



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

February 23, 2022

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



**Prayer of Preparation**

Holy God, present in our midst yet beyond all comprehension,  
by your light, we see light;  
by your healing, we are made whole;  
by your mercy, we know your greatness.  
Turn your gaze upon our weakness and show us the way of  
your love that we may live with unveiled faces, through Jesus  
Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one  
God, now and forever.  
Amen.

**This Weekend's Worship**

– Matthew 25 Commitment Service –  
The Transfiguration

Scripture: Luke 9:28-43



WE ARE A  
**MATTHEW 25 Church**

*Matthew 25: 31-46*

*Actively Engaged in the World*

**Matthew 25 Initiative – Committing to the Call**

Matthew 25:31-46 calls all of us to actively engage in the world around us, so our faith

comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities. We are exhorted to act boldly and

compassionately to serve people who are hungry, oppressed, imprisoned or poor.

There is power in unity. By accepting the Matthew 25 invitation, we are joining many other congregations to strengthen the work and witness to Jesus Christ in our communities. We are becoming more unified with other PC(USA) congregations as we become a more relevant presence in the world. The Matthew 25 vision also demonstrates our understanding as Presbyterian Christians that we are "saved to serve."

By committing to become a Matthew 25 church, **we are responding to Christ's urgent call to be a church of action, where God's love, justice, and mercy shine forth and are contagious.** Our re-energized faith can unite and connect all for a common and holy purpose to continue the mission and ministry of Jesus in the church and in the world.

This Sunday we will collectively commit to the Matthew 25 Initiative. Through scripture, song, and liturgy, we will celebrate the movement of the Holy Spirit in our lives, and her prompting to step out faithfully as the body of Christ!

**Church Birthdays**

Feb. 27-Dot Clausen, Addison Wells, 28-Walt Stephenson, Mar. 3- Vera Brunskill

**Sympathy to...**

**Ellie Tompkins** and family upon the death of Len Tompkins

**For your prayers...**

Harriett Bullock

Darrel Flater

**Notice...**

**Next Wednesday —  
Ash Wednesday Worship**  
March 2, 6:30 pm in the sanctuary with the CF Mennonites

Our recorded worship service on TV is shown on **CFU Public Access Channel** Thursdays at 6:00 pm.

**Greeter Sign Up:**

[Sign Up Genius: Greeters](#)

**Worship Leader Sign Up:**

[Sign Up Genius: Worship Leaders](#)

**Thanks for serving last week:**

**Worship Leaders:** *Working for Justice: Breaking Bias Group* - Jean Boller, Brad Braley, Margaret Clark, Dot Clausen, Carol Dotseth, Katheryn East, Hope Goering, Kay Leeper, Mark & Jill Mortenson, Ned Ratekin, Carolyn Stephenson, Jan Thedens, Dianne VanGorp

**Videographer:** Gary Clark

**Computer Operator:** Neal Leeper

**Audio Archive :** Eric Braley

**Ash Wednesday Worship**

Join us on **next Wednesday**, March 2, 6:30 pm in the sanctuary. We will reflect on Ash Wednesday in a joint service with the Cedar Falls Mennonites. Holy Communion will be celebrated.

**Member Anniversaries**

Jan Reimer & Cyd Grafft: 3.28.82– 40 years

**These Days Devotionals**

The spring quarter of These Days are available in the narthex.

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

**Wednesday, February 23**

10:00 am Working for Justice, Zoom

**Sunday, February 27**

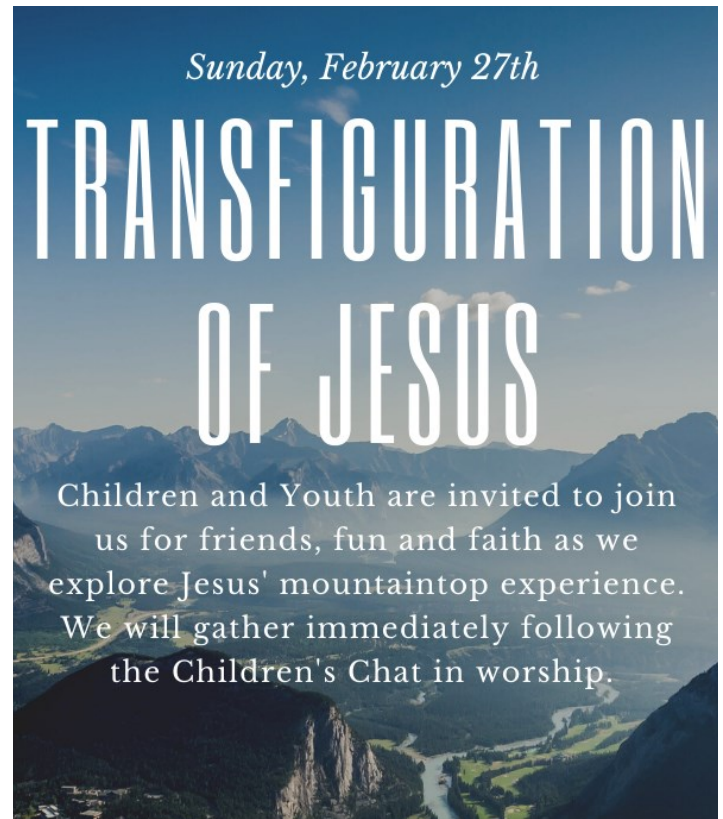
10:30 am Worship, sanctuary  
-SHINE breakout sessions

**Wednesday, March 2**

10:00 am Working for Justice, Zoom  
6:30 pm **Ash Wednesday Worship, sanctuary**

**Thursday, March 3**

1:00 pm Esther Circle, Zoom



**Summer Camp at Lakeshore Center**

Lakeshore is firmly rooted in our belief that God's love is infinite, joyful, and free to ALL. Everyone is welcomed, loved, and valued at Lakeshore. Our primary goal at summer camp is to share this love with every single camper and help them to grow—physically, emotionally, and spiritually—into the unique people our loving God has created them to be. (And have fun while we're at it!)

Children and Youth can learn more here: [Summer Camp at Lakeshore Center](#)

**CAMPERSHIP DONATIONS ARE REQUESTED, NEEDED AND PRAYED FOR!!**

We are anticipating 5-6 campers attending or more!

***We are asking for YOUR DONATIONS to help send our kids to camp! Make checks payable to our church with "camp" on the memo.***



## Working for Justice: Breaking Bias

### Spring Discussion Schedule Using “Lent of Liberation”

Wednesdays, 10:00 am via ZOOM

Anyone welcome! Contact us to receive the Zoom link.

#### Week One (Feb 28-March 6)

Introduction (pgs. 1-6) and Day 1 (pgs. 7-9)

#### Week Two (March 7-13)

Days 2-8 (pgs. 10-29)

#### March 14-20: SPRING BREAK-----NO MEETING

#### Week Three (March 21- 27)

Days 9-21 (pgs. 30-62)

#### Week Four (March 28-April 3)

Days 22-28 (pgs. 63-79)

#### Week Five (April 4-10)

Days 29-35 (pgs. 80-96)

#### Week Six (April 11-17)

Days 36-40 and the Appendix (pgs. 97-117)

### Thank You

Dear Friends,

Hawkeye Community College Foundation serves as a resource to help students be successful.

We appreciate your generosity and support. Your gift of \$3,000 to the Family Literacy Fund will help us continue to meet those needs.

Sincerely,

Holly Johnson,

Executive Director of Institutional Advancement

Todd Holcomb, Ed.D

President, Hawkeye Community College

*Monies are from the Presbytery Mission Grant*

Dear Friends,

On behalf of all of us at the Northeast Iowa Food Bank, I would like to thank you for your recent contribution of \$124.54. Our mission is to provide nutritious food and grocery products to those in need.

Because of you, we are able to meet a growing need and make a difference in people's lives.

With Sincere Appreciation,

Barb Prather, Executive Director

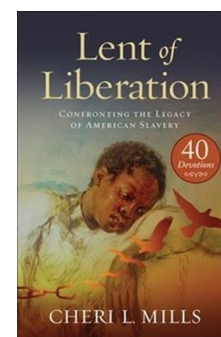
*Cash donations from the 'Give Thanks' Food drive.*

## 2022 Lenten Devotional – Lent of Liberation

As a Matthew 25 Church, we have committed to the work of dismantling structural racism. The key first step in this work is to listen openly to the stories of those who regularly encounter discrimination, bias, prejudice, and oppression.

To that end, our 2022 Lenten Devotional is “Lent of Liberation: Confronting the Legacy of American Slavery”.

This Lenten devotional invites us to learn more about the brutal institution of slavery and its impact on Black people in America and recognize how its evolution and legacy continue to harm the United States today. Each of the forty devotions includes the testimony of a person who escaped slavery through the Underground Railroad, a Scripture passage, and a reflection connecting biblical and historical themes of liberation. Reflecting on Lenten themes of exodus, redemption, discipline, and repentance, readers, both Black and white, will be empowered for the work of racial justice. Find more information and links to booksellers [here](#).



### Join a Lenten Reflection Group!

We know that our spiritual formation cannot occur in isolation. It takes a community to support, teach, listen, and pray together. This Lent we will have 3 Lenten Reflection groups to choose from. All groups will base their reflections on our chosen Lenten devotional, “Lent of Liberation”. Please check out the meeting times below to see which one fits your schedule.

**10:00 am Wednesdays via Zoom** – this is our Working for Justice: Breaking Bias group. All are welcome to join regardless of whether you have attended WfJ:BB in the past. These sessions will last about 60 minutes.

**6:30 pm Wednesdays at First Pres.** – this group will gather at the church. These session will last between 30 and 40 minutes with some music, discussion, and prayer.

**TBD** – this group will be offered at a time when those with interest are not able to participate at the other times offered. If you are one of these people, please send Pastor Julie an email [pastor@firstprescf.org](mailto:pastor@firstprescf.org). More details to come.