

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### 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.

### OFFERING

RESPONSE #710 "We Lift Our Voices"

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

All that we are, all that we will become, and all that we have is from you.  
As we present these gifts of money, we do so responding to your voice—  
a voice that calls us beloved, and precious, and honored. We give you  
our very lives, and our complete love, as we promise to be the people  
you created us to be. Amen.

HYMN #697 "Take My Life"

### VISION STATEMENT

The vision of First Presbyterian Church is to glorify God by:  
GATHERING as children of God;  
GROWING together in faith, hope, and love; and  
GOING out to make Christ known.

### BENEDICTION

### CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

God be with you till we meet again, God be in you, go in peace.  
Loving counsels guide, uphold you, with a shepherd's care enfold you.  
God be with you till we meet again, God be in you, go in peace.

### POSTLUDE

---

### WORSHIP LEADERS

Choir of the Kirk, Dennis Lee, director; Camille Lee, piano  
Adriana Attleson, reader  
Beth Ehlers, worship leader and preacher

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

100 South Pierce Avenue  
Mason City, Iowa (641) 424-4273

January 9, 2022  
3rd Sunday of Christmas  
10:30 am Worship

**With the love of Jesus Christ, First Presbyterian welcomes you just as you are—  
A CHILD OF GOD.**

### PRELUDE

### CENTERING WORDS

The Spirit dances in the water, waiting in baptism to join us in the fire of God's love.  
Come to the waters. Come to the Spirit. Come to the journey of a lifetime—  
a journey through death to life everlasting.

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Gather from East and West, from North and South.  
God is calling us; listen, for God is naming you.  
**The voice of God thunders through our midst.**  
**The voice of God is powerful and full of majesty.**  
Bow in awe before the one who created you.  
God knows you completely, yet accepts you.  
**The voice of God commands our attention.**  
**The voice of God is like fire and tornado.**  
God reaches out to strengthen, not condemn us.  
God brings us through terror to a place of peace.  
**Ascribe to God glory and strength.**  
**Worship God in awe, wonder, and joy!**

HYMN #401 "Gather Us In"

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious and loving God, we are often fearful—  
Fearful of what will happen to us;  
Fearful for the state of the world;  
Fearful of making you angry with us.**  
**Help us in our weakness—to live unafraid; to live the way of Jesus,  
even when it is unpopular; to speak up for those silenced by society;  
to demand justice for those oppressed by hatred and prejudice;  
to open ourselves fully to your call, and to your love for us;  
to be vulnerable in love.**

**Help us to know, deep in our souls, that even when we pass through treacherous waters and consuming fire you will be with us to sustain and to strengthen us. Help us know that by living your ways, we are named and claimed as your beloved ones. Help us bring this message of radical, transforming love and liberation to a world in need. In your glorious name we pray. Amen.**

#### ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

The voice of God rings out through the ages, telling us not to fear. Beloved, we have been redeemed by this great and loving God. We have been called by name and are God's forever. Hear the voice of God singing through your soul: "You are precious and honored in my sight, and I love you." There is no greater promise or assurance than this.  
**Thanks be to God!**

RESPONSE OF PRAISE #188 "Jesus Loves Me" (verse 1)

#### SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The Peace of Christ be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

#### MOMENT WITH CHILDREN

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Naming and claiming God, may we be open to your voice speaking peace and love to our souls; may we be touched by your Spirit, as these words transform us. **Amen.**

#### OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 43:1-7

#### PSALM 29 (Responsively)

Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings,  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.  
**Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name;  
worship the Lord in holy splendor.**  
The voice of the Lord is over the waters;  
the God of glory thunders,  
the Lord, over mighty waters.  
**The voice of the Lord is powerful;  
the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.**  
The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars;  
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.  
**He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,  
and Sirion like a young wild ox.**

The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.  
**The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;  
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

The voice of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl,  
and strips the forest bare;  
and in his temple all say, "Glory!"

**The Lord sits enthroned over the flood;  
the Lord sits enthroned as king forever.**

May the Lord give strength to his people!  
May the Lord bless his people with peace!

#### NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

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

SERMON "Beloved Child of God"

#### REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISM

#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

#### RENUNCIATIONS AND AFFIRMATIONS

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended to heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting.**

—based on Apostles' Creed

HYMN #177 "You Are Mine"