



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

October 14, 2020

**Worship**  
Join us weekly on  
our website:  
[Firstprescf.org](http://Firstprescf.org)

**This Weekend's Worship**

Stewardship Series: OUR MONEY STORY

Sermon: *RELEASE*

Scripture Readings: Matthew 19:16-22; Deuteronomy 15:1-11

Remember to prepare your rhythm instruments for the opening hymn.

Let's make a joyful noise together from a distance!

**Our Money Story - Week 2**

from the artist | **Lauren Wright Pittman**

read | **Matthew 19:16-22**

As I write this in the midst of a global pandemic, we are collectively grieving countless losses and desperately seeking answers to quell our fears of what's to come. The economy is nosediving and many face grave illness or even death. Some can't see past the fog of new living restrictions and are calling to reopen the economy because they believe it will save us. Others are choosing to stay home, risking economic fallout, to protect the lives of the vulnerable.

When afraid, we turn inward. I see fear and loneliness in the rich man. He's focused on an individual path, leading to his personal salvation, while missing the full picture. The man's wealth may cause him comfort, but it does not exist in a vacuum. His wealth affects the lives of others—particularly those at the margins of society.

Jesus offers the rich man spiritual grounding that completely threatens his financial stability, but it's good news just the same. Jesus reveals to the rich man the truth that we are all connected. Jesus chooses to name commandments concerning interpersonal relationships and community (v. 18-19). Jesus offers the rich man freedom from his entanglement with wealth, and gifts him belonging and a way forward (v. 21). The rich man feels the weight of this truth. To "enter this life" he must recognize his responsibility for his neighbor, because our lives are interwoven.

Instead of grasping to Jesus' lifeline, the rich man turns away because he cannot fathom losing everything. His grief feels palpable in this time of upheaval. I meditated on his grief, layering dusty purples, muted greens, and chalky blacks. I



imagine the rich man isn't turning away from Jesus altogether. Perhaps he's taking space to feel his grief, processing all he will lose so he can truly find release.

• This story ends with the rich man departing and grieving as he goes. What do you imagine happens next for him? What's the next chapter of his story?

• Refer to this statement from the artist, Lauren Wright Pittman: "Jesus chooses to name commandments concerning interpersonal relationships and community (v. 18-19)." How are the commandments Jesus recites in verses 18-19 connected to the commandment he gives the rich man in verse 21?

• Where does grief or sadness show up in your money story? How might you practice releasing what causes you grief or sadness?

**Church Birthdays**

Oct. 14-Dan Bohner, 17  
-Doug Herbon, 18-Neal Leeper, 20-Jill Mortenson, 22-Len Tompkins, 24-Marsha Flater

**For your prayers...**

**Doug Lawry**  
**Bruce McCart**  
**Len Tompkins**  
**Holger Petersen**

**Sympathy to...**

**Ned Ratekin** upon the death of his brother in Council Bluffs.

**Zoom Meetings and Events**

**Wednesday, October 14**

1:00 pm Personnel Subcommittee

3:00 pm Faith & Art

6:15-7:00 pm Elementary age 'Shine' Zoom

**Tuesday, October 20**

6:00 pm Bible Study

6:00 pm Faith & Art

**Wednesday, October 21**

3:00 pm Faith & Art

6:15-7:00 pm Junior High age 'Shine' Zoom

## Thanks for serving last week:

**Pianist:** Connie Herbon

**Worship Leader:** Margaret Clark

**Vocals:** Beth Culberson

**Sunday Supper:** Rob & Lynette Cline

**Lawn Mowing:** Doug & Sandy Lawry

**Handicap parking line painting:** Jim Seeley

## Congregational Prayer for Next Week

God of grace, Often we are collectors, not of treasures, but of burdens. We collect anxiety and disappointment; fear of the future and regret from the past. Help us breathe deeply and release these things that get in the way of the liberated life you desire for us. In this way we honor you and share your love with others. Amen.

## Thank You

Thank you so much for remembering my birthday. 94 is a ripe old age. It was so nice to receive birthday wishes. It made my day! I am doing fine. God's blessings to you and thank you.

Marie Heisterkamp

## Donation Request

Lawn mower: The church is looking for the donation of a self-propelled lawnmower for next spring. Contact the church office to donate.

## First Pres Spottings!

We love seeing your selfies and snapshots of encounters with other Presbyterians; whether it be socializing, learning or doing mission work. Please send your photos to Lynette at [office@firstprescf.org](mailto:office@firstprescf.org).

Jim & Lanny Zimmer out for a drive to view the foliage! Thanks to Jean Boller for the photo.



## Mission Opportunities

### Love and Support for the Lee Family

The Deacons have started a fund to help defray expenses incurred during baby David Lee's hospital stay from being born prematurely. To contribute, please make your gifts **payable to the church** or through PayPal. Donations should be marked "Lee Family" so that they are correctly deposited. Thank you for your prayers and assistance for the Lees.



### CROP Walk

Please see the attachment to this email for details on this year's online CROP 'Walk.'

### Sunday Suppers have resumed!

Sunday Suppers are being served at First Presbyterian-Waterloo packaged and served curbside. There is only one shift from 4:30-6:00 pm. (The people handing out the food will have the highest Covid risk job.)

- Our church needs to provide **one person for this Sunday!!** Please sign up with the link below.

Each week our church will need one or two volunteers as per the sign up sheet. Please wear masks. To volunteer go to the Google Doc: [Sunday Suppers](#).

### Do you have bed sheets that you are not using?

Peoples Community Health Clinic in Waterloo can use them to make medical gowns. They are using sheets and pillowcases of any size and design to make reusable gowns for staff. Any sheets that aren't needed will be donated to another cause. You may drop them off in the tub in the church entryway.

### Northeast Iowa Food Bank

The Food Bank still has openings for volunteers. All volunteers are asked to wear mask and gloves. Click here to watch a video about the Food Bank: [Food Bank Video](#). Our volunteer hours are listed below.

- Mondays-Saturdays (except Fridays) - 9 am to 11 am and 1 pm to 3 pm
- Tuesday Nights - 6 pm to 8 pm.
- Friday - 9 am to 12 pm

## Staying Connected



### Our Lectionary Study

As we have moved the lectionary study indoors, it is important for us to make sure our attendance is 10 or fewer and that we have an accurate list of attendees. We are requesting you reserve a spot in order to facilitate this policy. Reserve a spot through this link, [Lectionary Study Sign Up](#). If you aren't able to use this link, please contact Pastor Julie and let her know of your plans to attend. We'd love to see you there!

October 19 - Leviticus 19:9-10; 25:8-12 & Mark 12:38-44

October 26 – Genesis 33:1-17; John 21:1-19

### SHINE Zoom Activities

**Tonight** our new virtual SHINE events begin for **PreK-5th Graders** via Zoom. **Next week** the Zoom events will be for **6th-8th graders**. Each week the two age groups will participate on alternating weeks through the fall. Check your email for the Zoom link to participate.

Click to view an introduction to our new Interim Virtual SHINE Director: [Betsy Thompson Video](#)

### Faith & Art Discussion Series

We are offering a Zoom discussion series through Nov. 4 featuring contemporary art and scripture verses from "A Sanctified Art". The Zoom sessions are on Tuesdays at 6:00 PM and Wednesdays at 3:00 PM each week to give you options for when to join the discussion. You can join the Zoom session with the following:

Zoom Meeting ID: 967 6520 8510 – Passcode: art or

<https://zoom.us/j/96765208510?pwd=ZFBqK3Yra24zZDduZXROdnFhV2sydz09>

If you have problems signing in to Zoom, call Neal Leeper at 319-830-2338.



**Reminder: When sending emails to the church office, be sure your 'to' line says: [office@firstprescf.org](mailto:office@firstprescf.org) and not our old CFU account. Thank you!!**

### Worship Leaders Needed

We are looking for people to lead worship with Pastor Julie. We record worship on Thursdays at approximately **3:30 pm**. If you feel called to serve in this way, you can sign up via the Google doc: [Worship Leaders](#) or call the office.

### Zoom Links

Fellowship Hour—Sundays at 11:00 am

To join click the link: [Fellowship Hour](#).

To phone in: 1-312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 960 0560 9426

Passcode: 716125

Grand Sweep Bible Study - Tuesdays at 6:00 pm

Click to join: [Grand Sweep Bible Study](#)

To phone in: 1-301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 815 8301 9014

Passcode: 398420

### Community Book Read

*How to Be an Anti-Racist* by Ibram X Kendi

Thursday evenings in October 6:30 - 7:00

Watch the panel discussion via zoom this week at

[https://uni.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_dvLJQ-0LQ7i58pZogJc9Ig](https://uni.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_dvLJQ-0LQ7i58pZogJc9Ig)

OR on our YouTube channel at any time <https://youtube.com/channel/UCoGPgzjZdIlLclUfk8HhAw>

A group from our church will gather on Fridays to review the panel discussion. Please contact Jean Boller, 277-8149 to participate.

*Oct. 15 Chapters 8-11*—Behavior, Color, White, Black

*Oct. 22 Chapters 12-15* - Class, Space, Gender, Sexuality

*Oct. 29 Chapters 16-18* - Failure, Success, Survival

## From the Stewardship Committee

Last year, in addition to pledges to the operating budget of the church, we asked for additional giving to cover the cost of calling a new pastor. Any excess funds would be used to reduce the church's debt. I'm happy to report that we can payoff one of the two outstanding loans. We will repay \$52,000 to the Horn Scholarship Fund this year. We still owe \$50,000 to the Westminster Fund, which funds our college ministry program. So, this year we are asking for a "pay off the debt" donation in addition to a commitment to the annual operating budget. The "pay off the debt" gift can be a one-time gift or monthly gifts along with the regular operating budget pledge.

At the end of October, you will get a pledge card in the mail asking for a financial commitment to both the annual operating budget and the "pay off the debt" campaign. Please prayerfully consider both of these requests and consider increasing your gifts to the church as you have been blessed by God.



Know that all that you give will be used to take us in the direction God is leading our church in our community and the world. Thank you for all you have given in the past and thank you for your future gifts.

## Thank You for your Offerings

Dear Siblings in Christ,

During this season of unrest and change, we depend on our Church, faith, family and God's grace to see us through. Thank you for your gift of \$2055 to the Pentecost Offering. Your congregation's giving, when combined with that of others, will share the love of Christ with those in need. Your giving enables all people to know God's life-giving welcome in Jesus Christ. Together, we are the church, building the household of Christ.

Bryce Wiebe  
Director, Special Offerings and Appeals  
Presbyterian Mission

Dear Partners in God's Mission,

On behalf of the Mission Agency, thank you for your generous and faithful support. In August we received \$375 from the portion of your monthly mission support.

Your dedication and partnership is critical in furthering God's mission around the world. You are a valued partner in mission and we greatly appreciate your prayers and support.

Yours in Christ,

Bill McConnell  
Mission Engagement Advisor  
Presbyterian Mission Agency

*This was from our budgeted Unified Mission support.*