

## 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

### 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.*

21 April 2024

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Easter and Creation Care Sunday

**Prelude** *Prelude X, "La Cathédrale engloutie"* Claude Debussy

**Greeting** Psalm 118: 24

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

✦ **Gathering Hymn 233** *The Day of Resurrection!*

✦ **Call to Confession**

On this day when we reflect on the changes to the earth since Biblical days, we are also called to confess the damage that has been wrought by those changes, even when we have acted with the best intentions.

✦ **Litany of Communal Confession** from Living Psalm 31  
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Be gracious to the earth, O God, for it is in distress;  
**the ice caps melt away from the warming of rampant industrialization,**  
the soul of the trees of the field, which once clapped their hands,  
**are scattered and the bodies of creatures are endangered.**

The life of soil is spent in single-crop farming, and years of care for national parks and all the sacred places of God's children are just sighs to those who mine them.

**The strength of pollinators fails in the midst of their migration, and the bones of the mountain tops are choking the waterways.**

The earth's body is the scorn of the powerful, a horror is the rainforest become a savannah. It has become an object of dread even to those who long to repair its damage.

**On the streets or in the sky — those who monitor carbon emissions long to flee, but there is nowhere to go.**

But we trust in you, O God, and know that you trust in us. Our times are in your hands, and your times are in our hands.

**Deliver us from all who scheme destruction. Let your light shine upon us and teach us to be savers for you, to become the doers of your steadfast love.**

✦ **Time of Individual Confession**

✦ **Words of Assurance**

Christ came so that we could all take part in the miracle of Resurrection. Be free from your burdens and know that we can be savers, and doers of God's steadfast love. **Alleluia! Amen.**



✦ **Sending Hymn**

*The Climate is Changing*

ST. DENIO

*(The tune is the same as in the hymn "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise")*  
The climate is changing! Creation cries out! Your people face flooding and fire and drought. We see the great heat waves and storms at their worst. We pray for the poor, Lord — for they suffer first.

We pray for the animals here in our midst, who cannot defend their own right to exist. We pray for the mountains and forests and seas that bear the harsh footprint of our human greed.

We thank you for people who treasure the earth, whose faith has long taught them its beauty and worth. We thank you as well for the children and youth, who look to the future and speak out the truth.

We thank you for leaders, courageous and brave, who know that the earth is worth fighting to save, who care about justice and what they should do, who listen to science and work hard for you.

You love this good earth, and you sent us your Son! May we love our neighbors — there's work to be done. May we, by your Spirit, do all in our power to care for your earth in this critical hour.

✦ **Charge and Blessing**

**Postlude**

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

arr. by J. Kyle Coleman

Gloria Gloria © 1978,1979 Les Presses de Taizé; We come to you for Healing ©2006 GIA, Music arr ©1938 H.W. Gray Open Your Ears O Faithful People text ©1966, 1982 Willard F. Jabusch Music arrangement ©2006 Aubsburg Fortress Reprinted and streamed with OneLicense.net license A-703444 The Climate is Changing © 2021 Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, used with Permission

**WORSHIP LEADERSHIP THIS MORNING**

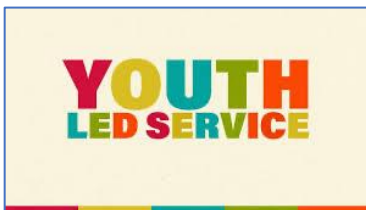
- Preacher: Pastor Nathan Willard
- Ministry of Music: Sanctuary Choir, J. Kyle Coleman
- Liturgist: Rick Boland
- Ushers: Perry and Becky Ross
- Elder: Bill Follows
- Fellowship: Green Team



**Help celebrate Earth Day today in Ryerson Hall following worship. The Green Team will provide refreshments and Amy Foster will give a presentation on sustainable gardening.**



- 4 p.m. Youth Choir
- 5 p.m. Youth Group
- 6 p.m. Dinner by Finance Committee



**The Youth will lead the worship service on Sunday, May 12!**

You're invited to glimpse the future of the church as the youth lead us in worship. We will gift Bibles to the children, we will have a youth (or two preaching), and we will be invited to plant ourselves beside streams of water as we learn about what the next generation can teach us about Psalm 1!

## Composing a Legacy Investing in Christ's Mission from Generation

The Presbyterian Foundation is facilitating a Legacy Giving Workshop on Monday, April 29 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in Ryerson Hall.

The presenter will be Rev. Kyle Nolan, Presbyterian Foundation Ministry Relations Officer for the Upper Midwest Region. The purpose of the workshop is to inspire church members to extend their impact in their faith community by considering a legacy/planned gift to their church and to discuss the many ways such gifts can be made. A Q&A session will allow attendees to clarify and expand on the information presented. All are welcome.

This workshop is being hosted by the Endowment/Memorials Committee at First Presbyterian Church and refreshments will be provided.



### FPC's week at a glance

#### Sunday, 21 April

- 8:00 JuBELLation Choir, Choir Room
- 9:00 Childcare, Nursery
- 9:30 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Sunday School, Young Youth Room
- 9:30 Bible Study, Coover
- 9:30- K-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Sunday School, Beach Room
- 9:30 Parents Group, Pastor's Place
- 9:30 Wired Word Class, Room 14
- 9:45 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Choir Loft
- 10:30 Worship, Sanctuary
- 4:00 Parent Class, Young Youth Room
- 4:00 Youth Choir, Choir Room
- 4:00 Youth Choir, Choir Room
- 5:00 Youth Group
- 6:00 Dinner Together, Ryerson Hall, Kitchen

#### Monday, 22 April

- 7:00 Building and Grounds Committee Mtg., Zoom

#### Tuesday, 23 April

- 7:00 Personnel Committee Mtg., Zoom

#### Wednesday, 24 April

- 7:00 FPC Men's Group, Hybrid
- 10:30 Staff Mtg., Coover
- 6:00 Compeer Board Mtg., Coover
- 7:00 Sanctuary Choir, Choir Room

#### Thursday, 25 April

- 6:00 Eat Our Group, Off-site
- 6:00 Child and Vulnerable Adults Protection Comm. Mtg., Coover
- 6:30 Stewardship Committee Mtg., Zoom

#### Saturday, 26 April

- 1:00 Sewing Group, Beach Room

#### Sunday, 28 April

- 8:00 JuBELLation Choir, Choir Room
- 9:00 Childcare, Nursery
- 9:30 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Sunday School, Young Youth Room
- 9:30 Bible Study, Coover
- 9:30- K-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Sunday School, Beach Room
- 9:30 Parents Group
- 9:30 Wired Word Class, Room 14
- 9:45 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Choir Loft
- 10:00 Room set up for presentation
- 10:30 Worship, Sanctuary
- 11:00 Fellowship, Ryerson Hall
- 11:45 Presentation, "The Church's Role in Preventing Gun Violence," Coover
- 4:00 Youth Choir, Choir Room
- 5:00 Youth Group
- 6:00 Dinner Together, Ryerson Hall, Kitchen

### First Presbyterian Church Staff

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