

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Schaller, Iowa

10:00 A. M.

July 30, 2023

Rev. Ken Fells

**PRELUDE**

Janice Ploeger, Organist

**CANDLELIGHTING**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Elder

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Elder

E: You have called us to this place, O Lord.

**C: Each one of us is unique, with differing gifts and talents.**

E: Yet each talent represented here is valuable in God's realm.

**C: Lord, help us find ways to use our talents for healing and hope.**

E: Come, let us praise the Lord who has called us here.

**C: Let us open our hearts and spirits to God's word for us.**

**\*HYMN "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" #92**

**INVOCATION (Please be seated) (UNISON) Pastor**

Merciful and most gracious God, you have called us together to share in your presence in a special way. Open our hearts and minds to the fullness of your presence in and around us every day. You pour out your greatness and unending love upon us, not because we deserve it, but because you love us. May our gratitude be equal to your love. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON) Elder**

Dear God, daily we are reminded of what it takes to advance in this world. We work hard. We highlight our strengths. We cover our backs. We care for our own. But you, O God, reveal strength through weakness, you call us to be ambitious only for you, you ask us to love

our enemies and to live by dying. The perplexity is confusing, but your example is faithful and clear. Dear God, forgive our stubborn allegiance to common sense while you beckon us to live uncommon lives of discipleship. As we slavishly follow the scent of success and comfort, redirect us, with cords of lovingkindness, to commit ourselves to following you, our broken healer and savior once again. (Time of silent prayer) Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Pastor

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

#623

**SCRIPTURE LESSONS**

Elder

**Old Testament Lesson: Psalm 105:1-11, 45b**

Give praise to the LORD, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done. Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice. Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always. Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he pronounced, you his servants, the descendants of Abraham, his chosen ones, the children of Jacob. He is the LORD our God; his judgments are in all the earth. He remembers his covenant forever, the promise he made, for a thousand generations, the covenant he made with Abraham, the oath he swore to Isaac. He confirmed it to Jacob as a decree, to Israel as an everlasting covenant: "To you I will give the land of Canaan as the portion you will inherit." that they might keep his precepts and observe his laws. Praise the LORD.

**New Testament Lesson: Romans 8:26-39**

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit

intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God. And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified. What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: “For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.” No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

## **CHILDRENS TIME**

**HYMN**                    “I Would Be Like Jesus”                    **#388**

**SERMON**                    “Watching God Work”

**\*APOSTLES' CREED**

**MINUTES FOR MISSION**

## NEW JOYS & CONCERNS:

Karla Hustedt and her family  
(Cancer)

## CONTINUING JOYS AND CONCERNS:

Our Pastor  
Our Church  
Vacation Bible School  
Doug O'Bannon & Family  
Shari O'Bannon  
Janice Rydberg  
Grace Beckord  
Randy Leask  
Ron McClintic and his family  
Kathleen Sydnor  
Danielle King  
Diane Overmohle  
Dennis Pfrimmer & Family  
George & Darlene Franzkowiak  
Carol Wendel  
Tom McDonough & Family  
Mark Siebrecht & Family  
Mark Diersen  
Dexter Meseck  
Jon Snyder  
Malia Meyer  
Brenda Segebart (Hospice)  
Alice Spooner (Cancer Terminal)

## Prayers for the Churches

July 30, 2023 Westlawn, Sioux City

August 6, 2023 First, Cleghorn

## 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 "God the Omnipotent" #33

\*BENEDICTION

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

\*EXTINGUISHING OF CANDLES

\*POSTLUDE

(\*Those who are able please stand.)

### 2023 PER CAPITA

2023 Per Capita amount is \$48.35. 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".

## FOOD PANTRY:

REMINDER: WHEN BRINGING FOOD ITEMS FOR THE FOOD PANTRY, PLEASE CHECK THE EXPIRATION DATES.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### July 2023

30 Sunday (Rev. Ken Fells will be filling the pulpit)  
10:00 am In-Person Worship in Sanctuary  
(Masks are optional)  
11:00 am Coffee Fellowship  
(Janice Ploeger & Betty Franken)

31 Monday

8:30 am VBS Registration  
9:00-11:30 am VBS

### August 2023

01 Tuesday

9:00 – 11:30 am VBS

02 Wednesday

9:00-11:30 am VBS

03 Thursday

9:00-11:30 am VBS

7:00 pm Online Bible Devotional

04 Friday

9:00-11:30 am VBS

5:30 pm VBS Program (Parents and children are welcome  
to join us after the program for a light meal)

06 Sunday (Communion)

10:00 am In-Person Worship in Sanctuary  
(Masks are optional)



## PRESBYTERIAN ECUMENICAL BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School will be July 31<sup>st</sup> through August 4<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. (8:30 a.m. on July 31<sup>st</sup> for registration.) ANY students going into Kindergarten through students who have completed 5<sup>th</sup> Grade are

WELCOME and ENCOURAGED to come!

This year's theme is: "Hero Hotline Called" Together to Serve God!

VBS Registration, Health, and Covenant forms can be found in the brown information box by the Presbyterian Church's Front Door.

Please fill out the forms and enclose them in the envelopes that are provided and put back in the information box. Take as many forms as you would like! The information box is checked daily.

Our mission project for the week is the Early Food Pantry. Kids are welcome to bring canned good all week (PLEASE check the expiration dates) and monetary gifts.

There will be a VBS Children's Program on Friday, August 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. We hope that all parents and children will join us after the celebration for a light meal.

## JUICE DONATIONS FOR VBS

We are asking for donations of juice for VBS.

## **ANNIVERSARY WISHES:**

**Bruce & Jackie Mentzer (Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup>)**

**John & Brenna Franken (Aug. 13<sup>th</sup>)**

**Jim & Missy Kestel (Aug. 29<sup>th</sup>)**

## **BIRTHDAY WISHES:**

**Stuart Claussen (Aug. 9<sup>th</sup>)**

**Rev. Ken Fells (Aug. 11<sup>th</sup>)**

**Shirley Claussen (Aug. 20<sup>th</sup>)**

**Kallie Pyle (Aug. 27<sup>th</sup>)**

## **Mailing Address for Doug O'Bannon:**

**Doug O'Bannon**

**C/O Shari O'Bannon**

**202 Elm**

**Lakeside**

**Storm Lake, IA 50588**

## **PARABLE OF THE PENCIL**

The Pencil Maker took the pencil aside, just before putting him into the box. There are 5 things you need to know, he told the pencil, before I send you out into the world. Always remember them and never forget, and you will become the best pencil you can be.

One: You will be able to do many great things, but only if you allow yourself to be held in Someone's hand.

Two: You will experience a painful sharpening from time to time, but you'll need it to become a better pencil.

Three: You will be able to correct mistakes you will make.

Four: The most important part of you will always be what's inside.

And Five: On every surface you are used on, you must leave your mark. No matter what the condition, you must continue to write.

The pencil understood and promised to remember, and went into the box with purpose in its heart.

Now replacing the place of the pencil with you; always remember them and never forget, and you will become the best person you can be.

One: You will be able to do many great things, but only if you allow yourself to be held in God's hand. And allow other human beings to access you for the many gifts you possess.

Two: You will experience a painful sharpening from time to time, by going through various problems, but you'll need it to become a stronger person.

Three: You will be able to correct mistakes you might make or grow through them.

Four: The most important part of you will always be what's on the inside.

And Five: On every surface you walk, you must leave your mark. No matter what the situation, you must continue to serve God in everything.

By understanding and remembering, let us proceed with our life on this earth having a meaningful purpose in our heart and a relationship with God daily.

— Author Unknown