



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

January 10, 2024

10:00 am
Sunday Worship
Firstprescf.org



Baptism of Jesus – January 14

Scripture: Genesis 1:1-15, Mark 1:4-11



Art: A Bayou Baptism

by Lauren Wright Pittman

Inspired by Mark 1:4-11

"Jesus is stretching out of the frame inviting the viewer to celebrate their own mysterious and wonderful calling from God, as he basks in his own. I chose to paint a pelican for the Holy Spirit's descent, because the scriptural texts leave some room for interpretation; the descending figure is described as 'like a dove'. So, I decided to paint a pelican which is native to the bayou and was also used to depict Christ's sacrifice in medieval Christian art. God the Creator is represented as the sun, with voice waves radiating from the center, expressing how pleased God is with Jesus."

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I love this depiction of Jesus' baptism by artist, Lauren Wright Pittman. She helps us open our imaginations to what that Holy Spirit moment may have been like. She also invites us to imagine what the moment in our own context. I wonder what type of bird you think would have descended upon Jesus had he been baptized in the Cedar River. I wonder how you would feel standing along the riverbank that day. I wonder how you feel when we baptize someone in our worship services. I look forward to wondering with you about these things this Sunday as we celebrate the baptism of Jesus and remember our own baptisms.

Your partner in the journey,
Pastor Julie

Coming Soon! Church-wide Confirmation

When were you confirmed? 20-30 years ago? Longer? Never? Chances are high that some of what you learned in your confirmation classes disappeared from memory a while ago. Starting January 21, we will be using the same confirmation curriculum our confirmands are using as our spring worship series. Our first lesson will address the basics with the question, "What is confirmation?"



Church Birthdays

Jan. 10-Stephanie Marra,
12- Mary McCalley,
19-Chad Lee, 20-Margaret Clark

For Your Prayers...

Gary Clark

Denise Brown

Sympathy to Cory & Megan Linsey on the death of Cory's father Larry.

Coming Soon...

**TONIGHT'S MEAL
CANCELED!!**

Tentative reschedule date is next Wednesday, Jan. 17, 5:30 pm

Sunday, January 14

Shine Sessions resume.

Fellowship after worship hosted by the Deacons.

Sign up anytime online:

Worship Leader Sign Up:

[Sign Up: Worship Leaders](#)

Or sign up in the narthex!

Thanks for serving last week:

Worship Leader: Lynette Cline

Videographer: Brad Jensen

Computer Operator: Rob Cline

Communion Preparer: Julie Rokes

Decoration storage: Jim & Jane Seeley,
Gary Clark, Julie Rokes, and all those
who helped after worship on Sunday.

Snow Removal: Kirk Eastman, Gary Sabey,
Jim Seeley

Due Next Week!



Annual reports from our Ministry Teams are due into the office on Friday, January 19 by noon. Please have reports in a Word or Excel format and email to:

office@firstprescf.org. Thank you!

Fellowship this Sunday

This Sunday after worship, there will be a time of refreshments and fellowship in the narthex hosted by the Deacons.

Upcoming schedule

Wednesday, January 10

— NO Meal due to weather

Epiphany Sunday, January 14

10:00 am Worship, sanctuary

Shine Breakout Sessions

11:15 am Fellowship, narthex

Monday, January 15

— office closed, MLK, Jr holiday

6:30 pm Worship Team, Zoom

Tuesday, January 16

6:30 pm CYF Team, Zoom

Wednesday, January 17

10:00 am Working for Justice, dining room

5:30 pm Wednesday Meal-tentative

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, sanctuary

Shared Monthly Meal—**DATE CHANGE!**

The meal planned for tonight has been **CANCELED** and tentatively rescheduled for next Wednesday, January 17, 5:30 pm

Food and beverages are provided.

Anyone is welcome to stop in and share a meal with us.

A freewill offering will be received.

Help cleaning up is always appreciated.



Welcoming Corp: Helping a Refugee Family

Here is your chance to participate in our efforts to sponsor an immigrant refugee family in the Cedar Valley. A group of 7 individuals from Cedar Falls Mennonite Church and First Presbyterian Church are preparing to sponsor an immigrant refugee family. We are working through the [Welcome Corps](#).

We need to raise at least **\$2,425** per person and we have a goal of a total of at least **\$12,125** to support a family of 4-5.

If you would like to help in this effort, please make a donation to First Presbyterian Church with the note "Newcomer Support" in the memo line, or you may donate online to our church's PayPal account. You may donate directly to the project: <https://gofund.me/1357f705>. Contact Rhonda Braley with questions.

Looking ahead...

Sunday, February 4

Our ANNUAL MEETING of the Congregation will be part of the worship service. We will be voting on the pastor's terms of call and new officers. An **adult forum** on the Annual Report will be that morning at **9:00 am** in the dining room.

Sunday, February 11

After worship join us in the dining room for a pancake brunch as we anticipate the coming of the Lenten season.

Thank You

Dear Friends,

We are beyond grateful for you to join us in our pursuit of a more equitable world for every child. On behalf of UNICEF thank you for your generous gift of \$401.07. We are grateful for your support.

V. Renee Cutting, Chief Philanthropy Officer

Monies are from the Noisy Offering and Esther Circle Bake Sale.