



October 19, 2025
First Presbyterian Church
Waterloo, IA



Order of Worship

*Please stand as you are able

Prelude

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

arr. Helvey

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

--- *Psalm 98:1-9*

O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things.

His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

Break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.

Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness, and the nations with equity.

***Gathering Hymn**

"Make a Joyful Noise to God"

#54, Hymnal

***Prayer of the Day**

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Call to Confession

—based on Isaiah 40:3-5, NET

The prophet called, "In the wilderness clear a way for the LORD; construct in the desert a road for our God.

Every valley must be elevated, and every mountain and hill leveled. The rough terrain will become a level plain, the rugged landscape a wide valley."

It is through repentance and confession that we prepare ourselves to see the splendor of the LORD;

It is because of God’s faithfulness and compassion that we can confess our sins before him.

Prayer of Confession

You have made us to be free,
But we crave the cheap comforts of our chains.

You have made us to serve others,
But we have eyes only for ourselves.

You have made us to love,
But we only want to care for ourselves.

You provide, that we may be generous,
But we greedily hoard as if your well will run dry.

You forgive time and again,
But we hold fast to the sins of others.

You offer light for our path,
But we insist on making our own way.

You are the God who saves.
Lord, save us from ourselves. In your great mercy, restore and heal us, and grant us your peace.

Assurance of Pardon

As far as the east is from the west so far God removes our sin from us. Though Jesus we are made new through his grace and mercy.

Therefore, rejoice because we are forgiven through God’s grace. Amen.

***Response to Grace “Open My Eyes, That I May See” #451, 1st verse only, Hymnal**

**1 Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me.
Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes; illumine me, Spirit divine!**

Ministry of Music	<i>Alleluia, Praise His Name</i>	Shram
	Soloist: Mattie Dooley	

Scripture Reading: II Kings 5:1-19

Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master, because by him the LORD had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy."

So Naaman went in and told his lord just what the girl from the land of Israel had said. And the king of Aram said, "Go then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel."

He went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten sets of garments. He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, "When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you my servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his leprosy."

When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me."

But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel."

So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean."

But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, and would

wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?"

He turned and went away in a rage. But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean'?"

So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean. Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company; he came and stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel; please accept a present from your servant."

But he said, "As the LORD lives, whom I serve, I will accept nothing!" He urged him to accept, but he refused.

Then Naaman said, "If not, please let two mule-loads of earth be given to your servant; for your servant will no longer offer burnt offering or sacrifice to any god except the LORD. But may the LORD pardon your servant on one count: when my master goes into the house of Rimmon to worship there, leaning on my arm, and I bow down in the house of Rimmon, when I do bow down in the house of Rimmon, may the LORD pardon your servant on this one count."

He said to him, "Go in peace."

Sermon *“Silly Obedience”* Rev. Tim Dyck

***Song of Response** *“If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee”* #816, Hymnal

Affirmation of Faith *“The Theological Declaration of Barmen”¹* *Hymnal*

In view of the errors which are devastating the Church and are also thereby breaking up the unity of the Church, we confess the following evangelical truths:²

1. “I am the way, and the truth, and the life: no one comes to the Father, but by me.” (John 14:6). “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. ... I am the door; if anyone enters by me, he will be saved.” (John 10:1, 9.)

¹There are six articles or assertions of the Barmen Declaration and are exerted from the full declaration in the Book of Confessions of the Presbyterian Church (USA) starting on page 280.

Jesus Christ, as he is attested for us in Holy Scripture, is the one Word of God which we have to hear and which we have to trust and obey in life and in death.

We reject the false doctrine, as though the church could and would have to acknowledge as a source of its proclamation, apart from and besides this one Word of God, still other events and powers, figures and truths, as God’s revelation.

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer *pg. 35, Hymnal*

Minute for Mission

Presentation of Our Offerings

O Lord, it is with joy and an acute appreciation of the many ways in which you have blessed us that we now return to you tokens of our obedience to your love and our standing in your grace. As faithful stewards of the resources you have given to us, we ask that these will be used to further your work in the world and in us.

Offertory *My Worth is Not in What I Own* Getty/Kendrick

***Doxology** *“Lord of All Good”* #711 vs. 1 only, Hymnal
Lord of all good, our gifts we bring You now; Use them Your holy purpose to fulfill. Tokens of love and pledges they shall be. That our whole life is offered to Your will.

***Prayer of Dedication** *(Church of Ireland)*

O great and gracious Lord, thank you for all the good things you continue to provide for us. Don’t let us take your gifts for granted or abuse them. Instead, help us always to rely on you in faith. Use us and what you have given us for your good purposes. Amen.

***Song of Sending** *“Go, My Children, With My Blessing”* #547, Hymnal

² Modified to eliminate references to the original German context of 1933.

***Charge and Benediction**

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,

Teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom,

Singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,

With thankfulness in your hearts to God.

And whatever you do,

In word or deed,

Do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,

Giving thanks to God the Father through him.

(Colossians 3:16-17)

Postlude

Doxology

arr. Sorenson

*Make a secure donation online
using your phone's camera
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The lectionary reader today is Marsha Platt

*The pulpit flowers are provided by Jane Christensen,
In memory of her wonderful and loving husband, Sam*

First Church Staff

Rev. Tim Dyck, Pastor and Head of Staff

Gabe Wagner, Sanctuary Choir Director

Linda Wiles, Organist/Pianist; Handbell Choir Director

Amber Gilles, Office Manager & Streaming Service Operator

Church Office Hours: Mon-Thu 9:00am to 4:00pm; Closed Fridays

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