



First Presbyterian Church

"We love because God first loved us."

1 John 4:19

WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1684 IOWA ST. | DUBUQUE, IA

2155 UNIVERSITY AVE | DUBUQUE, IA



February 23, 2025 | Morning Worship 9:30 am

Welcome to Church! Please sign in so that we can connect with you!

Use the binders in your pew OR text WORSHIP to 563-227-8441

If You Are Worshipping...

Online – All the worship songs and words will be on your screen so that you can fully participate.

In The Sanctuary – If you are comfortably able, we invite you to stand during portions of worship marked with an asterisk (*). The congregation reads items listed in bold text. *Please note:* Our service is always live-streamed with multiple cameras in the sanctuary. You will likely be on camera at some point during your worship experience.

With Children – We are delighted with the presence of (and the sounds of) children in worship. Children are welcome to use any of the resources in our PrayGround (located behind the back pews). The back pews are for parents of children using the PrayGround, and the rocking chairs are reserved especially for nursing mothers or parents whose children need a cuddle and some rocking.

Also, childcare is available in our nursery down the hall.

Prayer Requests – Each week, we encourage folks to share their joys and concerns with one another using the *Prayer Cards* in the pews. Please complete a *Prayer Card* and place it in the offering plate during worship. This will ensure your prayers are lifted up to God in worship and/or in private.

Special accommodations –

Assisted listening devices are available at the back of the sanctuary.

Anyone with mobility issues is welcome to use the padded green chairs located strategically throughout the sanctuary. There are spaces within the pews for wheelchairs. Ushers are happy to assist you with these or other accommodations.

Wheelchairs are available to use for church or to get down to Fellowship Hall. Please ask an usher or greeter. They can assist you.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION

"Care Cart"

Linda Stovall

PRELUDE

All Creatures of Our God and King

arr. Brian Chung

FOR PRAYER AND REFLECTION***

Do you feel it
That's radical love.
Can you feel love warming your cells?
That's healing and generous, radical love.
Love is an elemental force —
Selfless and destructive of chains in its path.
It's freedom and a stardust's birthright.
Do you feel it?

OPENING PRAYER

***CALL TO WORSHIP** – Psalm 37:39-40

Our Salvation is from the Lord;
God is our refuge in times of trouble.
The Lord helps us and rescues us;
God saves us because we take refuge in our Lord.

***SONG OF PRAISE** GTG #306 *Blest Be the Tie that Binds*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and merciful God, Jesus shows us the way of true love, the kind of love that will force even the meek to act. We witness the discord and division abroad and at home, and we confess, we do not know what to do, how to help, how to speak up, how to say enough is enough. Help us, O God, to listen to the teachings of your son Jesus, guide with the movement of your Holy Spirit and have mercy on us. Forgive us for our actions and our inactions, help us to do better, one precious step at a time, as we seek to be the kingdom of God on earth. Forgive us, guide us and help us.

SILENT CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

***SUNG RESPONSE** GTG #581 *Gloria Patri*

****PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Please take a moment to extend the peace of Christ to one another by greeting those around you. Say "hello", wave, learn each other's names – whatever feels most comfortable to you.

TIME WITH YOUNGER DISCIPLES

Following the "Time with Younger Disciples," Our youngest disciples, ages 3-grade 3, are encouraged to join our Faith Formation leaders for Children's Church. They will encounter God at a developmentally-appropriate level with safe adults. The child(ren) can be picked up at the conclusion of worship down the hall. Then, enjoy treats and fellowship together!

CHOIR ANTHEM *God is Calling Through the Whisper* Traditional Polish tune

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 6:27-38

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

SERMON "Listen and Love"

***HYMN OF RESPONSE** GTG #753 *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:** *The Apostle's Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY *I'm Gonna Sing When the Spirit Says Sing* arr. Mark Hayes

***DOXOLOGY** GTG #606

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION & PETITION**

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.

***SENDING HYMN** GTG #747 *The Lord Now Sends Us Forth*

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

I Want Jesus to Walk With Me

arr. Marilyn Ham

* You are welcome to rise in body or spirit.

*** Excerpt from the Poem: *Radical Love A poem for revolution*

by: Samantha Lazar

We are thrilled to have our John Knox Presbytery “Presbyter for Vision and Leadership,” **THE REV. DEVON REYNOLDS, WITH US TO SHARE THE WORD OF GOD.** Pastor Devon joined us at JKP in July of 2024, and we are thankful for her energizing partnership in the Gospel. A native of northwest Alabama, Devon has a business degree from Strayer University and has worked in computer tech support, catering management, and customer service supervision. She is a 2019 graduate of Austin Theological Seminary and is pursuing a Doctor of Ministry in Social Impact at Drew University. She has previously served local congregations in Oklahoma and Tennessee.

WPC CONGREGATIONAL MEETING NOTICE: TODAY, immediately following worship, WPC will hold their Annual Congregational meeting in the Sanctuary for the review of the 2024 Annual Report and the 2025 budget approved by the Session.

SCRIP gift cards are available today in the Narthex. "Give more without spending more". If you are new to Scrip stop at the desk and pick up a sheet of the local cards available and what percentage each gives back to our church.

WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE HERE! Interested in learning more about these congregations? Wondering how to get connected on a deeper level? Thinking about what becoming a member of the church may look like? Pastor Stephanie would love to talk with you. Simply contact her at fpcdbq.pastor@gmail.com or (507) 227-8537.

CARE CART! REMINDER: Next week we fill the cart for the **Dubuque Food Pantry** to help feed local families. (no egg cartons.)

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

TITHES AND OFFERINGS collected in today's service will be contributed to the general fund of **First Presbyterian Church.** As a faithful pledger, you are encouraged to continue your giving patterns to either WPC or FPC. Tithes & offerings will be distributed to FPC on the 2nd & 4th Sundays, and to WPC on the 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays. Thank you for your understanding.

JOIN US FOR OUR ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE at *First Presbyterian Church* on **Wednesday, March 5th, 2025 at 7:00pm.** Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent, the 40 days of fasting and renewal corresponding to Christ's forty-day fast when he was tempted in the desert. The imposition of ashes is a central part of the worship service, allowing us to meditate on our mortality while remembering, with confidence and gratitude, that Christ has conquered death and sin.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTIAN FAITH FORMATION NEWS:

FEBRUARY 23 - Luke 6:27-38 "Love your Enemies"

SUNDAY NIGHT FAITH FORMATION

5:30 Meal: **POTLUCK SUPPER** Please bring a main dish, salad or dessert

6:00-7:00 Child Care available

Youth grades 4-12 & children through Grade 3

Moms on Fire

Adult Bible Study led by Dan Emmert

MARCH 2 - 10:45 Adult Class "How to Navigate Church Media" led by Ann Miller

MARCH 2 - 5:30 **SUNDAY NIGHT FAITH FORMATION**

Adult Class "The Chosen" Season 3, Episode 1

MARCH 6 - 11:00 **ADULT BIBLE STUDY** led by Marsha Wilfong

Genesis 12-13: Abraham & Sarah, the New "First Couple"

LAST CALL FOR NAMING OUR NEW CHURCH

This Sunday, February 23, is the final day to give the Partnership Task Force your suggestions for the name of our new unified church. You can place one or more suggestions in the box at the back of the sanctuary or email your suggestions to tomstov@aol.com. The Task Force has been collecting names since the beginning of February and would like to offer thanks to all of those who have participated. As of this past Sunday a total of 136 different names have been submitted.

GREEN TEAM TIP – Car Maintenance. Make sure your car gets regular maintenance. This will reduce emissions, give you better gas mileage and save you money. Keep your tires inflated to the proper level. Low tire pressure causes more wear, lessened gas mileage, harms the environment and costs you money. Practice good driving habits, avoid jack rabbit starts and quick panic stops.

WE NEED HELP WITH THE U/D SEMINARY TABLES on the following dates:

March 10th, March 24th, April 7th and down the road on **Aug. 7th** which is a large group for their Intensive Training. Time for helping runs from 9AM to 1PM. We also need treats dropped off for each table. Please let me know if you can help on a certain day and let me know if you would like to bring treats (this is important as we do not want to get a lot of treats for just one day). Thanks, Rich Henderson, 563-580-6289

INVITING ALL PING PONG PLAYERS to play at Westminster on Tuesday nights during February, March and April. If you are interested, contact Dan Emmert for time to play and other details. 515-370-4906 or email at emmertdm@gmail.com

GENESIS BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES

Marsha Wilfong will continue the Thursday morning Bible study on the book of *Genesis*. This Spring we will explore the second part of *Genesis*, chapters 12-50: God's call/relationship with a special people through Abraham. Three generations of family sagas are told in the remainder of the book: Abraham & Sarah, Jacob & Esau, and Joseph & his brothers. To some degree, these new stories parallel the "family" stories told in Gen. 1-11 (Adam & Eve, Cain & Abel, and Noah & his sons). The question remains: Which will succeed – God's plan or human plans? All are invited to join us on Thursday mornings, March 6 – May 1, 11:00 am in the Board Room.



CHURCH PRAYER LIST

- For Gary Wagner's wife, **Sandy Garrett**, who is under the care of Hospice.
- For healing for **Patt Carmack** who broke her shoulder and is in re-hab in Glendale, AZ. Cards may be sent to %Todd Carmack, 8357 N. 50th Dr., Glendale, AZ 85302
- For **Lois Pearce** recovering from heart surgery and for **Doug Pearce's** ongoing health issues.
- For **Paula McNally** recovering from knee replacement surgery.
- For **Roy Piller's friend, Bill**, with blood cancer.
- For **Mary Kay and her family** as they mourn the passing of her sister, Elaine.
- For **all those affected by wildfires in California** – including victims, first responders, volunteers and helping organizations.
- For **Josiah Otting** who continues to deal with seizures caused by epilepsy.
- Continued prayers for **Joyce Veach**, Mary Kay's sister in-law, with liver cancer.
- For **HannaRose Otting's** brain health concerns.
- For all those on the **Deacons Care List**.
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For Pastoral Care please call the **pastoral care # 563-279-4545** with your pastoral needs or call the office at 563-583-1729.

HAVE A PRAYER CONCERN OR JOY TO SHARE? Folks on the **FPC/WPC Prayer Chain** would be honored to pray for you. Simply email Pastor Stephanie at fpcdbq.pastor@gmail.com, and she will distribute your request. You may also join the FPC/WPC Prayer Chain this way!

CHURCH CALENDAR

- All activities will take place at WPC, unless otherwise noted.

Sunday, February 23rd – WPC Annual Congregational Meeting

9-9:15am – Choir Rehearsal, SA

9:30am – **Worship & Children’s Church at WPC**

Guest Preacher, Rev. Devon Reynolds

Coffee, treats and fellowship following worship.

5:30-7pm – Food, Faith & Fellowship. **POTLUCK – Please bring a dish to share.**

Monday, February 24th – HOTLINE DEADLINE

10:00am – Kim David, BR

5:30pm – Hospitality/Outreach, BR

Tuesday, February 25th

9am - Tai Chi, FH

5:30pm – Ping Pong, Headstart Rm.

Wednesday, February 26th

8am – Men’s Coffee, BR

9:15am – Staff Mtg., WR

11am – Care Team Mtg., WR

5 pm – Handbells Rehearsal, SA

Saturday, March 1st

8am – Men’s Breakfast at Papa Ozz

9am – Task Force Mtg., BR

Sunday, March 2nd

9:30am – **Worship, Communion & Children’s Church at WPC**

Rev. Stephanie Ells, preaching

Coffee, treats and fellowship following worship.

10:45am – **Navigating Church Media** by Ann Miller, BR

5:30-7pm – Food, Faith & Fellowship

PASTOR STEPHANIE’S SERMONS are available in print form. If you are interested in receiving a copy of her sermon via email or mail, please contact her directly at fpcdbq.pastor@gmail.com or 507.227.8537

CHURCH STAFF

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Pastor: Rev. Stephanie Ells

Director of Music and Co-Choir Director: Kristen Eby

[507-227-8537](tel:507-227-8537) | firstpresdbq@gmail.com | www.firstpresdbq.org

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Preacher: Rev. Devon Reynolds

Pastor: Rev. Stephanie Ells

Care Coordinator: Sam Wu #563-279-4545

Director of Music: Dr. Luke Tyler

Handbell Director: Kristen Eby

Co-Choir Director: Steve Peake

Timbrel & Lyre Director: Dr. Luke Tyler

Band Director: Sally Stulken

Organist/Pianist: Dr. Luke Tyler

Church Administrator: Mary Kay Pancratz

Financial Secretary: Becky Jenkins

Custodian: Josh Henry

Worship Tech: Deb Seiffert, Marsha Wilfong, Bruce Hallahan

Liturgist: Rev. Stephanie Ells

Musician: Dr. Luke Tyler

Musical Ensemble: Choir

Greeters: Judy Sheridan & Deb Stant

Ushers: John & Pam Adams

Hospitality Set Up: Tom & Judi Schutt

Hospitality Clean Up:

Snacks: Pam Adams

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