



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

E-Link

October 21, 2020

Worship

Join us weekly on
our website:
Firstprescf.org

This Weekend's Worship

Stewardship Series: OUR MONEY STORY

Sermon: *RE/MAGINE*

Scripture Readings: Leviticus 19:9,10; 25:8-12 & Mark 12:38-44

Remember to prepare your rhythm instruments for the Assurance of
Pardon hymn.

We will be celebrating Holy Communion this week (due to All Saints Sunday next week.) Please have your communion elements ready so we
may partake together.

Let's gather at the table of grace!

Our Money Story

read | Mark 12:38-44

from the artist | **Hannah Garrity**

In this painting, I have depicted two coins from the time of Jesus. Two. Two is not enough to live on. Economist Thomas Picketty's new book, *Capital and Ideology* (Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2020), details how societies throughout the ages have structured inequality into their/our economic systems. He argues that the economy is not a force of nature. Human ideology shapes the economy. Marshall Steinbaum sums up Picketty's new work: "In his sweeping new history, the economist systematically demolishes the conceit that extreme inequality is our destiny, rather than our choice."³

In this text, Jesus agrees with Picketty. An exegesis of this text by Addison Wright establishes that Jesus is actually lamenting the widow's gift.⁴ Wright cites Jesus' overall viewpoint on the financial structures of the day, arguing that this cannot be an affirmation of the widow's selflessness. Rather, it



must be a lament of the societal structures that cause the widow to give all of her resources to organized religion.

For me, the lament perspective on this traditional stewardship text is transformational. It is inspiring me to engage financially with the Church in a much more personal way. With sudden clarity, I connected the fact that Jesus' Church is the financial ideology I believe in. The hypocrisy that Jesus observes in this text is the same hypocrisy that I have always struggled with as a member of the Church of the present. So, what actions can I take, what questions can I ask, and what conversations can I have to ensure that the Church I am giving to is the Church Jesus meant to create?

³ Steinbaum, Marshall. "Thomas Piketty Takes On the Ideology of Inequality." Published on the Boston Review. March 25, 2020. <http://bostonreview.net/class-inequality/marshall-steinbaum-thomas-piketty-takes-ideology-inequality>.

⁴ Wright, Addison G. "The Widow's Mites: Praise or Lament?—A Matter of Context." Published on The ATLA Serials. <http://www.pas.rochester.edu/~tim/study/Widow's%20Mite.pdf>.

Church Birthdays

Oct. 22-Len Tompkins,
24-Marsha Flater,
27-Don Erusha, Monica
Clark, 29-Susan Runkle,
30-Connie Seeliger,
Bruce Braley

For your prayers...

Len Tompkins

Eli Moretz

Bruce McCart

NOTICE: The office will be closed Friday, Oct. 23

Zoom Meetings

and Events

Wednesday, October 21

3:00 pm Faith & Art

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

Friday, October 23

10:00 pm Community Book Read Discussion

Tuesday, October 27

6:00 pm Faith & Art

6:00 pm Bible Study

Wednesday, October 28

3:00 pm Faith & Art

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

Mission Opportunities

Thanks for serving last week:

Organist: Louann Flaherty

Worship Leader: Kevin Thedens

Vocals: Sarah Burke

Sunday Supper: Jenny Allen

Lawn Mowing: Jim Seeley

Lectionary Study Leader: Hope Goering

First Pres Spottings!

Anne Marie Dickey was one of the featured fish catchers on station KCRG sports spotlight "John's Big Ol' Fish" for the week of Oct. 12th. She was fishing at Lake McBride with her Uncle and her brother Max and caught a fish. Way to land a lunker, Anne Marie! Watch the video here: <https://www.kcrg.com/2020/10/13/johns-big-ol-fish-monday-october-12-2020/>



Thank You

Dear Friends:

It is our pleasure to acknowledge your gift of \$500.00 on to The Theological Education Fund. Your generosity, together with the investment management provided by the Presbyterian Foundation, continue to safeguard those whom God and the Church call as our next generation of ministers.

The Rev. Dr. Lee Hinson-Hasty

Senior Director, Theological Education Funds Development

-from our local mission budget.

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.

CROP Walk

You can help support our walkers during this year's virtual CROP Walk. Click on the link for more information: [CROP Walk Waterloo](#). This link can also be found on the 'Outreach' page on our website.

Sunday Suppers volunteers

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.)

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](#). This link can also be found on the 'Outreach' page on our website.

Sharing with Gratitude – Thanksgiving Food Drive

Gratitude is a way to express our thanks and to share our gifts to enrich the lives of others. This season, as you sit down to dinner, make a point to give thanks and then make a gift so another might have dinner too. The Community Ministries Team offers a way to contribute to the North East Iowa Food Bank with a hands-on activity, yet without leaving your home.

In the November days before Thanksgiving a daily contribution is added to a basket or box set out in your home as a reminder of gratitude. Plan your grocery list to include items from the list provided so you can place one item in the box each day from November 1st through the 21st. Maybe you will want to divide the list with others so each is responsible for just half or one-third of the items. This project can offer an especially tangible way for families to help children experience sharing.

Completed boxes should be delivered to the church east entry on November 22 or 23 in order to transport food to the Food Bank before Thanksgiving. If you are unable to deliver your box to the church make arrangements for pick-up by calling the church office on November 22.



The daily donation list is attached to this email, or can be found on our website's 'News and Events' page under [Updates](#).

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 26 – Genesis 33:1-17; John 21:1-19

November 2 – Matthew 25:14-30

SHINE Zoom Activities

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



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=ZFBqK3Yra24zZDduZXR0dnFxV2sydz09>

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

Lawn Mower Sign-Up

We are still in need of lawn mowing volunteers at least through October. Please sign up by contacting the church or use the Google Doc link : [Mowing Sign Up](#)

The week of :

October 18: *Open **October 25:** *Open

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-OLQ7i58pZogJc9Ig

OR on our YouTube channel at any time <https://youtube.com/channel/UCoGPgzjZJdIIlClUfk8HhAw>

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

Oct. 23 Chapters 8-11 (Religious leaders)

Oct. 30 - Chapters 12-15 (Business leaders)

Nov. 6 - Chapters 16-18 (Political & community leaders)

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