

August 13, 2023—10:00am  
Series: Walking in the Storm

Service of Worship  
Week 8: Sacred Gratitude

First Presbyterian Church  
Cedar Falls, IA

### UNITE IN LOVE

**Welcome**

Rev. Julie Erkel Hagee

**Prelude**

“Heavenly Sunlight”

Connie Herbon, piano  
Steve Moon, banjo

**Call to Worship**

One: God, we come with grateful hearts

**ALL: for music and scripture**

One: for your constant presence

**ALL: for Sabbath rest and routine.**

One: We come with grateful hearts singing,

**ALL: Alleluia, praise be to your name!**

**Gathering Hymn 19**

“God of Great and God of Small”

*all verses*

### GROW IN FAITH

**Time for Wonder** *children are invited forward*

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture Reading**

1 Thessalonians 5:12-24

**Reflection on the Word**

*Sacred Gratitude*

**The Word in Song 36**

“For the Fruit of All Creation”

*all verses*

**Invitation to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession**

Merciful Savior, we confess  
that we are delinquent in our gratitude  
and sluggish with our thanks.

It is easier to keep a running tally  
of all that is wrong or has wronged us  
than to lift our eyes to see all that is right.

Open our hearts to your goodness,  
so that we cannot help but overflow  
with grateful praises to your glory.

**Quiet Reflection**

**Assurance of Grace**

One: Our God is loving and forgiving.

Be assured God's loving arms tenderly hold us in forgiveness  
and send us forth to new life. Receive and share the good news:

**ALL: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and made whole, thanks be to God.**

**Response to Grace 647**

“Give Thanks”

*all verses*

**REACH OUT TO OTHERS**

**Offering Invitation & Dedication**

*Gifts may be given online at [firstprescf.org](http://firstprescf.org)*

**Prayers of the People**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Our Creator in heaven, holy is your name, your kin-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kin-dom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

**Our Life Together**

**Sending Hymn 542**

“God Be with You Till We Meet Again”

*all verses*

**Blessing**

**Postlude**