

First Presbyterian Church
Lake Park, Iowa
www.fpclakepark.org
10:30am

November 19, 2017

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Musical Prelude

Announcements

Passing of the peace

Call to Worship – (Based on Psalm 123)

L/ Let us lift our eyes to the Lord who sits on the throne in heaven.

C/ Let us lift our eyes like a servant to his master or a maid to her mistress. Let us be humble before God.

L/ Have mercy on us O Lord and show us your favor

C/ Have mercy on us O Lord and show us your favor.

Hymn of Praise: #11 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Prayer of Confession

All/ We confess Lord that we do not think with the wisdom of your Kingdom but of the world. We count profit, power, easy living, and greed as gain. We do not see as you do, who loves all of us and provides for all of us as to our need, not our wants. Teach us your wisdom which puts God first and helps those around us. Teach us to think of following you in community instead of the whims of our own desires. Teach us to build your Kingdom here!

L/ Hear these words of scripture:” Before faith, we were prisoners by the law until faith was revealed. The law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we then might be justified by faith.” (Galatians 3: 23-24) I declare by the Name of Jesus that God has forgiven us and we are saved in Jesus’ blood and remade by the Spirit!

Gloria Patri

#812

Children’s Chat

Special Music

Reading of Scripture

Prayer of Illumination

Old Testament Lesson: Ecclesiastes 7: 1-12 **pages 1041-42*

Canticle: # 403 Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

New Testament Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11 **pages 1840-41*

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith (Confession of 1967 —PCUSA Book of Confessions, 9.44, 9.46)

All/ God has created all peoples of the earth to be one universal family in God’s household. In God’s reconciling love, the barriers between us are broken down and with them every type of discrimination based on racial, ethnic, political, or economic difference. The church is called to bring all people to receive and uphold each other as persons no matter their relationship to us. Inequity in power or economic poverty is intolerable to the stewardship of God’s good creation. Because Jesus identified with the oppressed, the marginalized, and the poor, the church must stand with Him and take up their cause. Whether poverty and injustice are the result of unjust social structures, exploitation and greed, lack of resources shared in the world, absence of educational and technological opportunities, or expansion and unwarranted outstripping of natural resources and capacity, the church cannot condone it. We are each called to use our abilities, gifts, possessions, and the fruits of our technology and living standards, given by God, to the benefit of the human family and the advancement of the common welfare. A church which is indifferent to economic responsibility and poverty, which is only open to one social class or ethnic makeup, or expects gratitude in exchange for its benevolence and help is a mockery to God’s reconciliation in Christ and offers no acceptable worship to God!

Offertory;

Doxology

#815

Joys and Concerns

Lord's Prayer (using Debts)

Prayer of Thanksgiving (from our Reformed Tradition)

L/ We bless thee for this day which thou hast given us to recall the wonders of thine grace and compassion. Enable us to count it honorable and devote it to holy work. May it be a day of praise to delight our souls. May it add strength to our hatred of evil and help us to walk more by faith than sight.

C/ Deliver us from the pollution and punishment of sin through Jesus' righteousness. May bread be cast and seeds sown in the hearing and preaching of Thy Word. May we live as it directs us and spread peace, compassion, and equity to all the world. Make us rejoice when thou comest to judge all the peoples in the loving righteousness and justice of thy Kingdom. (Alexander Whyte, 1901, Scottish preacher)

Sending Hymn: # 502 In My Heart there Rings a Melody

Ministry Leaders

Deacons: Terry Wiese & Roger Velishek

Greeters: Jean Delaney & Jeanne Gross

Worship Music: Marian Tuinstra

Pastor: Rev. Tim Harmon

All members are ministers of Jesus Christ

Attendance 11/12/17: 33

Offering 11/12/17: \$1,007.50

Reminder-- there are 70 unpaid per capita- \$33 for 2017

Commercial (Manse) Loan Balance: \$12,704.37

Furnace Loan: \$10,368.51

-HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Holly McClain on November 21st.

-THANK YOU to everyone who baked yummy cookies for our Cookie Walk yesterday. Also, thanks to the volunteers and to all who came to enjoy the event. Special thanks to Jeanie Hawn for being the planner and organizer.

-THANK YOU to everyone who donated items and postage money to the Shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child.

-THANK YOU to all who have given above and beyond to celebrate our church's 125 years – in traditional ways all at once or more creative ways like \$12.50 a week.

-Christian Education Team will meet today after morning worship in the Fireside Room.

-Concordia Lutheran Church of Lake Park will host the annual fall pork feed dinner **today** from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Lake Park Community Center. The benefit is going towards the Jones family. Supplemented by the Thrivent Action Team.

-Joint Thanksgiving Service will be **today at 5:00 p.m.** at Harris United Methodist Church. We will be collecting non-perishable food items and monetary donations for Local Food Ministries during this service. We will also accept these donations today at our regular Sunday Worship Service. This is November's Mission Focus.

-DEADLINE for December Newsletter items is this Tuesday, November 21st.

-The church office will be closed this Thursday, November 23rd in celebration of Thanksgiving.

-There will NOT be Bible Study this Friday, November 24th.

-The **“Planning of the Greening”** meeting will be next Sunday, November 26th after morning worship in the basement. Anyone who plans to help with the greening of the church and/or has ideas or thoughts about our holiday decorations is encouraged to attend this meeting. The Greening of the Church will be on Saturday, December 2nd.

-ALL TEAMS NEED TO HAVE THEIR BUDGET REPORTS AND END OF YEAR REPORTS IN TO THE OFFICE BY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1st.
THANK YOU.

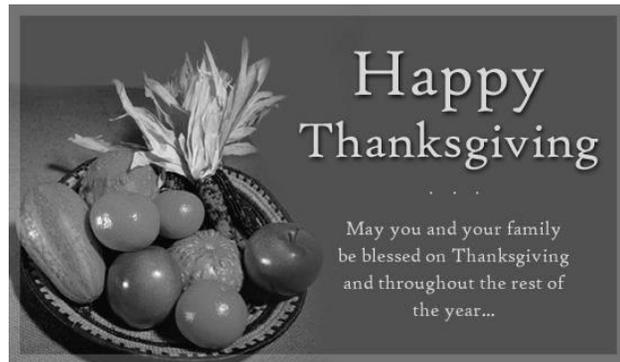
-We are looking for families or groups to light the ADVENT CANDLES for us on Sundays beginning December 3rd. Please call the church if you would like to do this.

-We are looking forward to beautiful poinsettias surrounding our altar again this year. You may bring them in any time after December 10th, and please remember to let the church office know if yours is In Honor of or In Memory of someone special.

-There is a mitten tree at the care center for the residents' Christmas gifts if anyone is interested in adopting a resident or two for the holiday season. Mittens are available until all adopted, and gifts need to be returned to the care center by December 18th. We greatly appreciate everyone's generosity in helping to make the season a little brighter for everyone at Pearl Valley Rehab and Nursing.

-The Osceola Community Express Board is looking for a part-time bus driver. If interested in this position, there is a detailed announcement on the entryway bulletin board.

-It is that time of year again for the Nominating Team to be looking for leaders in our church. The search will be for Team Members, Elders, Deacons, and a Church Treasurer.



HAPPY THANKSGIVING
and Blessings to you all
from the Session and our church staff

GIVE THANKS

- For the husband who complains when his dinner is not on time, because he is home with me, not with someone else.
- For the teenager who is complaining about doing dishes, because that means she is at home and not on the streets.
- For the taxes that I pay, because it means that I am employed and am doing my part in the community.
- For the mess to clean after a party, because it means that I have been surrounded by friends.
- For the clothes that fit a little too snug, because it means I have enough to eat.
- For my shadow that watches me work, because it means I am out in the sunshine.
- For a lawn that needs mowing, windows that need cleaning, and gutters that need fixing, because it means I have a home.
- For all the complaining I hear about the government, because it means that we have freedom of speech.
- For the parking spot that I find at the far end of the parking lot, because it means I am capable of walking and that I have been blessed with transportation.
- For my huge heating bill, because it means I am warm.
- For the lady behind me in church that sings off key because it means that I can hear.
- For the pile of laundry and ironing, because it means that I have clothes to wear.
- For weariness and aching muscles at the end of the day, because it means I have been capable of working hard.
- For the alarm that goes off in the early morning hours, because it means that I am alive.
- And finally, I am thankful for too much Email because it means I have friends who are thinking of me.