

March 1, 2024

First Presbyterian Church

608 Nebraska Street, Sioux City, Iowa 51101



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March Worship Service Info



Sunday, Mar 3—3rd Sunday in Lent
Isaiah 58:1-5; The 7-Step Process—Denial

Sunday, Mar 10—4th Sunday in Lent
Psalm 51:1-12; The 7-Step Process—Confession
Daylight Savings Time begins. Set your clocks one hour AHEAD Saturday night!

Sunday, Mar 17—5th Sunday in Lent
John 3:1-9; The 7-Step Process—Repentance

Sunday, Mar 24—Palm Sunday
2 Corinthians 5:16-21; The 7-Step Process—Reconciliation

Sunday, Mar 31—Easter Sunday
Psalm 118:14-24; The 7-Step Process—Rejoice!

*After this I heard what seemed to be the loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, 'H_____!
Salvation and glory and power to our God!*

adapted from Revelation 19:1

Friends,

The season of Lent, from Ash Wednesday to the Saturday before Easter, is traditionally a more solemn time in the church year. Churches usually take this time to meditate on our sin and our mortality. This is in order to help us understand our need for a Savior, one who offers us redemption from our sin and hope of eternal life.

Because of this somber attitude, there's a word that has become taboo during Lent. It is the English version of two Hebrew words. The first, "halelu" is a second person plural imperative verb, meaning "a command to a group to joyously sing praise." The second word, "Yah", is a shortened version of the name of God, "Yahweh". Brought together, the words form a command to a group of people to praise the Lord. It is also used simply as a one-word expression of praise to God.

Like many pastors and churches, I choose not to use this word during worship services until Easter morning. Due to this taboo, I technically shouldn't even write this word during Lent. Even if I could, it's not certain how it's even spelled. Sometimes it's an 8-letter word starting with "A". Other times it's a 10-letter word starting with "H", especially if you're a fan of Handel's "Messiah" or the modern singer/songwriter Leonard Cohen.

And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshipped God who is seated on the throne, saying, 'Amen! H_____!'

adapted from Revelation 19:4

I know it seems like I'm teasing you by talking so much about a word that I'm not writing. And I suppose that's part of the meaning of Lent. We spend these weeks in solemn meditation, confessing our shortcomings and reflecting on the end of our earthly lives. This all leads up to a week remembering all the terrible things that happened in the last days of Jesus' life. Betrayed and abandoned by His friends. Unjustly accused and beaten by religious leaders. Tortured and executed by the government. And yet we go through all this darkness knowing that the light and joy of Easter morning is ahead of us! When we will know that all of these trials and tribulations for Jesus, even his death, were only temporary! When we will proclaim that, in Jesus Christ our Savior, God's forgiveness and love for us are forever! And then, as we sing in celebration on Easter, we can finally shout out the word ...

... well, you know the word!

Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunder-peals, crying out, 'H_____! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns!'

adapted from Revelation 19:6

In Christ,
Pastor Mark

Until Easter, **PASTOR MARK'S OFFICE HOURS** will change. He'll be in his office Tuesday through Friday from 9 to noon and from 1 to 5 whenever possible. Mondays will be his day off. Or just make an appointment by calling the church office at 712-255-8919 or emailing him at [pas-tor@1stpresby.com](mailto:pastor@1stpresby.com).

Mary's Music Notes—



Looking ahead.....

- March 3 C/hoir/Communion
- March 10 Choir/Time Change Weekend
- March 17 Handbells/St. Patrick's Day
- March 24 Choir/Palm Sunday
- March 28 Maundy Thursday/Choir
- March 29 Good Friday jointly at Westminster Church
- March 31 Easter/Choir/Brass Quintet
- April 6 - Voices Unite

For those not familiar with Voices Unite, it is a one day sacred choral festival, with a new guest director every year. April 6, 2024 we will be having Craig Courtney come and lead us for the day. We have 5 of his songs selected. I hope you consider attending and plan to bring a friend. We also could use your help spreading the word. Please follow our Voices Unite facebook page and share it. Below is the registration link. All are welcome to join in, whether you sing in church choir or not. Stay up to date on all our information, scheduling and song list, by visiting our website or facebook page.

www.voicesunite.org

Register: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1g1TY3p5tjP6sFef5NB0ooEBOzDGIKMUxOgl8wFTVNk0/viewform?edit_requested=true

Mary Benton, Director of Music



Previous Months Worship Attendance Report

Jan 28	59 in sanctuary
Feb 4	62 in sanctuary
Feb 11	70 in sanctuary
Feb 18	81 in sanctuary
Feb 25	64 in sanctuary

Calling all graduates!! Who has a kindergartener graduating in May? An 8th grader? How about a senior in high school or even a college graduate?

Member Care will be recognizing and celebrating all the graduates from First Presbyterian Church on Sunday, May 21st.

Please call the office and let Karen know if you have one of these graduates in your household!

LUNCH BUNCH



Member Care Committee has scheduled lunch Bunch for Sunday, March 10th at Famous Dave's 201 Pierce St after church. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy lunch, good conversation and some awesome food.

Please contact Vicki Ackerman (712-490-3959-text or leave message) to know how many [in](#) your party will be coming so reservations can be made.

Income & Disbursement Summary Through January 31, 2024

Income

All pledges, non-pledges & loose collection	\$ 26,841.62
Other operating income	\$ 1,077.00
Restricted donations	\$
Per Capita	\$ 557.70
Total Income	\$ 28,476.32

Disbursements

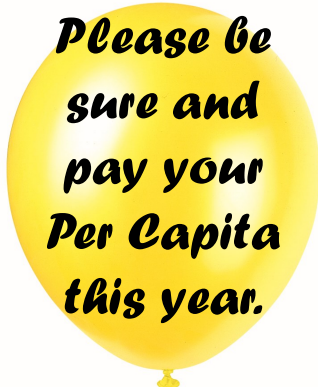
Mission	\$ 1,416.67
Ministry*	\$ 10,692.87
Music ***	\$ 83.67
Christian Discipleship	\$
Building & Grounds	\$ 14,469.63
Office and Admin	\$ 1,922.07
Assessment	\$ 1,596.02
Other**	\$ 2,667.42
Personnel Payroll	\$ 10,559.55
Total Disbursements	\$ 43,407.90

Gain or Loss **\$ (14,931.58)**

* 'Ministry' includes: Pastors salary, worship, outreach, deacon and member care expenses.

** 'Other' includes: Payroll taxes, health insurance, pension and workers compensation insurance.

*** Includes organ work



2024
Per Capita
amount
is \$53.95

During the Easter Season, the local chapter of SHIP (Sleep in Heavenly Peace) which provides beds for children in the Siouxland area, will be providing our congregation with an Easter Egg tree for the purpose of donations. Please consider choosing an egg with details of a specific donation needed. SHIP provides a newly built bed and bedding to every child on their list. Their motto is “ no Child sleeps on the floor in our town”. Please consider making a donation on their behalf.

Mission Committee

PW will meet Tuesday night, March 5 at 6:30 in the home of Anne Cowley, 413 Eton Ct. All women of the church are invited and encouraged to attend. They will be discussing the first chapter of our book, The Women of the Bible Speak by Shannon Bream. Anne will provide beverages and Mary Burns will furnish the dessert. Please let Anne know by March 4 if you will be able to attend so that they have enough dessert for all. 712-204-5182 or AMusicWest@aol.com.

Fellowship Dinners Begin in April

Fellowship Dinners are a wonderful way to get to know our church friends outside of church. Those who sign up -- couples and singles -- are assigned to a group of 6. One person is assigned to host a meal at their home or a local restaurant. The host also invites two more people to join the meal. You may invite the Pastor and his wife, other church goers, or friends or family outside our church. If hosted in your home, the others in the group are invited to bring a dish to complement the items you will be preparing. Hosting a meal is not a requirement of participating. If you would like to be part of a Fellowship Dinner group for April/May or just have questions, please contact Barb Davis at 402-679-6640 or bjsorendavis@gmail.com by March 15th. Be sure to let her know if you are unable to host a meal.

March birthdays

1st - Jane Hey
 2nd - Micah Rarick
 3rd - Chuck Warner
 8th - Pat Anderson
 9th - Kathryn Zebert
 15th - Steve Bradley

22nd - Nikolina Johnson
 23rd - Taylor Bradley
 23rd- Karter Ellis
 30th - Lance Moore

March anniversaries

10th - Curtis & Mary Burns

28th - Carlos & Pam Perez



Pssst!
If we do not have your birthday
or anniversary information...
please call or send it to Karen in the
church office at 712-255-8919 or
finance@1stpresby.com.



Month of March

Sunday Coffee Fellowship – Christian Discipleship Committee
 Wednesday Night Dinners***: Christian Discipleship Committee
 Lenton Lunches begin February 16th thru March 22nd

Noon to 1:00pm in the Sheldon Jackson Hall

Lunch Bunch: Sunday, March 10th at Famous Dave's contact Vicki Ackerman 712-490-3959 if you would like to attend so we can make reservation .

Prayer Shawls: Volunteers are needed to crochet or knit more shawls. Please contact a committee member if you would like to know more details. Ron Rohlena has donated yarn for this project & a pattern is available.

Month of April:

Sunday Fellowship Coffee: Deacons Committee
 Wednesday Night Dinners***: Deacons Committee

***The session committees that are hosting the Sunday coffee and Wednesday dinners and will gladly take assistance from anyone in the congregation that would like to volunteer to help with a meal. If you are interested, please contact a committee member that will be serving for the month. ***

Endowment Fund

Market Update - 2023, 4th Quarter

In the last quarter of the year, the markets regained strength from earlier in 2023 as the S&P 500 finished the year up around 23%. In December, U.S. retail sales rose 0.6%, capping off a strong holiday season, which positively surprised economists.

The Federal Reserve is currently holding short-term interest rates steady. While it seems probable that the Fed concluded its interest rate hike cycle and barring some unforeseen event, our forecast does not anticipate a cut in the next couple meetings.

The First Presbyterian Church Agency finished the 2023 calendar year up 12.9%. The Agency has produced an annual rate of return of 5.5% since its inception. The overall mix of the endowment portfolio remains in-line with targets.

Both the 'soft landing' and 'recession' camps agree that economic growth will slow going forward as we enter a year filled with elections and geopolitical challenges. While it is hard to predict short term market movements, the portfolio will remain fully invested. This portfolio is set up to meet long-term return and risk objectives.

Estate Planning Tip

New Year's Estate Planning Resolutions

Beginning a new year allows for reflection of the year prior and setting resolutions for the year to come. Make your 2024 New Year's resolution a plan to prepare and protect your loved ones through estate planning. Although most know the importance of having a plan, studies suggest only 33% of Americans have a will or estate plan. The biggest hurdle, like most resolutions, is getting started. Below are the steps to creating a successful estate plan:

1. Gather personal information about you and your family such as birth dates, social security numbers and addresses.
2. Take inventory of your assets and liabilities and their values. Make note of the contact information for the company that holds them.
3. Consider important questions on what your plan might look like: Who will inherit your assets? Will you leave them to a person or a charity or a favorite charity/non-profit? If you become incapacitated, who will make financial and medical decisions on your behalf? If children are involved in your plan, who will you appoint as guardian if something were to happen to you or your significant other?
4. Gather any existing pertinent estate planning documents (will, trust document, power of attorney, etc).

Once you have accomplished the steps above, you are prepared for a conversation with your attorney to update or create an estate plan customized to fulfill your needs and wishes.



Kids Grab your friends and come help us celebrate EASTER !

Do a fun craft.... hear the Easter Story ...
And Of Course

HUNT FOR EASTER EGGS GALORE !!!

Bring your Easter Baskets or bags and come to Westminster Pres. Church – 2915 Glenn Ave. Saturday, March 30th at 1 pm for all the FUN !

Registration is not required but if you want to let us know who’s coming from your place you can sure call 276-3613 and leave us a message.



Indoor Hunt – or – Outdoor Hunt Depends on the weather but we can promise a lot of fun for all the kids in attendance. Hope to see you all there!



Red Robin will give
**20% OF FOOD SALES*
BACK TO**

PINK LADIES OF SIOUXLAND

Show this flyer or simply mention the fundraiser to your server to have your sales counted.

FUNDRAISER DETAILS
4900 Sergeant Rd, Sioux City, IA 51106
March 11, 2024*

If ordering online, please follow these instructions:

- 1 Start your order at order.redrobin.com and select the restaurant above.
- 2 In the menu, go to the category labeled "Fundraisers (To-Go Only)" and click on that item.
- 3 Click the "add" button, and then "add to bag."
- 4 Add your meal items and check out.
- 5 Arrive at Red Robin, come in, say hi, grab your food and be on your way! If your location has curbside pick-up, we can bring it to your car too!

*Fundraiser during restaurant operating hours. Visit redrobin.com and find this location to view hours. Donation based on all eligible net dine-in and to-go food sales only. Excludes sales from catering (at select locations), 3rd party ordering and delivery sites, alcohol, gift cards, retail, tax and gratuity. Offer void if flyer is distributed in or near the restaurant during fundraiser day & hours.



Who doesn't like a great burger? I would appreciate if you feel like eating out on Monday, March 11th, that you go to Red Robin.

Pink Ladies of Siouxland will received 20% of all food sales. Just tell them you're there for the Pink Ladies.

Thank you! The money helps us donate to cancer patience in the Siouxland area that need some help with bills, groceries, medicine or gas, or whatever they need.

Our Confirmation Class is collecting items to benefit The Warming Shelter. They have asked for the following new items.

Hand warmers

Winter hats

Winter gloves and mittens

Men's boxer underwear (sizes S - XL)

Women's underwear (sizes 5 - 9)

Please put your donations in the bin you'll find on the table by the office entrance on Nebraska Street. We'll be collecting donations through Easter Sunday (March 31st). Thanks!

LENT AND EASTER

The Presbyterian Churches of Siouxland will hold their series of **LENTEN LUNCHEAS AND MEDITATIONS** in Sheldon Jackson Hall at noon on Fridays through March 22nd. Meditations will be based on Pause: Spending Lent with the Psalms by Elizabeth F. Caldwell.

There will be **NO WEDNESDAY EVENING EVENTS** on March 27th. No dinner, Adult Bible Study, handbell or choir practices.

We'll have our **MAUNDY THURSDAY** Communion Service at 7:00 p.m. on March 28th in our sanctuary.

The Presbyterian Churches of Siouxland will host a joint **GOOD FRIDAY** service on March 29th at Westminster Presbyterian Church at 2915 Glenn Avenue.

Please join us for our **EASTER SUNDAY** Celebration of the Resurrection at 10:30 a.m. on March 31st!

ATTENTION

If at anytime while you are watching the live stream for a worship service and it fails or freezes up, please do NOT call Mary or text Mary to let her know.

Mary is unavailable during the worship service.

Please call the church office and leave us a message and we will address the issue on Monday morning.

Thank you!!



Do you enjoy seeing the beautiful bouquets on the altar?

We always welcome donations! If you would like to order flowers for a special occasion or just because, please reach out to Linda Williams.

Linda can put you on the schedule and make sure your order is handled!





Acolytes:

Mar 3: Harper Rohlena

Mar 10: Aidan Hunt

Mar 17: Emmett Rohlena

Mar 24: Sage Pierson

Mar 31: Aidan Hunt

Tellers:

Mar 3: Brenda Bradley & Sarah Steill

Mar 10: Kathy Zebert & Lance Eybers

Mar 17: Brenda Bradley & Lance Eybers

Mar 26: Sarah Steill & Curtis Burns

Mar 31: Kathy Zebert & Curtis Burns

Greeter/Usher:

Mar 3: Michael & Andrea Rohlena family

Mar 10: Vicki Ackerman, Neva Pierce, Kathleen Morfitt & Chris Hunt

Mar 17: Butch & Mary Floyd & Bob & Pat Anderson

Mar 24: Steve & Brenda Bradley, Anne Cowley & Barb Davis

Mar 31: Michael & Andrea Rohlena family

Lectors:

Mar 3: Juliana Mayne

Mar 10: Gerald Messersmith

Mar 17: Michael Rohlena

Mar 24: Judy Vos

Mar 31: Chris Hunt

Don't' forget to turn your clocks ahead on Saturday night, March 9th before you go to bed! You don't want to miss Sunday's service!!



In case of an emergency in the First Presbyterian Family please contact Pastor Mark at (309)644-0794.


Volunteers — If you are unavailable on your scheduled date, please arrange for a substitute and advise the office. Thank you for your assistance and consideration.

First Presbyterian Church

Sioux City, Iowa



2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><u>Notes:</u></p> <p>*Your office staff will be at work Monday thru Thursday 9:00 am to 4:30 pm</p> <p>*Office closes each Friday at Noon.</p> <p>* Childcare offered during Sunday worship & Wednesday evenings</p>					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9:30 Bible Study 9:30 Choir 9:30 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Worship 11:30 Member Care	5:30 Bldg. & Grounds		5:30 Meal 6:15 Bible Study 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Choir		Noon—Lenten Lunch	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Daylight savings begins 9:30 Bible Study 9:30 Choir 9:30 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Worship 11:30 Lunch Bunch	5:30 Personnel		5:30 Meal 6:15 Bible Study 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Choir	7:00 Chamber Music Mtg.	Noon—Lenten Lunch	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9:30 Bible Study 9:30 Handbells 9:30 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Worship 11:30 Mission 	12:15 Admin/Fin		5:30 Meal 6:15 Bible Study 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Choir 8:15-9:45 Choral Music practice	4:30 Memorial 7:00-8:30 Choral Music practice	Noon—Lenten Lunch Newsletter Deadline	
24 & 31	25	26	27	28	29	30
9:30 Bible Study 9:30 Sunday School 9:30 Choir 10:00 Coffee 10:30 Worship 11:30 Deacons—24th 2:00 Chamber Music—24th Easter on the 31st	5:00 All Staff mtg. 5:30 Music & Worship	7:00 Session Print Newsletter	6:00 Handbells	6:30 Choir 7:00 Maundy Thursday Service	7:00 Good Friday Service at Westminster	

First Presbyterian Church



*This is our mission:
to shine the light
of Christ's love —
through our life together,
with our gifts,
and in our daily lives —
from the heart of Sioux City,
for the sake of God's kingdom
in the world.*

608 Nebraska Street, Sioux City, Iowa 51101

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 8:30 am– 4:30 pm, Fri 9 am-Noon
Tel. 712-255-8919

Web page: www.1stpresby.com
Office email: office@1stpresby.com
Pastor: pastor@1stpresby.com
[Twitter@1stChurchSCIA](https://twitter.com/1stChurchSCIA)

Office Administrator finance@1stpresby.com

Be sure to check our new Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/902340006496216/>.

Church Staff:

Pastor.....Mark Bedford
Music Director & Organist..... Mary Kay Benton
Adult Choir Director.....Rachael Wragge
Hand Bell Director.....Anne Cowley
Children's Music Director.....Rachael Wragge
Sound Sexton.....Dylan Baier
Sunday School Director.....Sarah Brown
Office Admin/Finance Mgr.....Karen Heinemann
Custodian.....Rick Heinemann

Deadline Dates for Publications

Weekly Worship Bulletin - each Tuesday at Noon.

Newsletter - one week prior to publication
(goal is to publish one day prior to the last work day of the month, so the deadline is one week prior to that.)

... included on the monthly calendar, but please call the office if you are uncertain.

Information received after deadline will be held for the next publication if still applicable.

Thank you all for your consideration; we appreciate your efforts to respect these deadlines, making it easier for us to complete our work timely and efficiently.

**The Light, our church newsletter,
is your monthly publication of
need-to-know information and events.**

It is available on-line at
(www.1stpresby.com)

And by mail.

To add your name to the mailing list,
please call the church office

712-255-8919

or email

finance@1stpresby.com

Or you can subscribe on the new website!

Got news? ...births, weddings, graduations,
awards, job promotions,
or other news you'd like to share?



Send it to:
finance@1stpresby.com.
We'll be glad to share it for you.

Have you moved?

New... Street address?

....Email address?

....Phone number?

God knows where you are,
but we don't know unless you tell us.

If you have new contact information,
please let us know

so we can update our records —

Please contact the Church Office
at 712-255-8919 or e-mail us at
finance@1stpresby.com.

Thanks so much.



***Welcome to First Presbyterian Church.
We hope you'll join us for worship
every Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m.***