

4th Sunday of Easter

8:50 a.m.

April 17, 2016

Welcome members, friends and visitors to our service this morning. We would ask you all to complete the friendship pad located in your pew. Thank you for your help. Welcome Packets for our visitors and guests are available at the Visitor Center.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Hayes

"Open the Eyes of My Heart/Be Thou My Vision"

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We are gathered this morning as one body in Christ.

People: We are called to sing, pray, and proclaim the good news yet again.

Leader: The walls that separate us have been torn down by the almighty God.

People: Let us lay aside everything that might lead us astray.

Leader: All that separates us has fallen away and all that remains is the deep and abiding love of the Triune God.

People: We are immeasurably blessed.

All: Let us worship God.

* SONG

Praise Team

"Blessed Be Your Name"

"I Will Follow"

* OPENING PRAYER ~ ~ Adapted from the Missional Challenge

Gracious Father, you sent your Son to die and rise to new life in order that death might be brought to an end and that we might live a new life in Him. Yet we confess that we too often have chosen to remain captive to doubt and fear and ways that lead to death. By our thoughts, words, and actions, we have scorned your love, diminished the lives of others, and defaced your image in us. Father, forgive us for Jesus' sake, and enable us by His resurrection power to live no longer for ourselves but for

Him who died and rose again for us. By the power of the Spirit, may you join us together as a living temple and might the relationships that we foster, the conflicts that we resolve, and the comfort we share, provide a faint glimpse of your unending love and grace on offer in Christ. Amen.

* GLORIA PATRI

CHILDREN'S TIME

8th Grade Handbell Choir

"Noah and the Ark"

HYMN 306

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

8th Grade Handbell Choir

"3-fold Amen"

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 100

(Page 933 in the Pew Bibles)

ANTHEM

Chancel Choir

"We Believe"

SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 2:11-22

(Page 811 in the Pew Bibles)

SERMON

Michael Gewecke

Growing Together

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH ~ ~ Adapted from the Confirmation Student's Statements of Faith

I believe in God the Father, the creator of heaven and earth. I believe in God's grace and his love for myself and others and that Jesus came to Earth as God in human form. He died on the cross saving everyone on this Earth from sin, even those who have done so much wrong and do not seem to deserve it. He then rose from the dead and promised life after death. He promised that someday he will come back to earth, and I can't wait till he does! We all have sinned somewhere in our life. It's hard to be a disciple of God because of temptations. It's hard to say no to

committing adultery. It's hard not to have envy. It is hard to stay faithful when others around me don't believe in God. It is also hard when something bad happens in my life and I wonder why God would let that happen. I believe that my belief and faith in God changes my lifestyle. Without those beliefs I wouldn't be here right now, or a part of the church. I would act different, talk different, and look different. I want to be the kind of person that when you look at me you can tell that I follow Jesus. I want every decision I make to bring me closer to him. Sometimes we can get caught up in what we want to do and not what Jesus would want from us. Believing in Jesus Christ is a big responsibility and the amazing things he does should never be taken for granted and I will try to share the word of the Lord to as many people as I can. Amen.



PRESENTATION OF CONFIRMANDS

OFFERING

Offertory

Bober

"I Surrender All"

* Doxology

* Prayer of Dedication

* HYMN 525

Praise Team

"Here I Am"

* BENEDICTION

"Go Now In Peace"

POSTLUDE

Bober

"Just a Closer Walk With Thee"

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

Nursery Available for Pre-K and under

- **Large print "BULLETINS AND HYMNALS" are available from an Usher-**
- ***Busy Bags available in the Narthex***
- ***Coffee is served immediately following the Worship Service in Fellowship Hall.***

First Presbyterian Church

3501 Hill Ave., Spirit Lake, IA 51360

(712)336-1649

office@fpcspiritlake.org

www.fpcspiritlake.org

Participating in this morning's Reformed service are: Clint Loveall & Michael Gewecke, Pastors; Bob Peterson, Liturgist; Rachele Gewecke, Pianist; Ushers are Jan Richards, Ruth Ann Kelly, Lisa Richter & family; Greeters are Jack & Sherryl Jones; Jackie Jenkins, Mike Reekers, Pat Butler & Roger Rieck, Sound; Wes Farmer, Video; Lisa Kraus & Breanna Cother are in charge of the Nursery; Jim & Mary Quitno prepared our coffee.

Members of the 8th Grade Handbell Choir are Cole Brumley, Jonah Eldridge, Emma Jenness, Noah Lammers, Emma Loveall, Brice Pratt, Kolby Richter, Logan Sill, Olivia Smith, Abby Stucker & Seattle Sweeney.

Thank You

I want to sincerely thank all of you for your thoughts, prayers, and cards during my grandmother's illness and passing. In a time of uncertainty and grief, it was wonderful to feel the love and support of this congregation. We are truly blessed to be here! Sincerely,
Rachele, Michael, and family

A BIG Thank you to all the ladies from the choir who helped with the costumes for Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat. There is no way I could have gotten it all done without you. And another BIG thank you to all of you that attended and supported this Iowa Lakes Community College intergenerational effort. It means a lot to the cast and crew to know that the communities appreciate and support them. I hope that you enjoyed your evening.
Lynn Peterson

Working on Worship

Worship is the thing that most often brings the most of us together. What is worship and how do we do it well? Join us in the coming weeks as we explore one of our most important tasks as the church.
April 17 – Who are we in worship? (Confirmation Sunday – one service at 8:50)
April 24 - How do we worship?

Congratulations Confirmands

Please take a moment to congratulate the newest members of our congregation. Cole Brumley, Jonah Eldridge, Emma Jenness, Noah Lammers, Emma Loveall, Brice Pratt, Kolby Richter, Logan Sill, Olivia Smith, Abby Stucker & Seattle Sweeney.

Everyone is invited to join us during coffee and fellowship hour for a short time of reception and celebration including refreshments.

FPC is Collecting Freezer Meals

We currently have some families in need of meals, so we are collecting freezer meals here at the church and will distribute them to the families. The families in need are for 2 and 3 people. Thank you in advance!

Church School Snacks

A sign-up sheet and **PEANUT/ NUT-FREE SNACK LIST** has been placed in the library window. Please take a snack list and sign up for your favorite date!! 5 dozen snacks and 2 large juice (not red) are needed in the Cantina for Church School by 9:45am each Sunday morning.

Adult Sunday School Classes

- Faith & Modern Science – Roger Lahm
- The Book of James - Clint Loveall



Wednesday, April 20th

Meal: Hamburgers

Meal Crew: Karey Winkel Volunteers Needed!

Adult Classes

- **The Book of Mark** ~ led by Rachele Gewecke
- **Freezer Meals Class** ~ Jane Loveall, Lisa Richter & Amy Bengé
- **A Guide to the Faith** ~ Pastor Clint

Recharge Meal Servers Needed

Sign-up sheet in the Narthex!!

Upper Des Moines Food Pantry

The congregations of our county take turns supporting the Upper Des Moines Food Pantry. Long ago it was decided by the churches that the county would be best served by having this pantry. Our congregation has the opportunity to provide to the pantry for the months of April and October. Please consider donating items this month. Items may be placed in the wagon in the Narthex. Monetary gifts are welcome as well.

Garden Plots

We are considering the idea of having a garden again this year, anyone interested in a garden plot please contact the church office at 336-1649 or office@fpcspiritlake.org

Meals-On-Wheels

In May our church will deliver meals to community shut-ins. Delivering Meals-On-Wheels takes about 30-45 minutes. You may sign up for any amount of days. Maybe you prefer one day a week, for instance every Monday, or every day for a week or different days during the month.

Substitutes are available so don't let the fact that you are going to be gone one time stop you from signing up. You pick up the meals at the hospital kitchen at 11:00am. This usually is done with a partner to make the job fun and faster. Meals are delivered every day of the week except Sunday.

Delivering Meals-On-Wheels to our community shut-ins is a rewarding experience and you will be glad you took part in it.

A calendar is placed on an easel in the Narthex for you to sign up. If you have any questions please contact Milt Nolting at 336-4336.

Pictures of Mom

On Sunday, May 8th, we will be honoring all moms for Mother's Day. Please bring us your favorite picture of "Mom" to be presented in a slide show presentation on Mother's Day.

Senior Voice Recital

You are cordially invited to attend the Senior Voice Recital of Jessica Schable's students Shaelyn Adams & Tyler Jenness on Sunday, April 24th at 2pm at First Presbyterian Church, Spirit Lake. Light refreshments will be served following the recital.

POET Dinner Outing

The next POET event is pizza and bowling! We will meet on May 14th at Godfather's Pizza at 6 p.m. Following supper, we will head to Corner Lanes for bowling at 7 p.m. You can come to one or the other or both. Bring the entire family! Please RSVP for bowling (on the church website or in the office) so we have enough lanes reserved.

First Presbyterian Church Spring Clean-Up Day

The Building & Grounds Committee will be having the Spring Clean-Up Day here at the church on **Saturday, May 7th*** from 9:00 am – noon. They are looking for help with cleaning up trash, washing windows, weed pulling, garden clean-up, and removal of dead shrubs and bushes. They need your help – no special skills required!

Men and women are welcome!

*If weather is bad, the clean-up day will be rescheduled for the following Saturday, May 14th.

CALLING WOMEN OF ALL AGES!

You are invited to attend an ecumenical "Women of Faith" Event at First Lutheran Church on Sunday, April 24th at 4:30pm. The program features stories from real women of faith in our neighborhood, an evening meal catered by Tweeters of Okoboji, followed by humorist and effervescent speaker, Jenny Herrick. Bring a friend, a neighbor, an aunt, a grandma! Bring a carload! Enjoy fun, faith and fellowship with other Women of Faith! Tickets are on sale in the First Lutheran Church office for \$13 or by contacting Jane Kruse - janek@commstock.com Dinner seating is limited.

Rides to and from church for this week is Marcia Eckerman ~ 336-5429, next week is Bev Pratt ~ (712) 253-7415.

Hospital Deacon: Marcia Eckerman

Week of April 24

Reformed (1st) Service

Liturgist: Walter Mendenhall

Ushers: Steve & Jan Richards, Ruth Ann Kelly, Lisa Richter & family

Greeters: Jack & Sherryl Jones

Video: Keith Brockmeyer

Nursery: Kelly Stecker &

Megan Donnenwerth

Coffee: Keith & Beryl Marra

Reforming (2nd) Service

Greeter/Usher: Pratt family

Nursery: Amy Bengé

Upcoming Events

Sunday, April 17

8:15am-Prayer in the Chapel

8:50am-Reformed Service

10am-Confirmand Reception

10:10am-Sunday School

No HS Act II

Monday, April 18

9am-PW Sewing

5:15pm-Stewardship Comm Mtg

Tuesday, April 19

1:30pm-Women's Bible Study

7pm-Session Meeting

Wednesday, April 20

5:30pm-Final Recharge

6:45pm-High School Youth

7pm-2nd Service Rehearsal

7pm-Handbell practice

8pm-Chancel Choir practice

Thursday, April 21

9am-Men's Bible Study

Sunday, April 24

8:15am-Prayer in the Chapel

8:50am-Reformed (1st) Service

10am-Coffee and fellowship

10:10am-Sunday School

11:15am-Reforming (2nd) Service

2pm- HS Act II

2pm-Tyler Jenness Senior

Voice Recital

2:45pm-Worship Service at Welcov

Each week we remember First Pres families in prayer, this week

please pray for
*Wes, Shannon, Carly &
Mikayla Farmer*
3718 Jackson Ave., Spirit Lake
Gene & Sharon Ringsdorf
12845 253rd Ave., Spirit Lake

Please pray for our members and friends of this church family who are facing various health concerns: Maddie DeWitt, Chris Koehler, Nicole Hintz, Ethan Burk, Jody Ferguson, Shane Feist, Grant Vietor, Jim & Judy Arens, Mary Smith, Anita Stockdale, Jamie Nebelsick, Jose Reedy, Barb Hanisch, Jay Anderson, Kay Monson, Marv & Barb Rohlf, Pat Dalton, Donna VanHolland, Gene Kuehn, Connie Hoppe, Tom Gruber, Lori Johnson, Mitchell Elmquist, Talia Patton, Connor Rowley, Betty Lamer, Mark Voss, Andrew Grau, Audrey Wiersma, Dean Miller, Gene Krueger, Judy Jensen, Dave Dreeszen, Aliyah Brittain, Emily Butterworth, Pat Kelly, Susan Winebrinner, Tammy (Bartels) Martin, Judy Stueven, Bennett Stecker, Kenny Beck, Velma Ashburn, Clyde Gerth, Eric Avery, Mike Wiley

Please pray for our members and friends who serve in the Armed Forces: Staff SGT **Jamie Lewis**, 1st LT **Whitney Lewis**, 7017 Arnold Ave., Unit A, JBER, AK 99506; SSG **Frederick, Jesse**, 975 Culverson Ct., Clarksville, TN 37040; **Billy Joe Travis**, Sioux City Navy Recruiting Office, Sioux City, IA; **Ryan Mackey**, 829th EN CO, 519th MP BN, APO AE 09342, **Kyle Klaassen**, PFC; SPC **Orvis Nygaard**, Laramie, WY; **Colton Petersen**
Missionaries

Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF)
P.O.Box 47
Nampa, ID. 83653

MAF-US@maf.org www.maf.org

MAF's mission is to increase the effectiveness of the church using aviation and other technologies to overcome barriers in reaching the world for Christ.

MAF has a fleet of 54 aircraft serving the most remote areas of the world transporting missionaries, national church leaders, medical personnel and sick and injured native people. Every hour flown saves 3 days of travel by ground maximizing the ministry of missionaries and national evangelists.

MAF also provides communication and high tech equipment to the many areas they serve. Courses in Bible, theology and ministry provide distance learning to people in many remote nations.

Medical and disaster relief is a major concern for MAF. Food and drugs are transported into areas hit by floods, earthquakes and other emergencies. Flying doctor services use MAF to transport medical staff quickly to emergency areas. Probably the best-known service of MAF is the life-saving air-ambulance of critically ill native peoples and mission personnel to hospitals. Countless lives are saved by these flights, often from dangerous and crude landing strips in rough terrain.