hymn 311

*Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather*

### ✦ Call to Confession

Scripture tells us that sometimes Jesus's closest companions did not think of God first. As we survey our own lives, let us join to confess our sins before God and neighbor.

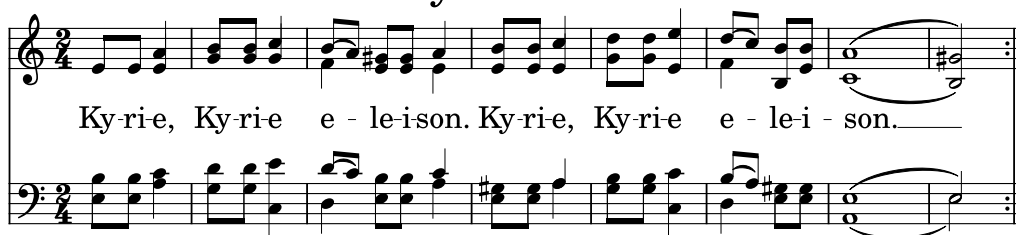
### ✦ Prayer of Communal Confession

**Gracious and most merciful God, we have sinned against you in thought and word and deed, both in what we have done and in what we have left undone. We have been told uncomfortable truths and pretended we did not hear them. We have become angry and not asked for help to chart a new path. We have seen the need for change and retreated into comfort. Help us to perceive your presence and your promise more fully, O God, as we continue to confess the things we wish we could undo.**

### ✦ Time of Individual Confession

### ✦ Kyrie

## Kyrie 10



### ✦ Words of Assurance

Hear the Good News. Christ rebuked Peter and then handed him the keys to heaven. You are forgiven to find your path in the world. **Amen.**

### ✦ Confessional Response 31 *Let Us with A Gladsome Mind (v3)*

**All things liv-ing God does feed; with full mea-sure, meets their need:  
for God's mer-cies shall en-dure, ev-er faith-ful, ev-er sure.**

### ✦ The Peace

The peace of Jesus Christ be with you. | **And also with you.**

*(The people may exchange signs of Christ's peace and reconciling love.)*

**Choral Prayer for Illumination 460** *Break Thou the Bread of Life (v1)*

*Break thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as thou didst break the loaves  
be-side the sea. Be-yond the sa-cred page I seek thee, Lord.  
My spir-it pants for thee, O liv-ing Word!*

**The First Lesson**

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Pew Bible, Old Testament, p. 12

**Response**

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. | **Thanks be to God.**

**Children's Time**

*All children, if they are so moved, are invited to gather on the steps.*

**The Second Lesson**

Mark 8:31-38 Pew Bible, New Testament, p. 38

**Response**

The words of the prophets for the people of God. | **Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn 320**

*The Church of Christ in Every Age*

**Message**

"Unwanted Futures"

Pastor Nathan Willard

**Anthem**

*Wondrous Love*

arr. by John Jacob Niles  
and J. Stanely Sheppard

**Preparation for Prayer 168** *Within Your Shelter, Loving God v4*

*We will sing again after the Silent Prayer*

**As of-ten as I call to you, you kind-ly hear my prayer.**

**In times of trou-ble and dis-tress I rest in your own care.**

**Prayers of the People and Silent Prayer**

*During the prayers of the people, please respond to the words "God in your  
mercy" with "Hear our prayer."*

**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**

**Message from the Presbytery**

Seth Normington

**Invitation to the Offering**

**Offertory**

*My Song Is Love Unknown*

arr. by J. Kyle Coleman

✠ **Doxology 608 (tune: 607)**

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow;  
Praise Christ, all peo-ple here be-low;  
Praise Ho-ly Spir-it ev-er-more;  
Praise Tri-une God, whom we a-dore. Amen**

✠ **Prayer of Dedication**

**God of uncomfortable and unbelievable truths, we dedicate these gifts  
to continuing your ministry in an ever-changing world. Amen.**

**Commissioning**



Want to give  
online?  
Scan our QR  
Code or text  
FPCIC to 73256

✦ **Sending Hymn 451**  
 ✦ **Charge and Blessing**  
**Postlude**

*Open My Eyes, That I May See*

*My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

arr. by Karl Osterland

**WORSHIP LEADERSHIP THIS MORNING**

Preacher: Pastor Nathan Willard  
 Ministry of Music: Sanctuary Choir, J. Kyle Coleman  
 Liturgist: Karen Hurt  
 Usher: Sharon Raffensperger  
 Elder: Travis Martin  
 Fellowship: Nominating Committee

**It's time to beautify our Sanctuary for Easter.**

The Deacons will once again be ordering flowering plants to decorate the Sanctuary "in Honor of / or in Memory of" loved ones of the church. Names will be listed in the Easter bulletin. Look for order forms located in the Narthex. For more information contact Sue VanDuyn at 319-338-4132 or Tammy Schroeder in the office 319-351-2660.



**From your FPC Endowment Committee**

Donor-established endowments are gifts that keep on giving.

- If the endowment agreement states that the principal shall never be invaded
- and that income is paid out to support a designated cause through your church,
- then your gift is "forever."

For more information, contact Bob and Millie Youngquist at [endowment@firstpresioiwacity.org](mailto:endowment@firstpresioiwacity.org)

**February is Spread the Love month,  
 Peanut Butter and Jelly Drive**



Bring your donations to Ryerson Hall and let's fill up those tubs to support CommUnity Food Bank.

**SCHEDULE**

The Schedule for tonight (February 25) is:

**4-5:30 Meet at Colonial Lanes** for our monthly BIG EVENT with our UCC Friends. The lanes are graciously paid for by the UCC Church and students are asked to bring \$5 for shoe rental/mini-golfing. **Friends from 5<sup>th</sup>—8<sup>th</sup> Grades are invited!**

**5:30 p.m.** We will need some parents to transport students back to FPC. Please let Anna know if you would be willing to do so and how many seats are available.

**6-7 p.m. Monthly Potluck Dinner**

Bring a dish and the whole family to join us as we break bread together.



This Wednesday, February 28, 5:30-7 p.m.  
 ALL AGES  
 YOU'RE INVITED!

We will explore another  
**Lenten Prayer Practice, Coloring.**

This is a valuable (and surprising) way to meditate! Interested in attending? We're looking for soup-makers and bread-bakers! If you are one of these spectacular people, sign up today in the narthex.

Mar. 6, Journaling/Labyrinth  
 Mar. 13, No meal or practices  
 Mar. 20, Taizé

Mar. 28, Maundy Thursday Supper at 6 p.m.  
 followed by Tenebrae service at 7 p.m.

### Join the FPC Book Club

On February 27 as they discuss the book,  
We Are Not Like Them by Christine Pride  
and Jo Piazza.

**Meet in person in Room 14 on the  
lower level or via Zoom.** For more information and for  
the Zoom link, contact Mary Linn at [jmLnn@aol.com](mailto:jmLnn@aol.com).



### Warm up this snowy season with DVIP's 27th Annual SOUPER BOWL

**February 29, from 5–7 p.m.** at the Hyatt in Coralville

Violence against women, men, and children happens every  
day. **1 in 4 women, 1 in 7 men, and 1 in 15 children** will be  
affected by intimate partner abuse in their lifetime.

This event is essential to our agency because it provides  
financial support to ensure our advocates are there when  
victim/survivors need them.

More information and for tickets:

<https://dvipiowa.org/event/27th-annual-souper-bowl/>

### FPC's week at a glance

#### Sunday, 25 February

- 8:00 JuBELLation Choir, Choir Room
- 9:00 Childcare, Nursery
- 9:00 Breakfast & Good Morning, Ryerson Hall
- 9:30 Parents Group, Pastor's Place
- 9:30 Bible Study, Coover
- 9:30 3rd–6th Grade Sunday School, Young Youth Room
- 9:30 K–2nd Grade Sunday School, Beach Room
- 9:30 Wired Word, Room 14, Hybrid
- 9:45 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary, Choir Loft
- 10:30 Worship, Sanctuary
- 11:30 Fellowship, Ryerson Hall
- 11:35 Endowment Work Team, Coover
- 2:00 Prep, Recital/Reception, Sanctuary, Ryerson Hall
- 3:00 Piano Recital & Reception, Sanctuary, Ryerson Hall
- 4:00 Big Event, Off-site
- 6:00 Potluck Dinner, Ryerson Hall, Kitchen
- 7:00 Jeremiah Justice Initiative, Zoom

#### Monday, 26 February

- 6:00 Compeer Board Mtg. Coover
- 7:00 Bldg. & Grounds Comm. Mtg., Zoom

#### Tuesday, 27 February

- 11:00 FPC Book Group, Room 14, Hybrid
- 5:30 Christian Education Mtg., Beach Room

#### Wednesday, 28 February

- 7:00 Men's Group, Zoom
- 10:30 Staff Mtg., Coover
- 5:30 Soup Supper & Lenten Practices, Ryerson Hall
- 7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

#### Sunday, 3 March

- 8:00 JuBELLation Choir, Choir Room
- 9:00 Childcare, Nursery
- 9:00 Breakfast & Good Morning, Ryerson Hall
- 9:30 Parents Group, Pastor's Place
- 9:30 Bible Study, Coover
- 9:30 3rd–6th Grade Sunday School, Young Youth Room
- 9:30 K–2nd Grade Sunday School, Beach Room
- 9:30 Wired Word, Room 14, Hybrid
- 9:45 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary, Choir Loft
- 10:00 Blood Pressure Screening, Ryerson Hall
- 10:30 Worship, Sanctuary
- 11:30 Fellowship, Ryerson Hall
- 11:30 Blood Pressure Screening, Ryerson Hall
- 4:00 Youth Choir, Choir Room
- 5:00 Youth Group, Young Youth Room
- 6:00 Sunday Night Dinner, Ryerson Hall, Kitchen
- 7:00 Jeremiah Justice Initiative, Zoom

### First Presbyterian Church Staff

#### PASTOR

**Nathan Willard**

[nathan.willard@firstpreswacivacy.org](mailto:nathan.willard@firstpreswacivacy.org)

#### DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**Anna Sheetz**

[anna.sheetz@firstpreswacivacy.org](mailto:anna.sheetz@firstpreswacivacy.org)

#### DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

**Tammy Schroeder**

[tammy.schroeder@firstpreswacivacy.org](mailto:tammy.schroeder@firstpreswacivacy.org)

#### DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/INTERIM

ORGANIST

**J. Kyle Coleman**

[kyle.coleman@firstpreswacivacy.org](mailto:kyle.coleman@firstpreswacivacy.org)

#### SEXTON

**Gerald Hill**

[gerald.hill@firstpreswacivacy.org](mailto:gerald.hill@firstpreswacivacy.org)

#### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

**Tammy Foster**

[tammy.foster@firstpreswacivacy.org](mailto:tammy.foster@firstpreswacivacy.org)

#### MANAGER OF FINANCE & PURCHASING

**Krista Livingston**

[finance@firstpreswacivacy.org](mailto:finance@firstpreswacivacy.org)

#### ENDOWMENT & MEMORIAL COORDINATORS

**Bob & Millie Youngquist**

[endowment@firstpreswacivacy.org](mailto:endowment@firstpreswacivacy.org)