

Welcome to Faith Presbyterian Church!

Sunday, December 1, 2024



Worship Schedule

Sunday:

10:00 am: Worship-Sanctuary

Wednesday:

7:00 pm: Worship on Wednesday
(held virtually via Zoom)

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Friday: 8:00 am – Noon

Can't make it to today's worship? Visit the church website to watch today's service: www.crfait.org

Email: crfaith@crfaith.org

Phone: (319) 377-4360

Address:

715 38th St. SE

Cedar Rapids, IA 52403

• Today's Scripture •

Today is the first Sunday of Advent. The scripture is Luke 1:5-24 with the sermon titled "UNLIKELY God at Work in High Places."

Worship is...

Joyful. Spirit-filled. Thoughtful. Welcoming.

Parking: Additional street parking is available, plus you can also park in the Dental Center parking lot to the south.

Restrooms: Located next to the church office as you come in from the parking lot on the west end of the building.

Large print hymnals (words only): Available on the back table.

Hearing assistance devices are available: Ask an usher.

Questions? Please feel free to ask an usher for assistance!



"Like" the church page on Facebook! Just search for "Faith Presbyterian Church."

Connection Card

In your bulletin is a green connection card. We ask that you complete the card and drop it in the offering plate. If you have a specific person, group, or event for which you'd like us to join with you in prayer, place this prayer request on the back of the connection card. This can be for a concern in your life or your health, or for a concern you have for someone else, or for a joyous event.

Welcome to Faith Presbyterian! Connection Card

Name:	_____
Address:	_____
City:	_____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Best Contact Phone:	_____
Email:	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Check if changes in contact information	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1st- or 2nd-time guest, how did you hear about the church?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Church website <input type="checkbox"/> Church member <input type="checkbox"/> Event <input type="checkbox"/> Facebook	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	_____
Are you a: <input type="checkbox"/> 1st-time guest <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd-time guest <input type="checkbox"/> Member/regular attendee	
(Over)	

Order of Worship – December 1, 2024

Gather to Worship God -----

Prelude

“Joy to the World”/”Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

(Worship is our response to the goodness of God. We are blessed to be called together, by God, to offer our praise & bring our joys & concerns, leaving renewed in spirit & eager to go & live our faith.)

The Scripture

Luke 1:5-24

Lighting the 1st Advent Candle

The Response #92

“While We are Waiting, Come” (v. 1)

In anticipation of celebrating the Messiah, we worship God.

The Welcome & Announcements

*(*We invite you to please stand if you are able.)*

*The Call to Worship (Psalm 24:7-9 – The Message Translation)

Leader: Wake up, you sleepyhead city! Wake up, you sleepyhead people! King-Glory is ready to enter.

All: Who is this King-Glory? God, armed and battle-ready.

Leader: Wake up, you sleepyhead city! Wake up, you sleepyhead people! King-Glory is ready to enter.

*The Hymn of Praise #93

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

*The Unison Prayer of Confession

All: Holy God, there is none above you. We begin the Christmas season in anticipation of celebrating the birth of your Son, Jesus. You have entrusted to us; time, energy and money to mark the celebration. Forgive us of considering only our plans for the season and how we can fit everything into our schedule. Give us opportunities to pause and consider how you would have us celebrate using our resources to bring glory and honor to this marvelous plan of sending us a Savior. We offer our prayers in his name and ask that you hear our prayers as we continue to pray in silence.

*Words of Assurance (Isaiah 46:3-5)

Leader: The Lord says: “Listen to me, you descendants of Jacob, all the remnant of the people of Israel, you whom I have upheld since your birth, and have carried since you were born. Even to your old age and gray hairs I am he, I am he who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you. With whom will you compare me or count me equal? To whom will you liken me that we may be compared?” **Amen.**

*The Prayer Response #519

“You Are My Strength When I Am Weak”

All: You are my strength when I am weak; you are the treasure that I seek; you are my all in all. When I fall down, you pick me up; when I am dry, you fill my cup; you are my all in all. Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name! Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name!

*Passing the Peace

Listening to God's Word -----

The Prayer for Illumination

The Congregational Response

All: Open our eyes, Lord. We want to see Jesus, to reach out and touch him, and say that we love him. Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen. Open our eyes, Lord. We want to see Jesus.

The Message "UNLIKELY God at Work in High Places" – Rev. Dr. Dennis Morey

Responding to God's Word -----

Hymn of Response #88 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Sharing Joys & Concerns in Prayer

If you have a special request you'd like to share with the prayer chain, please use the green connection card and place it in the offering plate.

Lord's Prayer

All: 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.

The Prayer Response #469

All: Lord, listen to your children praying. Lord, send your Spirit in this place. Lord, listen to your children praying. Send us love; send us power; send us grace.

The Minute for Mission Christmas Joy Offering – Jayne Peremsky

The Call to Dedication (*Psalms 127:1-2 – The Message Translation*)

Leader: If God doesn't build the house, the builders only build shacks. If God doesn't guard the city, the night watchman might as well nap. It's useless to rise early and go to bed late, and work your worried fingers to the bone. Don't you know God enjoys giving rest to those he loves?

The Offertory "The First Noel"

*Congregational Response #606 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

All: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

All: Holy God, we bring our tithes and offerings that began as your blessings to us. You have given unto our care a host of resources. We have used them, our time, our energy, and our money to provide comforts for ourselves and now we want to use them to provide for those in need. Use us and everything we have to help your Kingdom to come and your will be done. We give in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Going Out to Serve -----

*The Closing Hymn #92 "While We are Waiting, Come"

*The Closing Prayer & Benediction

Postlude "Christmas Majesty (Medley)"

Announcements for the Week of December 1

Lead Usher: Bess Naujoks
Communion Servers: Bess Naujoks, Lynda Nelson
Lay Leader: Bob Payne

Thanks to Greg & Erin Ennis and Margaret Morey for providing fellowship this morning! Please see the sign-up sheet if you'd like to provide fellowship for a future Sunday.

If you wish to support the staff Christmas gift, please give it to Bess Naujoks or place it in the offering plate (clearly designated). – *Don Worden, Personnel Chair*

Happy birthday to the following people celebrating their special day this week!

Ken Reed Dec 3
Orville Wright Dec 7

Weekly Calendar

Sunday: Communion

9:00 AM: Bible Studies

10:00 AM: Worship-Sanctuary

Monday: Office Hours: 8:30 am-4:30 pm

9:00 AM: Sewing Group-Fellowship Hall

Tuesday: Office Hours: 8:30 am-4:30 pm

9:30 AM: Coffee & Conversation-Fellowship Hall

5:00 PM: Deacons Meeting-Room #1

Wednesday: Office Hours: 8:30 am-4:30 pm

7:00 PM: Worship on Wednesday (Via Zoom)

Thursday: Office Hours: 8:30 am-4:30 pm

6:00 PM: Worker Bees

Friday: Office Hours: 8:00 am-12:00 pm

Saturday:

2:00 PM-4:00 PM: All-Church Christmas Gathering

All-Church Christmas Gathering – Dec. 7

Bring your children and grandchildren, your friends, and of course yourself to our third annual All-Church Christmas Gathering. We will gather on Saturday, December 7, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. Let's get in the Christmas spirit by frosting cookies, making crafts, watching a short Christmas movie, and singing carols while enjoying lemonade and popcorn. See you December 7th!

Christmas Joy Offering

During Advent, you will be hearing a Minute for Mission each Sunday on the Christmas Joy offering. This is one of the PCUSA offerings that Faith Presbyterian Church participates in. Your contribution assists retired church workers and three Presbyterian-related schools that equip communities of color. We will take this offering on December 22. – *Mission Ministries Team*

Matthew 25 Holiday Craft Fair – Dec. 7

Matthew 25's Cultivate Hope Holiday Craft Fair takes place Saturday, December 7th from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at Groundswell, located at 201 3rd Ave. SW in Cedar Rapids.

This year's Holiday Craft Fair will feature local craft vendors, carrot pickles and baked goods from the Youth Development Program, produce from Matthew 25's Urban Farm, a photo booth, crafts and activities, Cedar Rapids Community Orchestra Concert, and more.

Groundswell Cafe, located directly next to the event space, will have delicious food and beverage specials as well.

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