



10:00 am
 Sunday Worship
Firstprescf.org



**“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?”
 Matthew 22:36**



SUNDAY, October 29
 Theme: Kin(g)dom Talents
 Scriptures: Matthew 22:36-40

ALL SAINTS’ SUNDAY

Embodied Love

Our Stewardship series is based on the Gospel of Matthew Lectionary passages for October. One very important theme in Matthew is the Kingdom of God. The Kin(g)dom of God is radically different than the realm that the early church was living in.

In God’s kin-dom, there is abundance: more than enough food, money, love, and resources for every child of God to thrive. When there’s enough for everyone, no one needs to fight or oppress anyone else. Everything Jesus taught and did was about breaking down hurtful, oppressive systems and building up God’s kingdom of abundance instead.

So, when some religious leaders Jesus, “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?”, it didn’t take a second for Jesus to respond, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.” And “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

How does one love God? Why is it so hard to love our neighbors? For that matter, why is it so hard to love oneself? This Sunday we will consider these questions and ponder how Jesus and the saints through the ages embodied this commandment.

Your partner in the journey,

Pastor Julie

A Prayer Responding to War in Israel and Gaza by Teri McDowell Ott

Eternal God,
 You know our history of complicated conflicts, tense polarization, and situations so politicized that we are afraid to say or pray anything. Yet we know you grieve the violence of war and condemn acts of terrorism. We know you grieve the historical suffering of Jews and Palestinians. May our prayers for peace be uttered out loud for all to hear, our prayers for diplomacy, and for difficult, yet faithful conversation to resume.

God, we groan in grief over the news of this war in Israel and Gaza. Pave a path toward peace in this age-old, tragic conflict. Protect the innocent wherever bombs of destruction fall. Be with those who are captured and the families of those who are captured. Offer a way out for those who are trapped. Awaken us to our common humanity, our common human needs no matter the walls we build.

Amen.

Church Birthdays

Oct 27-Joe Sjolander,
 Nov. 2-Pat Moore,
 4-Madison Sjolander

For Your Prayers...

Kay Leeper

Coming Soon...

Sunday, October 29
All Saints Sunday
 - UNICEF Noisy Offering (kids can wear their Halloween costumes!)
 - Bake Sale for UNICEF

We need you!

We would like a volunteer to be a worship leader this Sunday for our All Saints Celebration. Please sign up below or contact the office. There are plenty of spots available to be a Sunday worship leader!

Sign up anytime online:

Worship Leader Sign Up:
[Sign Up: Worship Leaders](#)
 Or sign up in the narthex!

Thanks for serving last week:

Computer Operator: Steve Moon

Videographer: Kevin Thedens

Window Washing: Jim Seeley

South Door Replacement/Handrail Repair:

Gary Clark, Rob Cline, Gary Sabey, Jim Seeley

Lawn Mowing 10/22: Steve Moon

Thank You

I would like to extend a big 'thank you' to my church family for all the support during and after my surgery. Your care and concern made a big difference!

Jean Boller

Dear friends,

The many beautiful cards and kind messages that have come our way are testimony to our caring community at First Presbyterian.

Thank you for your special thoughts to boost Jill's recovery and rehab and for Mark's extra-special patience and TLC for Jill.

In friendship,

Mark and Jill Mortenson

Mission Giving Opportunity



The Mission Committee is sponsoring a feminine hygiene product drive during the month of October. There will be a tub in the entryway near the food bank box. The products will be donated to two middle schools in Waterloo.

Upcoming schedule

Wednesday, October 25

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, sanctuary

Saturday, October 28

9:00 am Nominating Committee, library

Sunday, October 29

10:00 am All Saints Sunday Worship, sanctuary

11:15 am UNICEF Bake Sale, narthex

White Ally Training in the Evenings

If there is sufficient interest, an evening group will be set up.

This offering is open to our congregation as well as the general public. Consider this valuable opportunity and invite a friend!

Sponsored by Working for Justice: Breaking Bias

Facilitated by the CF Mennonite Congregation

There are seven sessions; an evening schedule would be set by the participants.

Contact Sandy Jensen by November 1.

Community Ministries News

Eye of the Needle Family Services is having its Annual Chicken and Noodle Dinner at Kimball Avenue United Methodist Church.

The meal is Saturday, November 4, from 11:00 am-2:00 pm. The cost is \$12, for 12 years and older.

They will be celebrating their 20th anniversary.

Sunday Morning, October 29

CONGREGATION:

- *Bring money for the yummy Bake Sale fundraiser for UNICEF in the narthex.
- *Bring your coins for a noisy offering!

CHILDREN:

- *Wear your Halloween costumes and help us collect a noisy offering!

**TRICK
OR
TREAT**
FOR UNICEF





“I’m going to let it shine”

This little light of mine

I’m going to let it shine.

Oh, this little light of mine

I’m going to let it shine.

Let it shine, all the time, let it shine.

Hide it under a bushel? No!

I’m going to let it shine.

Hide it under a bushel? No!

I’m going to let it shine.

Let it shine, all the time, let it shine.

This song has biblical origins. *“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. – Matthew 5:14-16 – New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition – “No one after lighting a lamp puts it in a cellar, but on the lampstand so that those who enter may see the light” – Luke 11:33 (NRSV)*

The author of the song is unknown, but it is thought to have originated in the 1920s and was first published in *Action Songs for Boys and Girls (1944)*. Since then, it’s been sung by untold numbers of children in Sunday school and at church camp and holds a place in the history of American folk and gospel music. In the 1960s, the song became an anthem of the civil rights movement, inspiring marchers while standing up to their oppressors.

Whenever it’s sung, it’s a call to action. As Christians we cannot passively respond to God’s grace, we must act, using all the talents God has given us. Whether we are young, old or in the middle, we all have gifts and abilities that can be used to show God’s love for everyone in the world.

Our talents are a precious gift given to us by God. Be like Jesus and be a good steward of your talents; working to spread God’s love.

Stewardship Chair