

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Schaller, Iowa
September 8, 2024

10:00 A. M.

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Michael Sydnor

PRELUDE

Janice Ploeger, Organist

CANDLELIGHTING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Elder: Be strong; do not fear! God is with us.

People: The Lord will come to save us.¹

Elder: Let us worship God!

***HYMN** "O for a Thousand Tongues" #76

INVOCATION (Please be seated) Pastor

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON) Elder

Holy God, although we honor you with our words and worship, our hearts are often far from you. We are quick to judge, quick to exclude, quick to put others down instead of building them up. Forgive us, God. Help us amend our ways. Help us embrace the inclusive love you graciously offer us and expect us to offer others. ² (Time of silent prayer) Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Pastor

***GLORIA PATRI** #623

SCRIPTURE LESSON

James 2:1-17`

Elder

My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism. Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong? If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right. But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. For he who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker. Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment. What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

Leader: The Word of the Lord:

People: Thanks be to God.

¹Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p. 374).
Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

² © Presbyterian Outlook, 2024 Liturgy written by Teri McDowell
Ott and provided for
free distribution.

Gospel Lesson:

Mark 7:24-37

Pastor

Jesus left that place and went to the vicinity of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know it; yet he could not keep his presence secret. In fact, as soon as she heard about him, a woman whose little daughter was possessed by an impure spirit came and fell at his feet. The woman was a Greek, born in Syrian Phoenicia. She begged Jesus to drive the demon out of her daughter. "First let the children eat all they want," he told her, "for it is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs." "Lord," she replied, "even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he told her, "For such a reply, you may go; the demon has left your daughter." She went home and found her child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. Then Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of the Decapolis. There some people brought to him a man who was deaf and could hardly talk, and they begged Jesus to place his hand on him. After he took him aside, away from the crowd, Jesus put his fingers into the man's ears. Then he spit and touched the man's tongue. He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, "Ephphatha!" (which means "Be opened!"). At this, the man's ears were opened, his tongue was loosened and he began to speak plainly. Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone. But the more he did so, the more they kept talking about it. People were overwhelmed with amazement. "He has done everything well," they said. "He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CHILDRENS TIME

HYMN "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" #435

SERMON "Be Opened!"

***APOSTLE'S CREED**

MINUTE FOR MISSION

NEW JOYS & CONCERNS:

The Dennis Pfrimmer Family
Denise King
(Upper GI & Throat Swallowing Test
in Iowa City on Wednesday and safe travels)

CONTINUING JOYS AND CONCERNS:

Our Pastor
Our Church
Our School
Iowa Flooding, Tornadoes, Hurricanes
Dorothy Ploeger
(hip surgery on Sept. 12th)
Carol Wendel
George & Darlene Franzkowiak
(Going to Assisted Living)
Terri Rininger
Denise King (health issues)
Veronica Moyle
Rod Plagman
(Chemo Treatments)
Velma Woodke
Joel Van Buskirk
Chanda Snow
Richard Morgan
Mark Diersen
Dexter Meseck
Steve Schaefer
Ken Fells Jr.

PRAYER FOR CHURCHES

September 8, 2024

Lakeside, Storm Lake & Rev. Jennifer Olson

September 15, 2024

First, South Sioux City & Rev. Beth Hamilton

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Prayers of Intercession
The Lord's Prayer
Congregational Response #421 (Verse 1)

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY #625

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN "Abide with Me" #419

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION SONG "Freely, Freely" (V. 1) #447

*EXTINGUISHING OF CANDLES

*POSTLUDE

(*Those who are able please stand.)

2024 PER CAPITA

2024 Per Capita amount is \$53.95. It is a very important way we can contribute to the operation and mission of the Presbyterian Church. Session encourages all members to contribute. Please mark your check "Per Capita".

MAILING ADDRESS:

Dorothy Ploeger
1104 Valley View Dr. Apt. A
Ida Grove, IA 51445

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEPTEMBER

08	Sunday	10:00 am	In-Person Worship in Sanctuary
11	Wednesday	6:00 pm	Ladies Fellowship (See else where for more info)
15	Sunday	10:00 am 11:00 am	In-Person Worship in Sanctuary Coffee Fellowship
16	Monday	7:00 pm	Session Meeting

SESSION NEWS

Session members are invited to attend a Boundary Training Session in the sanctuary on Sunday, September 8th at 9:00 am. This training session fulfills the mandate of the Book of Order and helps us to protect children, youth, and vulnerable adults better.

The Food Pantry in Early is requesting two or three volunteers to help unload the truck on Wednesday, September 11th. If you are interested, you can call Rev. Michael Sydnor at 275-4691.

ANNIVERSARY WISHES:

Gerrit & Irene VanDenTop (Sept. 5th)



Ladies Fellowship will begin again on Wednesday, September 11th, at 6:00 in the fellowship hall of the First Presbyterian Church. Nothing to prepare, just come and join in our fellowship time.



COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Please join us for coffee fellowship on Sunday, September 15th in honor of Betty Franken's 90th

Birthday.

BIRTHDAY WISHES:

Samantha McDonough (Sept. 8th)
Stephen Sydnor (Sept. 9th)
Betty Franken (Sept. 12th) 90th
Sarah Jacobson (Sept. 13th)
Waylen Jacobson (Sept. 13th)
Becca Kestel Pestano (Sept. 13th)
Janice Rydberg (Sept. 13th)
Cathy McDonough (Sept. 22nd)
Parker Currie (Sept. 23rd)
Jeff King (Sept. 24th)
Brenna Franken (Sept. 30th)

Grandparents are great!

“What a bargain grandchildren are,” said comedy writer Gene Perret. “I give them my loose change, and they give me a million dollars’ worth of pleasure.”

When it comes to family heritage, grandparents are worth their weight in gold. They serve as storehouses of history and wisdom, helping children see how they fit into a family’s legacy. Christian grandparents also provide a faith heritage that passes from generation to generation.

The apostle Paul acknowledged this important role of family elders when he wrote to young Timothy: “I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you” (2 Timothy 1:5, NRSV).

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