

First Presbyterian Church



512 Third Street SW

Rochester, Minnesota 55902

Phone 282-1618

Service for the Lord's Day
February 28, 2016
Third Sunday in Lent

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

Compassion
Jubilate Deo Handbell Choir

Jason Krug

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 Mission for Bdecan Mission Team

Marylynn Aalderks

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

(8:30) Dan Wentz
(11:00) Mary Huie

Is anyone thirsty?

Come and drink!

Is anyone hungry?

Come to the table of the Lord

What more do we need?

The Lord has made an everlasting covenant and promised unfailing love

Let us worship God.

◆ **Hymn 78**

You Thirsty Ones, Come

HEAVEN'S RAIN

Call to Reconciliation (please be seated)

God longs to show us the way to wholeness and union with God and community. So let us confess to the One who sees through our sin and loves us so much. Hear us, Healing God, as we move toward you in silent prayer ...

Silent Confession

◆ Please stand if you are able.

Kyrie



Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have__ mer - cy. Lord, have__ mer - cy on us.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned. We shake our heads at others' calamity, yet ignore the signs of our own destruction. We assume a prized place in your garden, yet year after year fail to bear good fruit. Forgive us, God of grace. Give us the wisdom and the heart to repent and be reconciled to you, so that we may have the gift of life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Words of Life

We are given another chance! God has heard our cries. Turn again to the Lord. Find comfort and strength in God's eternal love for you, for in God's love healing is found. Amen.

Gloria Patri

Glo - ry be to the Fath - er, Glo - ry be to the Son,
Glo - ry be to the Ho - ly Ghost, God, the three - in -
one! As it was in the be - gin - ning, is
now and ev - er shall be. world with-out end,
world with - out end. A - - - men.

◆ 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

Pre - pare our hearts, O God, to ac-cept your Word.
Si - lence in us a - ny voice but your own, that,
hear - ing, we may al - so o - bey your will; through
Je - sus Christ our Lord. A - - - men.

Reading from the Prophets

Isaiah 55:1-9

Anthem (8:30)

Sometimes a Light Surprises
Barbara Depman, alto

Craig Courtney

Sometimes a light surprises the Christian while he sings;
It is the Lord who rises with healing in His wings;
When comforts are declining, He grants the soul again
A season of clear shining, to cheer it after rain.
In holy contemplation we sweetly then pursue
The theme of God's salvation, and find it ever new;
Set free from present sorrow, we cheerfully can say,
Let the unknown tomorrow bring with it what it may.
It can bring with it nothing but He will bear us through:
Who gives the lilies clothing will clothe His people too:
Beneath the spreading heavens no creature but is fed;
And He who feeds the ravens will give His children bread.
Though vine nor fig tree either their wanted fruit should bear,
Though all the fields should wither, nor flocks nor herds be there;
Yet, God the same abiding His praise shall tune my voice;
For while in Him confiding, I cannot but rejoice.
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(11:00)

Christ Be Our Seed
Chancel Choir; Zoe Abrahamson, flute

Carl Schalk

God prints the name of Christ upon the spirit. God leads the walk through hills and ocean sand. God wills each one a heritage of riches and holds all life inside a healing hand.
God is the source of daily health and healing, God makes us well with medicines of life. God is the spring, the fountain of thanksgiving, all words of grace, all faith to heal out strife.
God knows the heart, the reasons we are crying, God knows the mind, each feeling, new inside. God knows old dreams, new things we want tomorrow, God knows the fear a silent soul will hide.
God sends the light to wake the birth of seeding, and gives old death and Easter day to rise, God sends the rain, the seasons, then the harvest, while tunes of glory fill all earth and skies.
Christ be our seed to grow what God has given; We do our work, as work in Jesus' name. We lift our hope, our want, our need before thee. You healed us then; heal, heal us once again.
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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 Gospel

Luke 13:1-9

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message

Going the Distance

Rev. Jay Rowland

*** A Moment for Reflection ***

Our Response

◆ **Hymn 796**

We Come to You for Healing, Lord

LAND OF REST

◆ **Affirmation of Faith**

We believe in God.

We believe in God because of God's great love.

We believe that God is Spirit,

and so when we worship God we worship in spirit and in truth.

We believe that God is Light,

and so when we walk in the light of God we have fellowship with God and one another.

We believe that God is Love,

and that everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

**We believe that Jesus Christ is *God-with-us*
and that in him we have life now and always.
We believe that as Jesus loves us, so we can love one another.
And we believe that salvation and glory and power
come from God and belong to God, our creator
Jesus our Redeemer, and
Holy Spirit our Sustainer.
Amen.**

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

Offertory

At the Offertory My Song Is Love Unknown Karl Osterland

- ◆ **Offertory Response 708** (stanza 1) We Give Thee but Thine Own SCHUMANN
We give Thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from Thee.

- ◆ **Unison Prayer of Dedication**
Holy God, you offer abundance to all who are thirsty and hungry. Help us to set aside that which is not worthy of our time. Help us turn our attention to you and the joy we find in serving community. Accept the offering of ourselves, our time, talent, and treasure in Jesus' name. Amen.

Sending

- ◆ **Hymn 714** God of the Fertile Fields ITALIAN HYMN
- ◆ **Benediction**
- ◆ **Benediction Response**



Postlude Jesus, Still Lead On Paul Manz

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.
Some of the service music was written by Lee J Afdahl.

You may notice that the candles on the communion table this morning are pink. This is in honor of Laetare Sunday, a Sunday of joy in the somber season of Lent. Laetare marks the halfway point of our Lenten journey as we look forward to the joy of Easter.

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
507/282-1618; rochesterfpc@msn.com; www.fpcrochester.org

*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.)

Calendar for the week of February 28 – March 6 (and beyond)

TODAY – February 28

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

The **chancel flowers** are given for the Glory of God by John and Judy Kruesel in memory of loved ones.

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.

Education hour:

- 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
- 9:40-10:45: Sunday school/education hour for grade 6 – adult education
- 10:20-10:50: Cherub Choir for age 4-grade 1
- 10:20-11:00: Sunday school for grade 2-5

Adults:

- 9:40 a.m.: *Current Issues* in Sheldon Jackson lounge ... *Ripped from the Headlines*
- 9:40 a.m.: *Grace-based Parenting Class* in room A-101 will continue with *Building Character*. All current and future parents and grandparents are welcome.
- 9:40 a.m.: *Kerygma Bible Study* in south fireside room ... *Matthew*

Chancel Choir rehearses at 9:45 a.m.

Following the second service we will **celebrate Rev. Jay Rowland's 15 years of ministry** at First Presbyterian with a potluck luncheon. Although we asked people to bring a favorite dish and some cookies to share, please feel free to come even if you don't have food to bring.

TUESDAY – March 1

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.

WEDNESDAY – March 2

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

Today's **Lenten Noonday Organ Recital** will feature Shayla De Jong, an organ student at Luther College, Decorah, Iowa. To accommodate those attending the concert, please do *not* park in the parking lot between 12 noon and 1 p.m. on Wednesdays in Lent.

Lenten Bible Study Opportunity. Rev. Parlette is leading a Lenten Bible study on "The Way: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus" from 6:30-8 p.m. in the lounge. The study is based on a book of the same title by Adam Hamilton.

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	Senior High youth group (grades 9-12)
6:30	Lenten Bible study "The Way: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus" led by Rev. Parlette.
7:15	Joyous Praise handbells (grades 6-12)

THURSDAY – March 3

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

Chancel Choir rehearses at 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY – March 5

World Day of Prayer, an ecumenical gathering of Christian women, will be held Saturday, March 5, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (559 20th Street SW), beginning with coffee and fellowship at 10 a.m., followed by a worship service written by the women of Cuba.

SUNDAY – March 6

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. March 6 and available to take your blood pressure.

WEDNESDAY – March 9

Julie Yoonjeong Kim, organist at Congregational Church UCC, will be the guest organist for **the Lenten Organ Recital March 9**

SUNDAY – March 13

Worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

A Festival of Music will present **Lee J. Afdahl and Friends** in an Organ and Piano Plus Concert at 4 p.m. in the sanctuary. Joining Lee will be Michael Bostwick, Christopher Boswell, Paul Kosower, and Janine Yanisch.

SATURDAY – March 26

Easter Egg Event: Join us from 9:30-10:30 a.m. for FPC's annual Easter Egg Event! Please make sure kids bring their own baskets to fill with candy and prizes and bring their own hard boiled eggs to dye! *We could use a couple more volunteers to make the event a success! Contact Rick Morris to volunteer (Morris.Rick@FPCRochester.org).*

SUNDAY – March 27 (Easter)

Worship at 8, 9:30, and 11 a.m.

Easter Brunch Returns! Join us at 8:30 a.m. on Easter Sunday for the annual Easter Brunch! A freewill offering will be taken for Feed My Starving Children with which the youth group will volunteer in June. *If you have any questions please contact Kristen and Gabe Perkins at perkins.kristen@mayo.edu.*

For Your Information

February 14 we celebrated **Blankets+ Sunday**. Sponsored by Church World Service, Blankets+ provides blankets and relief efforts to victims of war and natural disasters. Offering envelopes are in the pews or checks marked "blanket fund" can be mailed to the church office any time in February.

March is **Minnesota FoodShare** month. This annual drive raises one-half the food that is distributed through Channel One during the year. Your nonperishable food donations can go in the barrel in the foyer or write a check to the church and designate it for "Channel One." Envelopes are in the pew racks.

Celebrate our **Easter Garden** with a donation of \$15. To contribute, put your check (note for Easter flowers) in the offering plate or mail it to the church office. After Easter services the Deacons will deliver the plants to our C.A.R.E. members.

Attention! Presbyterian Women is having its annual **rummage sale** April 16. You can start bringing your donations April 5. We'll need lots of volunteer help to sort, sell, and cleanup.

If you are due a **complimentary photo** from the picture directory photo session, we have them in the church office. Get yours today! If you ordered additional photos, the complimentary photo should be in the same envelope and mailed to your home.

The **Bdecan Mission Team** is looking for more volunteers for this summer's mission trip to Spirit Lake Reservation in Tokio, North Dakota, leaving July 26 and returning July 31. We will be teaching three days of VBS to the children. To volunteer, contact **Marylynn Alderks** (641-420-2693).

Toys Needed for Sitter Service: Do you have puzzles (especially those for younger children), a checker board game, Legos, Disney movies, felt tip markers or crayons, coloring books, small cars/trucks and track, etc. We can use all donations in good condition for our Sitter Service. Please bring them to the church office. Thanks.

Among the Church Family

Happy Birthday to Shirley Gove who will celebrate her 95th birthday March 1.

We extend our condolences to the family and friends of Margaret Knudsen, who died February 19 in Park Rapids, Minnesota.



We invite you to share in our Lenten activities.

Services of Worship

Sundays at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

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| March 6 | Worship and communion at 8:30 and 11 a.m. |
| March 13 | Worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m. |
| March 20 | Palm Sunday services of worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m. |
| March 24 | Maundy Thursday service of worship at 7 p.m. |
| March 25 | Ecumenical Good Friday service at noon at First Presbyterian Church |
| March 27 | Easter Sunday services of worship at 8, 9:30, and 11 a.m. |

Child care is provided at all services.

A Festival of Music ~ Wednesday Lenten Organ Recitals

12:15 – 12:45 p.m.

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| March 2 | Shayla De Jong, organ student / Luther College, Decorah, Iowa |
| March 9 | Julie Yoonjeong Kim, organist / Congregational Church, Rochester |
| March 16 | Eileen Nelson Ness, organist / Salem Lutheran Church, Albert Lea |

A Festival of Music

4 p.m.

- | | |
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| March 13 | Lee J. Afdahl and Friends in an "Organ and Piano Plus" concert |
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Lenten Study Opportunities

Adult Education / Sundays at 9:40 a.m.: Kerygma Bible Study, Current Issues, and Grace-Based Parenting classes.

Bible Study / Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.: "The Way: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus" led by Rev. T. J. Parlette. The study is based on a book of the same title by Adam Hamilton.

The Presbyterians Today **2016 Lenten devotional** booklet, "Be Holy," is available in the office and at the Welcome Desk. You are welcome to take one; there is no charge. There are also family devotional materials and the Lenten Sharing Calendar.

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.

When winter weather conditions 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!