

First Presbyterian Church

101 S. Center St., Marshalltown, Iowa 50158

E-mail church@fpcmarshalltown.org

www.fpcmarshalltown.org



Phone 641-753-5929

9:00 a.m.

December 20, 2020



“Stir up Your might and come to save us!” prayed the psalmist (Psalm 80:2, NRSV). Welcome to worship in Advent, as we await our Savior.

- **Those who are able are invited to stand.**

PRELUDE *Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne* T. Matthews
 Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

LIFE OF THE CONGREGATION

Moment of silence to prepare your hearts for worship

LET US WORSHIP GOD TOGETHER

- **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders.

People: **And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father and Prince of Peace.**

Leader: He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, upholding it with justice and righteousness.

People: **The zeal of the Lord will accomplish this.**

- **INVOCATION**

Leader: As we stand in awe of your goodness and mercy today, we invite you to be present with us by the power of your Holy Spirit. Father, we declare that we love you. Thank you that you have made the way of love known through your son Jesus Christ. We pray that you would reveal this great love to us all today as we gather to worship. Lead us by your Spirit to praise you. May our hearts overflow with thanksgiving and our mouths proclaim your everlasting greatness.

- **SONGS OF PRAISE (hymnal & screen)**

#249 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

#258 *Go, Tell It On the Mountain*

CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: Let us come before the Lord and seek God's forgiveness for our sins. For we have stumbled along life's pathway and God promises to pick us up again.

SILENT PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Unison: Almighty Father; we enter your presence confessing the things we try to conceal from you and the things we try to conceal from others. We confess the heartbreak, worry, and sorrow we have caused, and the times we have made it easy for others to do wrong. Lord have mercy and forgive us through Christ. In Jesus' name, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Our God fulfils his promises and is true to his word. We have confessed our sins. God has forgiven us because Christ died for us. Amen..

- **GLORIA PATRI**

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.

MORNING PRAYERS

Pastoral Prayer
Prayers for the People
The Lord's Prayer

- **HYMN OF REFLECTION** (hymnal & screen)
#256 Love Has Come!

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

Chad and Angie Pietig family

Payton, Piper, Parker

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

The Call

Offertory *Now the Green Blade Riseth*

D. Paxton

- *Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below. Praise Him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen*

And Blessing (remain standing)

- *Blest be the tie that binds, our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds, is like to that above.*

SCRIPTURE READING: Micah 6: 1 - 8

OT pg. 1447

SCRIPTURE READING: I Corinthians 13

NT pg. 1786

SERMON:

“Love”

Pastor Tom Bower

LET US LIVE IN THE POWER OF CHRIST

- HYMN OF DEDICATION (hymnal & screen)
#157 *The Love of God*
- CHARGE & BENEDICTION
- ORGAN RESPONSE
- POSTLUDE

Announcements December 20, 2020

Welcome Rev. Tom Bower as he brings the message to First Presbyterian Church this morning.

Altar flowers are Poinsettias for Advent.

The Children's Christmas program "*Do Not Be Afraid*" directed and produced by Ashley Johnson and Amber Young, will be live streamed on Facebook at 10:30 this morning. So refill your coffee after the service and sit right back to watch the children share the Christmas story. Children participating in the program in alphabetical order are: *Blessing Banissan, Faith Banissan, Winner Banissan, Reese Buschbom, Eva Dommer, Lars Dommer, Quinn Flack, Pearl Grosvenor, Henry Johnson, Lily Johnson, Preston Johnson, Ashton McKibben, Holly McKibben, Parker Pietig, Payton Pietig, Piper Pietig, Owen Randall, Reagan Ritter, Richard Ritter IV, William Ritter, Wyatt Ritter, Elliana Rottink, Isaiah Rottink, Naysa Rottink, Ben Wirin, Betsy Wirin, Elliot Young, Isaac Young, and Oliver Young.*

Yes, Christmas Eve Service! At 7:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve, we will "gather" together (on Facebook!) for our service. We will sing carols, hear from our kids (via video), receive Christmas greetings from members of the congregation (via video), hear the story of a Christmas Pageant gone off the rails, listen again to the Christmas Bible verses and enjoy vocal and instrumental special music. We will end with a service of communion and our circle of light singing "Silent Night". Then we'll "exit" the service with "Joy to the World".

Congregational Meeting next Sunday (December 27) at 10:15 via Zoom. The zoom link will be sent to members via e-mail. The Session is calling this special meeting to vote on the slate of seven persons to serve as the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) which will begin the search process of a new pastor at First Presbyterian. Thanks to our Congregational Nominating Committee for the work they have done to accomplish this: Lynne Bovenmyer, Don Feld, Diane Broshar, Steve Strand, Karen Schoell, Terry Buzbee and Roger Anders. The seven member slate of nominees for the PNC are Bethany Wirin, Matt Tullis, Julie Lynch, Ashley Johnson, Pat Kremer, Amy Drummer and Terry Buzbee.

`Christmas greetings are being recorded by church members and will be shared on Christmas Eve. If you wish to take part (*please do – we want to see you!*) send your short (5 seconds) video to michelle@fpcmarshalltown.org by **Monday, December 21, 2020 at 5:00pm**. Contact Michelle for more information or help with recording.

Please send your tithes and offerings to the church office at 101 S. Center Street, Marshalltown, IA 50158.



Joys and Concerns

- **Nancy Diggins**, hospitalized with COVID-19
- **Hoke Farr**, in the hospital in Dubuque
- **Irene Hopp**, recovering from eye surgery
- **Orlyn Langenbau**, recovering from hip surgery
- **Bill Eilers**, having surgery Tuesday
- **Mercedes Love**, having mental health issues
- **Mary Lovig**, grieving the death of her daughter

Continuing Joys and Concerns

- **Pastor Rich King**, doing therapy following several strokes
- **Hudson Boyd**, grandson of **Doug & Jinita Boyd**, health issues
- **Barb Boeyink**, at Accura with health issues
- **John Bailey** treatments for cancer
- **All those affected in any way by the COVID-19 virus**
- **Missionaries** supported by First Presbyterian Church
- **Rev. David Githii**, his ministry in Kenya

Please pray for everyone on our list! Thank you for keeping us informed about joys and concerns. Remember, hospitalized members and friends don't always get on the list at the hospital. We'd rather get several calls than none! Phone the church at 753-5929

or e-mail church@fpcmarshalltown.org

Please let us know if you'd like the **prayer chain** activated.

The Purpose Statement for First Presbyterian Church of Marshalltown

- G Growing in Christ through *worship*.
- R Reaching out in *fellowship*
- A Affirming faith through *discipleship*
- C Caring for the lost through *evangelism*.
- E Embracing others in mission and *ministry*.

Calendar for This Week Dec. 20, - Dec. 27, 2020

SUNDAY

9:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m.

Rev. Tom Bower Preaching Today Fourth Sunday of Advent

Worship – On-Line
Children's Christmas Program -online

MONDAY

Pray for Nancy, Pray for Pastor Rich

Newsletter Articles are due

TUESDAY

10:00 a.m.

Pray for those traveling
Staff meeting

WEDNESDAY

Pray for those who are hungry

THURSDAY

7:00 p.m.

Pray in anticipation
Office closes at noon
Christmas Eve Service

FRIDAY

Pray with Joy and Thanksgiving!
Christmas Day
Office closed

SATURDAY

NEXT SUNDAY

9:00 a.m.
10:15 a.m.

Jon Rottink Preaching

Worship – On-Line
Congregational Meeting (Zoom)
No Sunday school

*The poinsettias that dressed the
chancel were given by...*



Linda Allen & Family in loving memory of
Roger Allen and Malinda Allen (2).

Steve & Wynona Anderson in celebration
of Christ our King (2).

Doug & Jinita Boyd in celebration of answers for Hudson's
heart.

Doug & Margaret Fehrle Cooper & Nick Cooper in loving
memory of Jacqueline Cooper and Carl & Norma Fehrle (2).

Jan Faber in celebration of Christ's birth.

**Robin Harrison, Fran Smith, Greg, Tony & Jason
Harrison and their families** in loving memory of Elizabeth,
Bill "Hutch," & Betty Harrison.

Chuck & Jackie Hughes in celebration of their beautiful
family.

Harlan & Marcia Quick in loving memory of Bill and
daughter Marci Harrison and Evar & Margaret Anderson,
Stanley & Helen Quick.

Mike & Marilyn Sanderson and Frances & Ken Smith in
loving memory of Harm & Fanna Roscamp, grandparents;
Maurice & Pearl Forbes, parents; and Vivian & August Hanke,
parents.

Roger & Karen Schoell in in loving memory of their parents
Paul & Virginia Schoell and Joe & Marjorie Ralston.

Lee & Michelle Wilkinson & Family in loving memory of
Mark Wubben, LeRoy Wubben, Ralph Wilkinson, June Balch
& Al Balch.

John & Cindy Wise in loving memory of Ken & Betty
Wise and Bob & Shirley Bowman (2).

Phyllis Wubben in loving memory of Mark Wubben, her
son and LeRoy Wubben, her husband (2).

Members in mission, making a difference

Transitional Pastor
Youth & Young Families Director
Office Manager/Newsletter Editor
CE Coordinator
Choir Director
Organist
Assistant Organist
Custodian
Assistant Custodian

Rev. Tom Bower
Jon Rottink
Nancy Diggins
Michelle Wilkinson
Valerie King
Wynona Anderson
Marla Grossman
Debbie Armstrong
Jan Faber

Session Elders

Wynona Anderson
Abra Banissan
Lynne Bovenmyer
Amy Drummer
Dave Freel
Pat Hemming
Angie Pietig
Heather Rottink

Doug Bacon
Gail Boliver (one-year)
Jenny Buschbom
Don Feld
Case Hegeman
Ron Kauffman
Richie Ritter

Deacons

Roger & Donita Anders
Doug & Jinita Boyd
Rhonda Buzbee (one-year)
Jackie Hughes
Barb McBride (two-year)
Carole Permar
Roberta Tice (two-year)

Tim & Deanna Bell
Sue Bryant
Ruth Feld
Susan Lawyer
Brenda Miller (one-year)
Barb Schrum (one-year)
Marge Wolfe (two-year)



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jon@fpcmarshalltown.org (Youth & Families)

michelle@fpcmarshalltown.org (CE Coordinator)