

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Song #710 “We Lift Our Voices”

We lift our voices, We lift our hands;
We lift our lives up to you; we are an offering.
Lord, use our voices; Lord, use our hands;
Lord, use our lives; they are yours; we are an offering.
All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be,
We give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voices; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you;
We are an offering; we are an offering.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication (unison)

Holy God, these offerings are only a portion of all that you have given us. We gratefully present these gifts and entrust them to your work in this world. May our gifts share the Good News of the gospel to those who are in need. May these gifts help unburden those with the heaviest of loads. Amen.

Song #700 *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*

Charge and Benediction

Closing Song *God Be with You Till We Meet Again*

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

Bob Elsbury, reader
Kim Reisinger accompanist/piano/organ/choir director
Beth Ehlers, worship leader and preacher



100 South Pierce Avenue
Mason City, Iowa (641) 424-4273
firstpresbymc@gmail.com

September 18, 2022
15th Sunday after Pentecost
10:30 am Worship

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

Centering Words

You are far more talented than you give yourself credit for. Be faithful in what you have been given, and God will bless you with more. But be unfaithful in what you have been given, and God will take it away. May we, who are asked to give an accounting of our talents, be found faithful.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Moment for Stewardship

Musical Meditation

Call to Worship *(please stand in body or in spirit)*

Jesus reminds us today that, “You cannot serve God and wealth.”

Open us to your truth, Lord. Open our hearts to honesty.
Let us enter worship humbly, ready to realign our faith according to God's Word.

*Song #634 *To God Be the Glory*

*Prayer of Confession (unison)

Savior God, we are indebted to you and your generosity. But we fail to forgive our debtors. We confiscate and consume far more than our fair share. We neglect the poor and trap people in poverty, claiming that debt forgiveness is unfair. God, liberate us from our spiritual and moral bondage. Grant us a season of jubilee. Reorder our communities so that all may contribute, and all may thrive. Amen.

Words of Assurance

God lightens the load of those overly burdened, supports and strengthens those who have been knocked down. Claim the forgiveness God so graciously offers. Know the new life Christ has given us. **Thanks be to God!**

Response of Praise #582 *Glory to God Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

Glory to God whose goodness shines on me
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen
World without end, without end. Amen
World without end, without end. Amen
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

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

Moment with Children

Prayer of Illumination (unison)

Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable to you,
O Lord, our rock and our redeemer. As we approach your Word, may we be ready
to receive the message you intend for us today. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

1 Timothy 2:1-7 p. 199 NT

Psalter Psalm 79:1-9 (read responsively)

O God, the nations have come into your inheritance;
they have defiled your holy temple;
they have laid Jerusalem in ruins.

**They have given the bodies of your servants
to the birds of the air for food,
the flesh of your faithful to the wild animals of the earth.**

They have poured out their blood like water
all around Jerusalem,
and there was no one to bury them.

**We have become a taunt to our neighbors,
mocked and derided by those around us.**

How long, O LORD? Will you be angry forever?
Will your jealous wrath burn like fire?

**Pour out your anger on the nations
that do not know you
and on the kingdoms
that do not call on your name.**

For they have devoured Jacob
and laid waste his habitation.

**Do not remember against us the iniquities of our ancestors;
let your compassion come speedily to meet us,
for we are brought very low.**

Help us, O God of our salvation,
for the glory of your name;
deliver us and forgive our sins,
for your name's sake.

Special Music

All Things Bright and Beautiful

John Rutter

All things bright and beautiful, All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, The Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens, Each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colors, He made their tiny wings. *(refrain)*

The purple-headed mountain, The river running by,
The sunset and the morning, That brightens up the sky; *(refrain)*

The cold wind in the winter, The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden, He made them every one; *(refrain)*

He gave us eyes to see them, And lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty, Who has made all things well. *(refrain)*

Luke 16:1-13 p. 74 NT

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Song *Lord, Be Glorified (see insert) #2150 STF*

Prayers of the People

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.**