



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

November 17, 2021

10:30 am  
Sunday Worship  
[Firstprescf.org](http://Firstprescf.org)



**Sermon:** "Power Aware"

**Scripture:** John 18:33-37

**Prayer of Preparation**

Holy God,

Still our distracted minds, our bruised hearts, and our weary bodies.

Speak the compassionate power of Jesus in such a way that we might hear it, in such a way that we might bear it into the world--

As a people who seek not to preserve what we know but to make palpable who you are--for we move and pray and act by the movement of your Spirit. Amen.

**This Weekend's Worship – 10:30 am  
Christ the King/Reign of Christ Sunday**

**Power Aware – A Choice**

Each day when I walk into my office, I am confronted with, *A Choice*. That is the title of this Lauren Wright Pittman painting inspired by the narrative in Matthew 4:1-11. It is commonly known as, The Temptation of Jesus in the Desert. Jesus is offered all the wealth and power in the world to turn away from God and worship the evil one. Jesus responds by shutting down each alluring offer with scripture. In this image, Lauren presents the choice to be made in jarring juxtaposition. Here is what Lauren says about how the image speaks to us.



"If we're honest, it is extremely difficult to reject the tempting power and wealth this world has to offer and allow our life to take the shape of good news for all. The choice isn't an obvious one. One side looks like an opulent pile of riches, a crown, and endless power, while the other looks like tattered and worn hands with new life blooming out of wounds, work, burdens, and relationships. This choice may seem like a distant decision made long ago, but it's a decision to be made every single day, one moment at a time. In working for and with the downtrodden, poor, orphaned, widowed, ostracized, and oppressed, we will find ourselves."

I find Lauren's depiction of Jesus and challenge to us especially poignant as we prepare for Christ the King (Reign of Christ) Sunday. Jesus chose to wield power in a much different way than those with which he was tempted. Perhaps *our* temptation is to deny that we even have power. This, of course, is not the case. Every day we are all confronted with a choice, more likely multiple choices, that wield a measure of power. What businesses will we support? For whom will we vote? With what ministries should we partner? Is there a choice you can make this week that will show forth compassionate power? Let's join in seeking to be more power aware as we follow The One who took on flesh to serve the world.

*Pastor Julie*

**Church Birthdays**

Nov. 18-Joyce Anderson, 20-Spencer Lockey, 21-'Pete' McCart, 25-Sally Lee, 26-Kay Leeper, 27-Marcie Baillie

**For your prayers...**

**Len Tompkins**

**Bruce McCart and 'Pete' McCart**

**Notice...**

**Give Thanks Food Donation** deadline is this Sunday!

**Hanging of the Greens**

after worship this Sunday, November 21. (No lunch provided.)

There will be NO Shine on November 28 due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

*Scan the QR code above for our Order of Worship*

## Thanks for serving last week:

**Preacher:** Rev. Betsy Thompson

**Worship Leader:** Jane Seeley

**Announcements:** Lynette Cline

**Computer Operator:** Carol Dotseth

**Videographer:** Neal Leeper

**Greeters:** Gary & Margaret Clark

**Coffee Sale:** Margaret Clark

**Advent Prep:** Jim & Jane Seeley, Mike & Julie Rokes

**Food Bank Display:** Jill Mortenson, Dave & Sue Luck

## Office Notes:

Lynette will be out of the office Wednesday, Nov. 24 & Monday, Nov. 29.

The office is closed Nov. 25 & 26.

### NE Iowa Food Bank

#### GIVE THANKS WITH A GRATEFUL HEART

**This Sunday November 21st is the final day** to deliver your non-perishable food items to **the church library**. Members of Community Ministries will deliver our contributions to the NE Iowa Food Bank the following morning.

Follow this hyperlink, [Give Thanks](#) to a list of groceries. If you missed a few days, you can still catch up. If you should need a member of the Community Ministries Team to pick up your donation of groceries, please call



the church office before this Friday, November 19 to leave that message. Money donations may be made **payable** to the church with the notation "Northeast Iowa Food Bank".

## This week's schedule (Zoom and on-site)

### Thursday, November 18

2:00 pm Safe Ministry, dining room

5:30 pm Community Ministries, Zoom

### Sunday, November 21

10:30 am Sunday Worship, sanctuary  
-Breakout Session for SHINE

11:45 am Hanging of the Greens

### Thursday and Friday, Nov. 25 & 26

— Office closed, Thanksgiving holiday

## Hanging of the Greens

We are decorating for Advent after worship this Sunday, November 21. No lunch served, but anyone willing to help for a little while would be great.



Decorations will already be set out and all boxes/containers put in the proper location. Helpers won't have to mingle a lot, just go to a location and work. Thank you!

## Attention Families!

- Sunday SHINE will **NOT** be held next Sunday, November 28th during worship service.
- The Nursery will still be staffed.

Thank You and Happy Thanksgiving!

## Coming Soon.....



**SHINE Families:** Our *Super Simple Christmas Pageant* is Sunday, December 19th. Contact Pastor Julie to claim your part!

Children and Youth are invited to:

*Celebrate  
compassion and  
gratitude*

Join us for singing, crafts, fun and  
friends at SHINE!

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2021  
DIRECTLY FOLLOWING CHILDREN'S  
CHAT IN WORSHIP

## We need YOU to be a greeter!

Please sign up in the narthex or online:

[Sign Up Genius: Greeters](#)



### Thank You

Thanks to everyone who purchased/donated toward the Fair Trade Coffee and Chocolate. We received \$294! This will offset our expense of \$250, with the remaining \$44 going to the Northeast Iowa Food Bank.

Thanks again for your response.

Thank you for your card and your prayers on my behalf. The three acres of corn is all harvested and two trips into town in the 4230 John Deere. We had coffee the second week in November at the Maynard Presbyterian Church. Take care each and everyone in these tough times. God's love in Jesus name to each and every one of you.

~Love, Roger Dean

### Have an OK Christmas Concert

Cedar Heights Presbyterian Church, 2015 Rainbow Dr, Cedar Falls, is hosting Christmas Concert Sunday, December 5, 3:00 pm. Professional string duo The OK Factor (Olivia and Karla) will be offering very special Christmas music. Please join them for this great opportunity to get into the spirit of the season. There is no entrance fee, but freewill offerings/donations are much appreciated, 10% of which will go to the Northeast Iowa Food Bank.

### Wesley Foundation's 100th Birthday Celebration

ThreeHouse Collaborative Campus Ministries invites you to celebrate their 100 years of ministry at UNI. Dinner, drinks, music and entertainment, a silent auction and more.

- Date: Saturday, December 4
- Time: 4:00-7:00 pm
- Location: Diamond Event Center, 5307 Caraway Ln, CF
- Tickets: \$30 adults/\$10 students and children
- To RSVP: email: [robin@threehouse.org](mailto:robin@threehouse.org) or call 319-266-4071 by November 22

*Covid guidelines will be in place and masks will be required.*

## The Season of Giving

### Adopt A Family

It is that time of year again to participate in a First Presbyterian tradition that has been providing Christmas cheer to needy families for years! It is very simple. All you need to do is follow these directions....

In order to choose one or more gifts from our "Five Trees," click on the links below. You can select from any or all of the five choices. After you have shopped for your gift, please wrap it and put a tag on the gift that tells who it is for and what it is. We will change the tag to the name only before we deliver the gift. Your gifts should be taken **to the church library** in the basement. The **deadline to return gifts is Sunday, December 12**. Please do not leave gifts in the entryway for security reasons. A cart is available if needed.

Sign up is easy! Click on the link/s, choose the item/s you wish to shop for, then click 'submit and sign up' at the bottom of the screen. You'll be directed to the next page; enter in your name, email and phone number then click 'Sign Up Now' at the bottom. Your information is confidential; only the church office will see it. You will then receive a confirmation email.

Or, please consider sending a check to First Presbyterian Church and put Adopt-A-Family in the memo. We would be happy to do your shopping for you.



**2 yr old girl:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4ba9a728abf4cf8-adopt4>



**5 yr old boy:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4BA9A728ABF4CF8-adopt>



**10 yr old boy:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4BA9A728ABF4CF8-adopt1>



**Mother:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4ba9a728abf4cf8-adopt3>



**Household:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4BA9A728ABF4CF8-adopt2>