



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Helen Hutchison, Pastor
David Dutcher, liturgist

April 28, 2024

David Pérez, organist

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Friendship Pads: Please help us maintain good communication with all our members and guests by completing the Friendship Register as it is passed from the end of each pew. Please include your email address if you wish. We invite you to note the names of those sitting near you and greet them before leaving today.

Cards of Encouragement: Blue cards found in the pew rack ~ please put in offering plate.

Introit

How Great Thou Art
HOW GREAT THOU ART

Chancel Choir
Angela Pérez, director
David Pérez, organ

Call to Worship

One: Shepherding God, be with us to guide us in this time of worship.

All: Here we are gathered to celebrate Easter joy and to refresh our spirits.

One: We have come as many people with diverse values, gifts and experiences.

All: We have come to be united as one people forged by faith in our risen Lord.

One: As we care for each other and cherish our differences,

All: We celebrate new life in our risen Lord and draw even closer together in this time of worship.

* Hymn of Praise

To God Be the Glory
TO GOD BE THE GLORY

Glory to God #634

* Call To Confession

David Dutcher, liturgist

One: Beloved, we are God's children because of the love God has for us, yet we sometimes fail to respond to God's outpouring of love. Let us confess our sins together.

* Prayer of Confession (unison)

David Dutcher, liturgist

O Gracious God, you desire that all your children live abundant lives. Our problem is that we often have a limited view of what it means to be your children. We see our privileges clearly, but our responsibilities only dimly. At times, we even go to great effort to keep ourselves ignorant of the many needs of people around us. Forgive us, Lord. Teach us not to trust in our static righteousness but to seek to live quiet lives of love. May we find no service to you or your children beneath our dignity.

* Silent Prayers of Confession

* Pouring the Water

* Declaration of Forgiveness

David Dutcher, liturgist

One: We know love by this, that Jesus laid down his life for us. Friends, hear the good news and believe: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Alleluia! Amen.

* Passing the Peace

David Dutcher, liturgist

One: Knowing the grace and mercy of the Lord, we share it with one another.
The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

(Please greet one another and exchange signs of peace and reconciliation.)

* Hymn

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.
Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.*

Children's Moment

Paul Laird

Prayer of Illumination

David Dutcher, liturgist

Interrupt us, O God, with your presence. Intrude upon our preoccupation, our restlessness, our discontent, and our boredom that we might center our hearts and minds on your Word as it is read and proclaimed. Amen.

Psalter Reading

Psalms 22:25-31

David Dutcher, liturgist

Anthem

Lord of the Small

DAN FORREST, arr.

Jay Van Blaricum, soloist

David Pérez, piano

Epistle Reading

I John 3:1-7, 16-24

Sermon

"Inside the Box"

Rev. Dr. Helen Hutchison

Hymn

O God in Whom All Life Begins

NOEL

Glory to God #308

Prayer of the People and the Lord's Prayer

(as translated by the Maori people)

**Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:**

**The hallowing of your name echo through the universe;
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world;
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings;
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.**

**With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trial too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen.**

Call To Offering

Offering

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CRAIG CURRY, arr

Chancel Choir

Angela Pérez, director

David Pérez, piano

* Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Glory to God #606

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above ye heav'nly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost*

* Prayer of Dedication

* **Affirmation of Faith**

Easter turns doubts upside down, sets loose new possibilities, reveals a God stronger than death, a love mightier than despair.

Easter brings us the risen Christ, who knows our wounds, forgives our denials, sends us out to love and serve; who is not bound by a period in history but finds us wherever we journey; who receives our questions, whispers a word of peace and causes our hearts to be warmed.

Easter releases the Holy Spirit, setting us free from sins that wound, resentments that smolder, anger that burns; empowering us to be witnesses to truth and obedient to a higher authority; causing us to walk with joy in our steps, hope in our hearts and a song on our lips.

* **Hymn**

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian (vs.1,2,4)
I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

Glory to God #729

* **Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

David Pérez, organist

* Stand as you are able – in spirit or in body

Welcome!

We encourage everyone to come as you are, be who you are, and be in community with us! Whether you are joining us virtually or in-person; as a long-time member or a first-time guest, we are happy to have you with us anytime! If you are new to First Presbyterian Church, please let us know you are here by signing the **Friendship Pad**. If you are worshipping with us online either live or recorded please **email us at firstpreslawrence@gmail.com** letting us know you joined us in worship. We look forward to getting to know you.

Prayer List

Cares, Concerns and Celebrations

- **Jean Givens** is home following hospitalization for life threatening high fever and infection. She is receiving daily treatment and care. Her daughter is with her now.
- **Joann Wiley** died on April 19 at Monterey Village. Services will be held in Lakin, KS at a later date.
- **Loren Dolezal** is now at Select Specialty Hospital KC. He will be there for about three weeks and then plans are to move to a rehabilitation hospital. Prayers for strength and patience.
- **Tom Groene** is hospitalized at LMH.
- **Beckie Lewis** is at home healing broken ribs.
- **Steve Rauch, father of Holly Oertel**, suffered a heart attack while the family was in Tulsa, OK. He had surgery and is recovering in Tulsa.
- **Barbara Knops**, daughter of DeeDee and Guy Dresser, is home and continuing her recovery. Many thanks for your prayers.
- **We celebrate with Djifa Gavi and Joel** that their husband and father, **Kassenge Soklou** has been cleared to travel to the United States. Update:

- Kassenge is scheduled to arrive in mid-May! Prayers for safe travel.
- **Tonja and Adam Rounds** ask for our prayers as Tonja recovers from brain surgery. The MRI showed that they removed all the tumor, and we are grateful for that good news!
- **Allison Clunn-McPlin and family**, friends of Dave and Lois Dutcher. Allison was diagnosed with an aggressive form of ALS.
- **George Crump** is asking for prayers in support of his health and well-being.
- **Kristi McAlister**, FPC member and daughter of Pat McAlister, who is facing some serious health challenges.

Sunday Helpers

Ushers: Jan Poulson
Greeters: Cherie and Pearl Hoover & Claire Lindemyer
Securing the Offering: b-f mcdonald
Friendship Pad Collector: Petra Peterson
Mugger: Margie Dyck
Flowers: Are provided by the Property Committee

Care

Deacon Family Groups - 2024

A-Ca	Charles Tuttle	N-Q	Peggy Southard
Ce-Do	Janet Adams	Mc-Mz	Becky May
Dr-F	Diana Schoneweis	R-Si	Linda Longino
G-Ha	Larry Schlosser	Sl-T	Russ Heikes
He-Ko	Mary Warren	U-Z	Allen Macfarlane
Kr-Ma	Lois Dutcher		

Birthdays in the Congregation

April 29	May 4
Allen Macfarlane	John Bell
Catherine Norwood	
Emma Norwood	
Megan Derby	

Calendar

April 28		May 1	
9:00 am	Sunday Nursery Open	9:00 am	First 5 Years Classes
9:15 am	Children and Youth Sunday School	7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop 59 Meeting
9:15 am	Judeo-Christian Themes in Musical Theater	7:00 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
10:30 am	Worship	May 2	
11:30 am	Presby Pickers Rehearsal	9:00 am	First 5 Years Classes
11:30 am	Youth Lunch	1:00 pm	Smal World Classes
12:45 pm	Youth to KU Baseball Game	May 3	
April 29		9:00 am	First 5 Years Classes
9:00 am	First 5 Years Classes	10:00 am	Men's Group
1:15 pm	Staff Meeting	5:30 pm	First 5 Years Art Show and Book Fair
2:00 pm	Lemon Tree Class	May 4	
6:00 pm	Pack 3059 Den Schwaller	3:00 pm	Liora McCoy Recital
6:00 pm	Westminster Ringers Rehearsal	May 5	
April 30		9:00 am	Sunday Nursery Open
9:00 am	First 5 Years Classes	9:15 am	Children and Youth Sunday School
1:00 pm	Small World Classes	9:15 am	Judeo-Christian Themes in Musical Theater
		10:30 am	Worship

Children and Youth

- **We are excited to welcome all children** to our Sunday School classes and all events. On Sunday mornings all the children will meet first in the Chapel for music and stories. Then they move to their classrooms for lessons and more. Check at the Welcome Center or come to the Chapel for more information. All children are welcome to join anytime!
- **Youth going to KU baseball game – today!** The Youth of FPC are going to watch a KU baseball game today and there might still be tickets available. Lunch is right after worship and then on to the stadium to see KU take on Texas Tech. Check in with Angela Pérez if you are interested in securing a ticket.

Adult Sunday School Classes

- **Paul Laird is leading a Sunday School class entitled "Judeo-Christian Themes in Musical Theater".** Meeting through May 5 in Fellowship Hall, we will consider the following shows: *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Joseph*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Godspell*, and *Children of Eden*. Please come and see how Broadway creators have dealt with some of the important stories of our faith.
 - **If you are interested in viewing Paul's class, check out the "Playlist" tab on our YouTube page.** Several of the music videos must be accessed through the links in the description due to copyright issues.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O_xqBsEAavQ&list=PL5MCrf1WTPSktlvFZJkjhQ3IYEb-Kb6n0

Adult Offerings during the week

- **Pastor Helen's Class meets on Mondays at 2:00 pm in the Fireside Room**
She is using the book, "Lemon Tree" by Sandy Tolan. This story provides a good foundation of the centuries long conflict between the Israelis and Palestinians and shows how understanding can bring hope and transformation in the Middle East. This week read the introduction and Chapters 1 and 2 for class.
- **The Men's Group** meets on Friday morning at 10:00 am in the Fireside Room for a time of fellowship (pun intended). Come join the discussion which can cover almost anything! Contact Charles Tuttle for more information at cftuttle@gmail.com.

Synod School of Lakes and Prairies – July 21-26 at Buena Vista University, Storm Lake, IA. 78 classes to choose from and there is something for everyone – all ages. Check out this website for lots of information! <https://www.lakesandprairies.org/engaging-leaders/synod-school>. If you need more information from someone who has attended, contact Kathryn Roblee at kathrynroblee@gmail.com