

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 17, 2023

The background of the entire page is a dense, textured image of red leaves, possibly from a flowering plant, in various shades of red and pink.

JOY

Now the God of hope
fill you with all JOY
and peace in believing.

ROMANS 15:13, KJV

The End is Near

Those who are able are invited to stand.

PRELUDE *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

John Wade

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: When all things lay in silence and the night was deep and dark, your Word leaped down from your royal throne, O God.

People: So we rejoice and give you praise, that your Word may live in us and that we may glorify you forever. Amen.

SONG OF DEVOTION

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Bell Choir

P. Sanders

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

God of Israel, with expectant hearts we your people await Christ's coming. As once he came in humility, so now may he come in glory, that he may make all things perfect in your everlasting kingdom. For he is Lord for ever and ever. Amen

- **GREETING**
- **SONGS OF PRAISE**

*He Shall Reign Forevermore
Make Room*

CALL TO CONFESSION

In Advent, we prepare for the coming of Christ, full of grace and truth. Trusting in God's unfailing grace, let us tell the truth about ourselves in silent prayer.

SILENT PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of love, all year long we pursue power and money, yet you come in weakness. All season long we covet great material gifts, when you alone offer what is lasting.

Unison: Lord Jesus, forgive us, heal us, correct us. Then open our lips, that we may sing your praise with the angels, and

remake our lives, that we may witness to your transforming love. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS (Zephaniah 3:14-18)

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

#244 *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

MORNING PRAYERS

Pastoral 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever, amen.

HYMN

#259 *Angels from the Realms of Glory*

CHILDREN'S SERMON

MINUTE FOR MISSIONS

Christmas Joy

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Offertory *Of the Father's Love Begotten*

13th Century Plainsong

- *Doxology*

- *And Blessing* (remain standing and hold hands)

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Peter 4:7-11

(p. 1891)

SERMON: “The End is Near”

Pastor Bryan Kunz

LET US LIVE IN THE POWER OF CHRIST

SONG OF RESPONSE

#265 *The First Noel*

LIFE OF THE CONGREGATION

- **BENEDICTION**
- **ORGAN RESPONSE**
- **POSTLUDE**

Joys and Concerns

- **Beverly Free**, recovering from a broken hip and wrist
- **The family of Sheryl Good**, Sue Bryant's sister-in-law, who died 12/11/2023
- **Jan Faber**, recovering from covid
- **Marla Grossman**, dealing with shingles

Continuing Joys and Concerns

- **Linda Kauffman, Oliver Ni, Joyce Anderegg, Mike Sanderson, Reese Buschbom, Steve Anderegg, Tedra Henze, Caroline Kauffman, Sue Pelong** – Bert Tice's sister, **Barb Wollam, Christy Hardacre** - Carolyn Wilkinson's daughter, **Mercedes Love, Yasuyo Smith, Reena Pearson, Sophie Attiogbe** continued recovery
- Peace in **Israel/Palestine, South Sudan, Ukraine**, and throughout the world
- The continued search for an **Associate Pastor**
- **Missionaries** supported by First Presbyterian Church
- **Dan & Elizabeth Turk**, their ministry in Madagascar

Please pray for everyone on our list. Thank you for keeping us informed about joys and concerns. We'd rather get several calls than none.

Phone the church at 753-5929 or e-mail Bryan@fpcmarshalltown.org

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

Worship Leader today: Craig Henze

Next Sunday: Carissa King

Greeters today: Roger & Karen Schoell

Next Sunday: _____

Doorman & Greeter: Dave Freel

Deacons today: Doug & Jinita Boyd

Next Sunday: Jackie Hughes & Bert Tice

Fellowship Hosts: Jackie Hughes

Next Sunday: Dick & Barb McBride

Nursery today: Larissa Kunz & Megan Turbiville

Next Sunday: Madi Stull & _____

Cup Washers today: Michelle Wilkinson

Next Sunday: Dick & Barb McBride

Donuts today: Lee & Michelle Wilkinson

Next Sunday: Doug & Margaret Cooper

AV today: Bill Lawyer

Next Sunday: Diane Broshar

Announcements

Altar flowers today are poinsettias for Advent.

On the presbytery's prayer list for this week is **the Presbytery Staff**: Rev. Dr. Annika Lister Stroop, Administrative Executive & Stated Clerk; RE Amgad Beblawi, Mission Executive; Rev. Ian McMullen, Pastor to the Presbyteries; and Jeannie Stolee, Office Manager.

There will be a **called congregational meeting** immediately following worship TODAY. The purpose of the meeting is to elect elders and deacons.



If you will be alone on Christmas, Pastor Bryan and Larissa invite you to join them for a special lunch on **Sunday, December 24th at 11:15 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Please let them know if you are coming.

Today is the last day of the Alternative Gift Fair. The gift list is in the bulletin. When you make your choice, you will be given a gift card and a descriptive insert to give to your loved one.

M&I is planning a trip to Des Moines for an **Iowa Wolves basketball** game on Sunday, January 14, at 3:00 p.m. Tickets for the game are from \$21-\$33. There will be a sign-up in the narthex next week. If we have enough interest, we'll buy some tickets and go have some fun together! Any questions, ask Jackie.

There is a Hymn Sing this afternoon @ 3:00 p.m. All are welcome.

Today is the last day to return gifts for the House of Compassion gift tree. Please be sure the ornament tag is included with your gift when you put it in the bin in the Narthex.



Did you know the third Thursday of each month is First Presbyterian Church's day to serve at the House of Compassion Soup Kitchen each month? People are needed to help cook and serve the meal. The cooking shift runs from 2:00 – 4:30 p.m. and the serving shift is from 4:45 – 6:45 p.m. or whenever the clean-up is done. This is a great family or group activity! See Matt Broshar or one of the other volunteers for more information, then sign up on the clipboard in Fellowship Hall.

Calendar for This Week Dec. 17 – 24, 2023

SUNDAY

Third Sunday of Advent

- 8:40 AM Prayer – Conference Room
- 9:00 AM Worship
- 10:00 AM Congregational Meeting
- 10:15 AM Sunday school
- 3:00 PM Hymn Sing

MONDAY

TUESDAY

- 9:15 AM Sarah Circle @ Hemmings
- 7:00 PM Session

WEDNESDAY

- 6:30 PM Bell Choir
- 7:30 PM Choir
- 8:30 PM Praise Team

THURSDAY

- 8:30 AM Flapjacks – Lower Lounge
- 2:00 PM FPC serves @ House of Compassion

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

- 7:30 AM Men's Group – Fellowship Hall

NEXT SUNDAY

Fourth Sunday of Advent

- 8:40 AM Prayer – Conference Room
- 9:00 AM Worship
- 6:30 PM Christmas Eve service

Members in mission, making a difference

Pastor
Interim Director of Youth Discipleship
Secretary/Newsletter Editor
Organist
Pianist
Custodian
Nursery

Rev. Bryan Kunz
Carissa King
Michelle Wilkinson
Wynona Anderson
Marsha Bristley
Debbie Armstrong
Madi Stull

Session Elders

Steve Anderson
Terry Buzbee
Don Feld
Ashley Johnson
Roger Schoell
Lee Wilkinson

Greg Brown
Doug Cooper
Tedra Henze
Tracy Ostrem
Ross Turbiville

Deacons

Doug & Jinita Boyd
Ruth Feld
Jackie Hughes
Barb McBride
Paul & Karin Podhajsky
Karen Schoell
Roberta Tice

Larry & Judy Erion
Jim Grimmus
Pat & Nancy Kremer
Keith & Diane Oleson
Terri Rottink
Marlene Snyder

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bryan@fpcmarshalltown.org (Pastor)

Church activities may be video recorded and livestreamed online.



ALTERNATIVE GIFT FAIR

As Christmas shopping time approaches, do you sigh and think, “What am I going to get for Sister Sue (brother Bob, Aunt Anne, Grandpa, etc.)? It seems they don’t need or want anything, but yet, I want them to know I care about them.”

This year, how about giving a gift with real meaning? While most of us have more than enough material goods, far too many around the world struggle each day to have just enough to survive. At the Alternative Gift Fair presented by Sarah Circle, you can “purchase a gift” in the name of your loved one through the Presbyterian Giving Catalog or Jonathan's House for Orphans.

On Sundays starting November 19, 2023, thru December 17, 2023, a shopping table will be set up in the Narthex. On the back of this sheet is a list of available items or a general monetary gift may be given. You will receive a gift card with an insert about the gift you chose. This can then be given to your special person.

ALTERNATIVE GIFT FAIR

Choices for Presbyterian Giving Catalog

	Cost/ Item	Qty. Ordered
Farm tools	\$10	
Family of chickens	\$25	
Jerry cans - 10	\$25	
Kitchen kit for cooking & serving	\$25	
Tree saplings – 90	\$30	
Piglet	\$40	
Water filter	\$50	
Sewing machine	\$50	
Fishing kit (net, line, & radar)	\$75	
Teacher training	\$85	
Manual water drill	\$115	
Whole farm – chickens, goats, pigs, cow, seeds, tools & training	\$1,300	

Choices for Jonathan's House for Orphans

Seed for crops (pinto beans, garbanzo beans)	\$7	
Baby formula	\$10	
Medicine for the medical clinic	\$10	
Drinking water filters for the village	\$19	
1000 children's chewable vitamins	\$28	
Plumpynut for a child for one month	\$30	
100 Lunches for children	\$44	
School lunch for all 426 students for a day	\$187	
Donation toward laptops, in any amount	\$	
Give to the greatest need, in any amount	\$	
	Total	

Please make checks payable to: Sarah Circle

Receipt available upon request.

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



Steve & Wynona Anderson in celebration of Jesus, King of Kings and Lord of Lords (2).

The Ankrum Family in loving memory of Marlys & Marvin Ankrum.

Matt & Diane Broshar in loving memory of Robert & Joyce Broshar and Robert Bowlin (2).

Mitch, Michelle, Isaac, & Caleb Brown in loving memory of Michelle's parents, John & Rhonda Griffith (2).

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

Norm & Shirley Egli in celebration of the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Jan Faber & family in celebration of our Savior's birth.

Josh, Allison, Pearl, & Vera Grosvenor in loving memory of Wells Grosvenor.

Pat & Mary Hemming in celebration of the upcoming wedding of our daughter, Dr. Sarah Hemming-Meyer, and Dan Fog.

The Ed Jackson family in loving memory of Mary Lou Jackson (2).

Ron & Linda Kauffman in loving memory of Roger McGrew and Sherry Runge.

Valerie & Rich King in loving memory of Valerie's sister, Melanie.

Nancy & Pat Kremer in loving memory of Rita Nesland, Nancy's dear sister, who we miss very much.

Rich & Arlene Lange in honor of their family.

Bill & Susan Lawyer in celebration of all God's blessings.

The McKibben Family in loving memory of Richard McKibben and Kathryn Dull.

Keith & Diane Oleson in honor of our entire families.

Laverne Paul in loving memory of Deb Paul (2).

Harlan & Marcia Quick in loving memory of Bill and daughter Marci Harrison, Evar & Margaret Anderson, and Stanley & Helen Quick (2).

Andy, Anna, Owen, and Charlie Randall in loving memory of Theresa Randall and Wells Grosvenor (2).

Fred Rinnan in loving memory of his wife, Lola, and his dad, Harold, and mother, Valeria.

Larry & Barb Schrum in loving memory of our parents (2).

John & Lisa Simpson in loving memory of Jim Leonard, Lisa's father.

Fran & Ken Smith, Marilyn & Mike Sanderson, and Robin Harrison in loving memory of Harm & Fanna Roskamp, Maurice & Pearl Forbes, Paul L. Forbes, Sr., and Michael Faron Sanderson.

Fran & Ken Smith and the Harrison families of Robin, Greg, Tony, and Jason in loving memory of Willis D. Harrison, Joel Harrison, R. Elizabeth Harrison, Herbert C. Harrison, Barry Norris, Betty J. Harrison, Joan Harrison, and Robert Tichy.

Marlene Snyder in celebration of the wonderful family at First Presbyterian Church.

Meg Sponseller in loving memory of Lou Sponseller and Vince & Jean McCowen (2).

Steve & Doris Strand in celebration of Jesus' birth.

Matt & Mindy Tullis in celebration of our Lord Jesus.

Vickie Unferth in loving memory of Lester and Arlene Unferth.

Lee & Michelle Wilkinson & Family in loving memory of Mark Wubben, LeRoy Wubben, Ralph Wilkinson, June Balch & Al Balch (2).

The **Wirin Family** in celebration of the birth of our Lord & Savior (2).