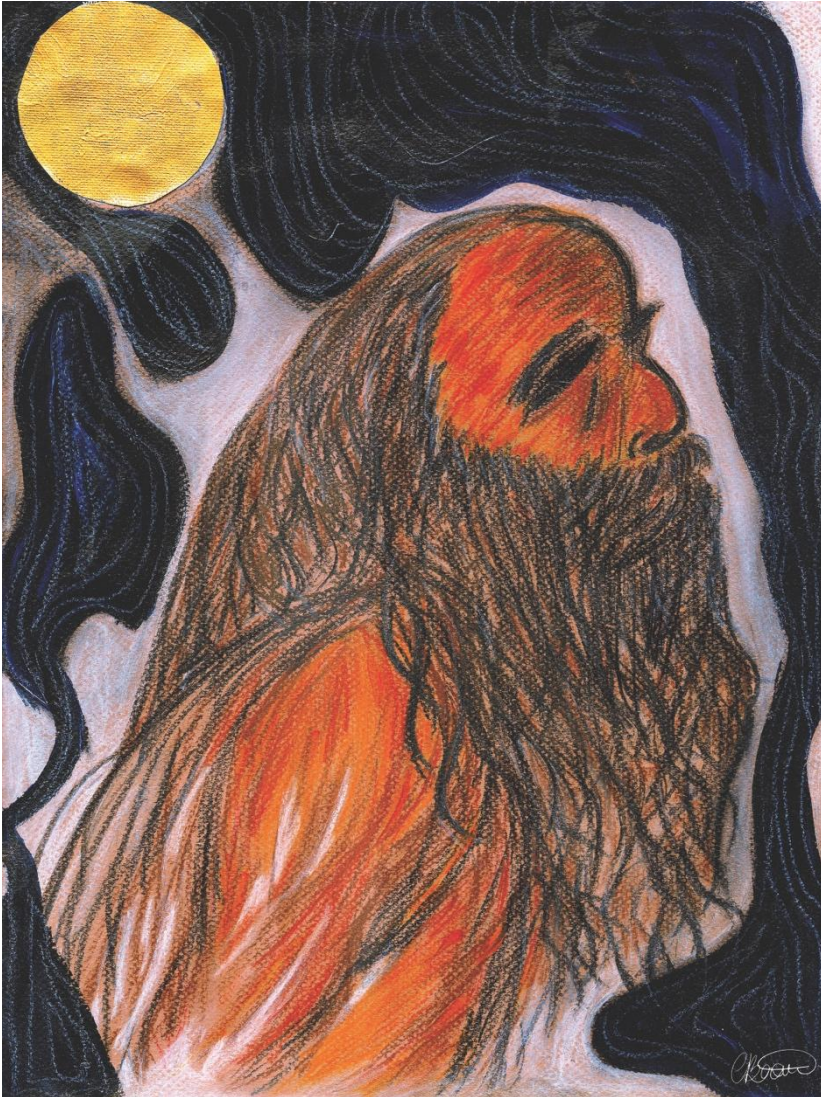




# BREAD OF LIFE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 1, 2026 | Morning Worship 10:00 am



## 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 adults accompanying children using the PrayGround, and the rocking chairs are reserved especially for nursing mothers or adults whose children need a cuddle and some rocking. **Also, childcare is available in our nursery down the hall for children up to age 5.**

**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** and **Large Print Bulletins** 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.

## GATHERING MUSIC

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## FOR PRAYER AND REFLECTION

“How do we begin again?”

What are the questions we ask in the dark?

When have you had to start over?

How do we follow God’s calling?

## PRELUDE

*What Wondrous Love is This*

arr. A. L. Page

## **SONG OF PREPARATION**

*Seeking Heart*

by Kristen Eby

**Bring your questions, come as you are.  
The journey is waiting, and peace is not far.  
God always welcomes the seeking heart.  
God always welcomes the seeking heart.**

## **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

What is it like to begin again?  
**It is like flowers in the spring that push through frozen ground.  
It is like babies learning to walk, one clumsy step at a time.  
It is like Nicodemus in the night, asking Jesus for guidance.  
It is like a Sunday morning, starting our week anew.**  
May we find God in our seeking.  
**May we learn as we go.  
May we be brave enough to begin again.  
Let us worship the God of new beginnings**

## **\*SONG OF PRAISE**

*As We Seek*

*by Dave Bilbrough*

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Merciful and seeking God, you have come to us in Jesus Christ,  
the way, the truth, and the life,  
calling us to follow even when the path is unclear.  
Yet we confess that when faced with questions we cannot answer,  
we choose comfort instead of the costly way of love,  
certainty instead of trusting your promises,  
and familiarity over the transforming work of your Spirit.  
We turn away from truths that unsettle us,  
from calls that confront us,  
from neighbors in whom Christ meets us.  
Forgive us, gracious God.  
By your Spirit, turn us again toward you,  
restore our curiosity to seek with humility, courage, and love.  
With earnest hearts we offer our journeys to you, amen.**

## **SILENT CONFESSION**

## **DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**



**\*SUNG RESPONSE** *I'm Forever Grateful*

I'm forever grateful to you,  
I'm forever grateful for the cross.  
I'm forever grateful to you,  
That you came to seek and save the lost.

**\*\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

**TIME WITH YOUNGER DISCIPLES**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURE READING** Genesis 12:1-4a & John 3:1-17

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON** Seeking: "How do we begin again?"

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE** *This is a Day of New Beginnings*

**\*RESPONSIVE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH+**

**We believe in a God who meets us in the shadows,  
who welcomes our questions,  
who invites us to begin again.**

**We believe that Jesus showed us a new way,  
a deeper faith,  
a more compassionate existence.**

**We believe that all of our beginnings should return us to this foundation,  
and that no matter how many times we lose our way,  
God always welcomes us home. Amen.**

**THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE**

**GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### THE LORDS 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.**

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

#### COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All bread is gluten-free. Please hold the elements until all are served.

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

### THE OFFERING

#### OFFERTORY

*Seek Ye First*

arr. Eby

The Handbell Choir

#### \*DOXOLOGY #606

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

#### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

#### \*SENDING HYMN #686

*God of Our Life*

#### \*BENEDICTION

#### \*POSTLUDE

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

arr. Wagner

\* Please rise in body or spirit.

\*\*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.

+ by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

## CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER** will be celebrated today during worship. This sacrament is a gift of God, for the people of God; we welcome you to **fully participate**. If

you are worshipping online, please utilize food and drink that you have available; trusting the power of the Holy Spirit to be present in our community far and wide!

**LENTEN DEVOTIONAL OPPORTUNITIES:** To support your Lenten practice, we are offering several devotional resources at the Information Table. You may choose the one that best fits your rhythm. (1) **Weekly Devotional Booklet** that includes Scripture commentary, poetry and visual art, written reflections, and reflection prompts. (2) **Daily Devotional Cards:** A collection of 52 daily cards offering a simple question for reflection and short prayer. **Additionally**, check out the **weekly bookmarks** in the bulletin featuring poetic prayers for connecting with God throughout the week. *Take it home for yourself or even give it as a gift* to someone who may need the reminder God is with them in their seeking, too.

**ARTWORK NOTES:** Today's bulletin cover art is "**Renacimiento**" by Carmelle Beaugelin & based on John 3:1-17. Inspired by the artist's Pentecostal upbringing in a Miami church named Renacimiento ("rebirth"), this work reflects the call to continual spiritual transformation. Drawing on Jesus' nighttime conversation with Nicodemus, it explores themes of vulnerability, doubt, and the challenge of being born again. Nicodemus is depicted exposed and questioning, surrounded by swirling water and Spirit, symbolizing the movement of renewal. The piece invites viewers to consider the promise of new beginnings through the Spirit's transformative power.

**ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION OPPORTUNITY: Now through March 22, Rev. Dan Emmert**, will lead the Lenten series "**24 Hours That Changed the World**"; featuring a book and video by Pastor Adam Hamilton. Hamilton will take us to the Holy Land to visit traditional sites and guide us through the last days of Jesus' life. Discussion will follow the video. The plan is to have books available at the first session. **All are welcome!**

**BIBLE STUDY ON PAUL'S LETTER TO THE PHILIPPIANS** starts THURSDAY, March 5; 11:00 in the Conference Room. Led by Marsha Wilfong

**THANK YOU FROM YOUR PASTORS:** With full and grateful hearts, we thank you for the beautiful Installation service and joyful celebration that followed. Every detail – from worship to the food & fellowship – reflected the love, courage, and faith that have shaped Bread of Life. The gifted stoles were a cherished and meaningful sign of our shared identity. Thank you for your trust, prayers, your encouragement, and your partnership in this chapter of ministry. We are honored to serve alongside you and excited for what God will do among us.

**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING:** *Thank you for your contributions to tackle hunger in our community! We collected 125 items and \$522.*

**WELCOME TO THE TEAM, SAM!** The Session and Personnel Team are delighted to welcome Sam Fenstermacher as our **Interim Communications Assistant**, beginning **March 9, 2026**. In this role, Sam will help Bread of Life tell its story, strengthen communications, support the office, and assist with our church management system, Realm. He will often be your first point of contact in the church office. After several years of retirement and nonprofit volunteer work in Dubuque, Sam brings experience in business, finance, and computer information systems – and a love of learning and fresh challenges. *Please join us in welcoming Sam!*

**PASTOR KAITY WILL BE ON GONE** March 9-16, 2026. As ever, the Church Office is open M-TH 9:00am-2:00pm for your assistance; and in case of emergency pastoral needs, please contact Rev. Stephanie Ells at [fpcdbq.pastor@gmail.com](mailto:fpcdbq.pastor@gmail.com) or (507)-227-8537. Thank you!

**LENTEN WONDER WALL:** During the Seeking sermon series, you are invited to share a wondering inspired by worship. After the service, write a question or reflection on a card and pin it to the Wonder Wall in the sanctuary. There are no wrong wonderings – only an invitation to seek together.

## SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

- For those folks navigating ongoing health concerns: **Joyce Bausman, Jolene Kilcoyne, Angie Lockhart, Lois and Doug Pearce, HannaRose Otting, Betty and Leon Thompson, Les Sonsken, and Arlys Williams.**
- For **Gene Myers**, Jolene Kilcoyne's dad, who is in the final stages of his life; and for Jolene and family as they walk alongside him.
- For all those on the **Deacons Care List.**
- For **Sam Phipps** as he recovers from surgery.
- For Sara Blair's friend, **Jeremy**. He was working for the DNR and a tree landed on him which caused multiple vertebrae fractures.

**HAVE A PRAYER CONCERN OR JOY TO SHARE?** *Folks on the **Bread of Life Prayer Chain** would be honored to pray for you. Simply email Pastor Stephanie at [fpcdbq.pastor@gmail.com](mailto:fpcdbq.pastor@gmail.com), and she will distribute your request. You may also join the Bread of Life Prayer Chain this way! **For Pastoral Care** please call **(563) 279-4545** or the church office.*

\*All activities will take place at Bread of Life's Hilltop Campus, unless otherwise noted. \*

## CHURCH CALENDAR

### Sunday, March 1

9:00am – Christian Formation, ClassRms

9:30am – Choir Warm-Up, S

10:00am – **Sunday Worship**

### Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

11:00am – Coffee & Fellowship, NTX

11:30am – Moms on Fire, CR

11:30am – Youth Group, FH, K, YR

### Monday, March 2

4:30pm – Friends Yoga, C

5:00pm – Worship Team, BR

6:00pm – Pack 20, HS

### Tuesday, March 3

9:00am – Tai Chi, FH

5:00pm – Ping Pong Tuesdays, HS

### Wednesday, March 4

9:15am – Staff Mtg, WR

5:30am – Handbell Choir Rehearsal, S

7:00pm – Keyway Lodge AA Group, HS

### Thursday, March 5

10:00am – Personnel Team, BR

11:00am – Adult Bible Study, CR

6:00pm – Property Mtg., BR

### Saturday, March 7

8:00am – Men's Breakfast at Papa Ozz

### Sunday, March 8

9:00am – Christian Formation, ClassRms

9:30am – Choir Warm-Up, S

10:00am – **Sunday Worship**

11:00am – Coffee & Fellowship, NTX

11:30am – Moms on Fire, CR

11:30am – Youth Group, FH, K, YR

## CHURCH MINISTRY LEADERSHIP

### TODAY'S SERVICE

**Preacher:** Rev. Stephanie Ells

**Liturgists:** Rev. Kaity Kemp

**Musicians:** Kristen Eby

**Music Ensemble:** Bell Choir

**Greeters:** Dan & Marilyn Emmert

**Ushers:** Alex Jack & Randy Roos

**Hospitality Set Up:** Pat Judge

**Hospitality Clean Up:** Alex Jack

### CHURCH STAFF

**Lead Pastor:** Rev. Stephanie Ells

**Associate Pastor:** Rev. Kaity Kemp

**Business Manager:** Jeffrey T. Gladwin

**Director of Music:** Kristen Eby

**Care Coordinator:** Sam Wu **#563-279-4545**

**Band Director:** Sally Stulken



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