

First Presbyterian Church



512 Third Street SW

Rochester, Minnesota 55902

Phone 282-1618

Service for the Lord's Day
January 31, 2016
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

8:30 and 11 a.m.

Welcome to worship this morning.

- First Presbyterian Church welcomes families with young children. Staffed nursery care is available during worship. Audio from the worship service can be heard in the library (adjacent to the sanctuary) and social hall.
- If you are visiting because of medical treatment at Mayo Clinic we offer our prayers for healing.
- Our activities and programs are open to all, member and friend alike.
- We invite you to join us for coffee and fellowship in the social hall following the 8:30 service and in the atrium following the 11:00 service.

** As a courtesy to others, please silence cell phones. **

Gathering

Prelude

Blest Be the Tie That Binds
Kum ba Yah
Alleluia Ringers

Van Valey and Berry
Jeffrey Honoré

*Our worship begins with the prelude. Let the power of the music speak to you of God's glory;
let its quietness tell you of God's peace; let its beauty lift your hearts in prayer.*

Greeting and Welcome

Please sign the Opportunity for Friendship Register and pass it to the person next to you.

Minute for "Sitter Service"

Gayle Jones

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

Psalm 71

(8:30) Judy Smithson
(11:00) Sylvia Swede

Our hope is in God all of our lives.

God is a rock of refuge: a fortress against threat and shame.

God held us since birth.

So we are never in the full grasp of the unjust and cruel.

In love, God saves and supports us.

Trusting in God, we continually offer our praise!

Let us worship the Lord.

◆ **Hymn 53**

O God, Who Gives Us Life

NOEL

Call to Reconciliation (please be seated)

*God calls us to speak the truth, even when it is difficult, to others but also to ourselves.
Confessing our sin in prayer, we dare to speak the truth about ourselves to God, who
desires to deliver us and cast out fear. Let us come before God and confess our sin.*

Silent Confession

Kyrie 430 (stanza 1)

Remember Not, O God (Psalm 79)
Remember not, O God, the sins of long ago;
In tender mercy visit us, distressed and humbled low.

SOUTHWELL

Unison Prayer of Confession

God, our Deliverer, we confess that we are too reluctant to speak and to live according to your truth. We grow comfortable with the way things are, passively condoning injustice. We see ourselves as “insiders,” excluding those we consider “outsiders.” We find it easier to pluck up and pull down, to destroy and overthrow, than to build and to plant. Forgive us, O God, for being timid disciples. Empty us of fear and shame, and fill us with love that is humble and patient and kind. We pray this in the name of the One who humbled himself, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

Words of Life

God has loved us from the beginning, and God’s love for us will never end. Do not fear, therefore, but have faith in God’s steadfast love, God’s healing power, and God’s ability to make all things new. Amen.

◆ **Response 447**

We Are Forgiven

WE ARE FORGIVEN

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

◆ **Passing of the Peace**

Due to health concerns in this cold and flu season, please refrain from shaking hands and greet each other with a word of peace or a wave of the hand.

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let us share a sign of the peace of Christ with one another!

The Word

Prayer for Illumination 460 (st. 1) (seated) Break Thou the Bread of Life

BREAD OF LIFE

Break thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as thou didst break the loaves beside the sea.
Beyond the sacred page I seek thee, Lord. My spirit pants for thee, O living Word!

Reading from the Psalms

Psalms 71:1-6

Anthem (8:30)

Footprints in the Sand

David Angerman

Christina Wentz and Anna Larson

Lord, on the gentle wind, we hear you calling, “Come follow me.” Lord, in the sands of time your footsteps falling, lead us to thee. Though they pass across dark mountains, though they walk through valleys deep, on the road I see your footprints and I follow where they lead.

(Chorus) There are footprints in the sand by the sea of Galilee, there are footprints in the sand that lead to Calvary. How beautiful the feet of the blessed Prince of Peace. I thank you, Lord, for your footprints in the sand.

Lord, as the new day dawns, I see you walking by the crystal sea. Lord, on that distant shore, I see your footprints still leading me. As they lead into the future to a calling yet unknown, I will keep His promise near me. I will never walk alone!

(Chorus)

Jesus came to earth to illumine the way, and the path that He left is still shining today. The sands of time have not covered the path He laid down. For those who are seeking, the way still is found, still is found.

(Chorus)

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(11:00) Not for Tongues of Heaven’s Angels (1 Corinthians 13)

Roy Hopp

Chancel Choir and Congregation



choir Not for tongues of heav-en's an - gels, not for wis - dom to dis -
 choir Love is hum - ble, love is gen - tle, love is ten - der, true, and
 choir Nev - er jeal - ous, nev - er self - ish, love will not re - joice in
 all In the day this world is fad - ing faith and hope will play their



cern, not for faith that mas - ters moun - tains, for this
 kind; love is gra - cious, ev - er pa - tient, gen - er -
 wrong; nev - er boast - ful nor re - sent - ful, love be -
 part; but when Christ is seen in glo - ry love shall



bet - ter gift we yearn: may love be ours, O Lord.
 ous of heart and mind: all may love be ours, O Lord.
 lieves and suf - fers long: all may love be ours, O Lord. *interlude*
 reign in ev - ery heart: all may love be ours, O Lord.

Text: 1 Corinthians 13; para. Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1984. ©1985 Hope Publishing Co.
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Time for All Our Young Worshippers

Hymn 487 (stanza 1)

These Treasured Children

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

These treasured children present now are bound to us by sacred vow:
 with love, we make a heartfelt claim to welcome them in Jesus' name.

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Pass Prayer Cards to the aisle. An usher will collect them.

Children through third grade may go to room E206 for Kids' Zone or are welcome to stay with their parents in worship. Children above third grade should stay in worship.

Reading from the Epistles

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia hymn 591 (refrain)

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

HALLE, HALLE

Message

An Unfinished Scale

Rev. T. J. Parlette

**** A Moment for Reflection ****

Our Response

◆ **Hymn 693**

Though I May Speak

GIFT OF LOVE

◆ **Affirmation of Faith**

We believe that God is always creating and that we are called to join in this creation. We believe that God does not love us because Christ died for us, but that Christ died for us because God loved us. And Christ continues to die for us today. We believe that God's Holy Spirit of love still sets undeserving people free and that God calls us to help in this task of liberation. We believe that the church is a chosen people, not chosen for its own sake, but chosen to be servants of God for the sake of the world. We believe that God's love is something that will never give up on us and so we approach the future with confidence. Amen.

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer (using 'debts' and 'debtors')

Offertory

At the Offertory

(8:30)

Though I May Speak

Dale Wood

(11:00)

Set Me As a Seal (Solomon 8:6,7)

Julius C. Miller III

Chancel Choir

Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm; for love is strong as death, as strong as death. Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it, no flood can drown it. Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm; for love is strong as death, as strong as death.

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- ◆ **Offertory Response 606** Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow OLD HUNDREDTH
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

- ◆ **Unison Prayer of Dedication**
O God, bless these gifts that we have given as expressions of our love for you and our neighbors that they may bring closer to fulfillment your reign of peace and love; through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign Lord. Amen.

Sending

- ◆ **Hymn 67** My Song Forever Shall Record PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

◆ **Benediction**

- ◆ **Benediction Response 547** (st. 1) Go, My Children, with My Blessing AR HYD Y NOS

Postlude My Song Forever Shall Record Aaron David Miller

Those who wish may be seated for the postlude. Our music is offered to the glory of God; if you want to express your appreciation, a spoken "Amen" or "Praise God" is appropriate.

About Our Church

Rev. Thomas J. (T.J.) Parlette, Pastor	Kathleen M. Kruger, Music Assistant
Rev. Jay P. Rowland, Associate Pastor	Susan K. Kruger, Office Administrator
Lee J. Afdahl, Director of Music/Organist	Harry E. Coleman, Facility Manager
Rick L. Morris, Coordinator of Youth and Christian Education	Diane M. Johnston-Arthur, Custodian

Child Care staff: Valerie Asleson, Kelly Bock, Margie Schaaf
Security and custodial personnel: Steven Aug, Sally Evans, Sue Kruger, Tami Rinn, Eric Schwartzbauer
Office hours: Monday-Thursday (7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.); Friday (7:30 a.m.-3 p.m.); Saturday (9:30 a.m.-noon)

First Presbyterian Church; 512 SW Third Street / Rochester, MN 55902
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The mission of First Presbyterian Church of Rochester is to reflect God's love for all people by proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Member: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

WEATHER and SAFETY ADVISORIES

If we need to cancel services due to extreme weather conditions, we will send that announcement to KTTC-TV, KTTC.com, put it on our WEB page FPCRochester.org, put it on the church's answering machine, and, if possible, send you an e-mail. Whenever canceling is a possibility, please check these sources for up-to-date information.

In the winter season when conditions can create slippery walkways, we ask all members to be responsible and wear appropriate footwear made for snow and ice and choose the safest path from your car into the building. The staff aims to keep the church walks as clear of snow/ice as possible, but each of us must also do our part for safety by exercising caution and discretion. Here's to a safe winter season!

Calendar for the week of January 31 – February 7 (and beyond)

TODAY – January 31

We thank all who are sharing their ministries in worship today.

The **chancel flowers** are given for the Glory of God by Sondra and Gordon Danielson in memory of their parents.

A **nursery** for infants through 2-year-olds is staffed throughout the morning. We also offer a quiet space for nursing mothers. An usher will be happy to direct you if you don't know where the nursery is located.

The **Annual Meeting of the Congregation** will follow the first service in the sanctuary. Out of courtesy to all those attending, please speak only when you have a microphone.

Youth in grade 6 through senior high will attend the annual meeting.

Education hour for children through 5th grade will be held as usual:

- 9:40-10:45: Nursery - preschool (2-years-old)
- 9:40-10:20: Calvin Choir for grades 2-5
- 9:40-10:20: Sunday school for age 3-grade 1
- 10:20-10:50: Cherub Choir for age 4-grade 1
- 10:20-11:00: Sunday school for grade 2-5

Adult Education resumes next week.

Chancel Choir will not rehearse today.

A **Festival of Music** will present the **Luther College Nordic Choir** at 4 p.m. in the sanctuary. One of the top a cappella college choirs in the nation, the Nordic Choir is concluding a West Coast tour that included 13 concerts in 14 days. Dr. Allen Hightower directs the choir.

TUESDAY – February 2

Board of Deacons will meet at 7 p.m. in the south fireside room.

Most committees meet, although check with your lead elder if you aren't sure about yours. We know Worship and Music has rescheduled to February 9.

WEDNESDAY – February 3

Worship and communion at **Charter House** at 1 p.m.

Wednesday Activities	
4:15	Alleluia Ringers (grades 2-5)
5:00	Youth Choir (grades 6-12)
5:45	Supper (suggested donation \$4/person or \$10 max/family)
6:15	Middle School youth group (grades 6-8)
6:15	High School youth group (grades 9-12)
6:30	Adult Bible study— <i>“What really happened at Babel?”</i>
7:15	Joyous Praise handbells (grades 6-12)

THURSDAY – February 4

Jubilate Deo Bells rehearses at 6:15 p.m.

Chancel Choir rehearses at 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY – February 6

“God-Views” with Curt Cloninger

**Saturday, February 6 at 7 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church**

Please take some invitation tickets for Curt Cloninger's performance of “God Views” and give them to your friends, neighbors, and coworkers. There is no charge for the event and a ticket is not necessary for admission. Child care will be available.

SUNDAY – February 7

Worship and communion at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

One of our **parish nurses** will be in the library from 9:30-10 a.m. and 10:40-11 a.m. February 7 and available to take your blood pressure.

The Christian Education Committee will host informal **Listening Sessions February 7 and 21** from 9:45 to 10 a.m. in the social hall to gather feedback on the current Sunday School/Education hour schedule for PreK through 5th grade and on the Wednesday evening youth activities schedule.

A two-week **new member class** begins February 7. Anyone interested in joining First Presbyterian Church, or in finding out more about our church, is welcome. The class will meet in the conference room (A-209) at 9:40 a.m. If you decide to join, new members will meet with the Session February 14 and be recognized by the congregation at the 11 a.m. service that day.

A snowshoeing adventure at Quarry Hill!

Weather permitting, meet at Quarry Hill Nature Center (701 Silver Creek Road NE) Sunday, February 7 at 1 p.m. The park has over 300 acres to explore. You can bring your own snowshoes, rent snowshoes at the Nature Center, or just wear snow boots. Snowshoe rental cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children. Snowshoeing is as easy as strapping snowshoes on your boots, no training necessary. We will see how many different animal tracks we can find in the snow. If the activity needs to be canceled, a notice will be given on the church's answering machine. If you have any questions contact Mark Mueller (markmueller@chartermi.net).

TUESDAY – February 9

Y'all come to the **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper** from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the social hall. You don't need a reservation. Come and enjoy supper and fellowship!

Worship and Music Committee meets at 6 p.m.

A Festival of Music Committee meets at 7:15 p.m.

WEDNESDAY – February 10

Ash Wednesday worship with communion and imposition of ashes at 6:30 p.m. Singing: Chancel Choir. Ringing: Jubilate Deo.

For Your Information

Rev. Parlette will lead a Bible study, “The Way: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus,” on Wednesdays from 6:30-8 p.m. during Lent (February 17 – March 23). Please register in the church office for this study by Friday, February 6 so study guides can be ordered. Books cost \$13 and devotional guides \$7.

January is FPC's month to provide paper products and other needed items for **Hope Lodge**. A list of items and a box for your donations are in the foyer.

Offering envelopes for 2016 are in the foyer. If there isn't a box with your name and you want to use envelopes, check in the church office. We also have boxes of envelopes available for children and youth.

Sign up now for the **Women's Retreat** March 11-13 at Eagle Bluff Environmental Center near Lanesboro. The cost is \$120; make your check payable to “PW” and put it in the PW box in the office.