



August 30, 2026 First Presbyterian Church Waterloo, IA



Stern of Lady Washington; Photo by Christopher Erickson

Order of Worship

*Please stand as you are able

Prelude

He Hideth My Soul

arr. Hayes

Welcome and Announcements:

CALL TO WORSHIP

-- Psalm 145:1-10

I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

Every day I will bless you, and praise your name forever and ever.

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable.

One generation shall laud your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.

On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.

The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed, and I will declare your greatness.

They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness, and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

The LORD is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made.

All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your faithful shall bless you.

*HYMN

"O Splendor of God's Glory Bright"

#666, Hymnal

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

"Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen."

CALL TO CONFESSION, CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

If we say we have no sin, or pretend it's not that big a deal, the only people we're fooling are ourselves, because God and everyone else knows that we sin.

Despite this, Jesus loved us enough to come and take care of our sin.

The good news is that if we call our wrong actions and inactions the same thing God does then because of Jesus, God forgives our sins and removes from us from all that gets in the way of following Jesus.

Trusting in God's mercy and love, let us confess our sins.

O Lord, you bestow on us the honor of being called your children.
Yet we confess that so often we live as though the forces of darkness were our parentage.
We do the things we should not and don't do those things that we should.
We find ways to ensure our own comfort ignoring others in need and taking from them.
Forgive us our self-centeredness and our selfishness.
O God, give us the willingness to live out our lives as your children.
Help us to be embrace your love and share it with others.
That by your Spirit others will be drawn to you.

Here is God’s amazing grace. In Christ we are forgiven, made new and loved.
Thanks be to God, Amen.

Passing of the Peace

May the peace, love and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.
Let us greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Response to Grace: **“Speak, O Lord”** **Insert, vs. 2 Only**
Teach us Lord, full obedience, holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of Your purity.
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see Your majestic love and authority.
Words of pow’r that can never fail; let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Special Music O Praise Ye The Lord Wood

Scripture Reading: **James 3:1-13**
Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, because you know that we will be judged more strictly. For we all stumble in many ways. If someone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect individual, able to control the entire body as well. And if we put bits into the mouths of horses to get them to obey us, then we guide their entire bodies.
Look at ships too: Though they are so large and driven by harsh winds, they are steered by a tiny rudder wherever the pilot's inclination directs. So too the tongue is a small part of the body, yet it has great pretensions. Think how small a flame sets a huge

forest ablaze. And the tongue is a fire! The tongue represents the world of wrongdoing among the parts of our bodies. It pollutes the entire body and sets fire to the course of human existence— and is set on fire by hell.
For every kind of animal, bird, reptile, and sea creature is subdued and has been subdued by humankind. But no human being can subdue the tongue; it is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse people made in God's image. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. These things should not be so, my brothers and sisters. A spring does not pour out fresh water and bitter water from the same opening, does it? Can a fig tree produce olives, my brothers and sisters, or a vine produce figs? Neither can a salt water spring produce fresh water.
Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct he should show his works done in the gentleness that wisdom brings.

Sermon *“The Practice of Wisdom”* Rev. Tim Dyck

***Song of Response** *“Be Thou My Vision”* #450, Hymnal

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer pg. 35, Hymnal

Presentation of Our Offerings
O People of God, we have been blessed with not only all the blessings in spiritual places, but also in our daily lives. In gratitude for the love shown us and so that this love can be experienced by others, we now respond by giving so that the work of God may continue throughout the world. Let us take our morning offering at this time.

Offertory *Sweet By and By* Kirkpatrick

***Doxology** *“Make a Joyful Noise to God!”* #54, Hymnal (Verse 1 only)
Make a joyful noise to God! All creation sings your praise!
Great your wonders here displayed, unexcelled through-out our days.
Glorious is you sacred name, ages old, yet still the same.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Gracious God, Dear God, you have given us so much. As we give you back some of what you first gave us, they represent our commitment of all that we are and have to you. Help us to live out our calling to love you, serve others and witness to all that we are in Jesus Christ. This we ask in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

***Song of Sending**

“Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord”

#707, Hymnal

***Charge and Benediction**

--- Col. 3:16-17

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,

Teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom,

Singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,

With thankfulness in your hearts to God.

And whatever you do,

In word or deed,

Do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,

Giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Postlude

Heavenly Sunlight

arr. Hayes

*Make a secure donation online
using your phone's camera
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The lectionary reader this week is Nancy Catterson

*The pulpit flowers are provided by Jerry & Judy Anders
in honor of the wonderful staff*

First Church Staff

Rev. Tim Dyck, Pastor and Head of Staff

Gabe Wagner, Sanctuary Choir Director

Linda Wiles, Organist/Pianist; Handbell Choir Director

Amber Gilles, Office Manager & Streaming Service Operator

Church Office Hours: Mon-Thu 9:00am to 4:00pm; Closed Fridays

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This service is being live streamed on our YouTube channel, bit.ly/firstpreswaterloo
