

First Presbyterian Church



512 Third Street SW

Rochester, Minnesota 55902

Phone 282-1618

Service for the Lord's Day
March 27, 2016
Easter Sunday

8, 9:30, 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 Easter Brunch in the social hall from 8:30 a.m.-11 a.m. Cost is a freewill donation with the proceeds benefiting Feed My Starving Children, a project our youth group will volunteer with in June.

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

Gathering

Prelude

Christ Is Risen Indeed!
Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain (ST. KEVIN)
The Strife Is O'er (VICTORY)
The Day of Resurrection! (LANCASHIRE)
Jubilate Deo Handbell Choir

Lee J. Afdahl

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.

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

Early on the first day of the week, the disciples of Jesus went to the tomb where he had been buried

Only to find that the stone had been rolled away and the tomb was empty.

Friends, we gather here as Christ's disciples, on the first day of the week, to celebrate the good news of the gospel:

Jesus Christ has risen from the dead!

Let us worship the Lord!

◆ **Hymn 232**

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

EASTER HYMN

Call to Reconciliation (please be seated)

We know that God shows no partiality, but welcomes and forgives all those who repent and believe. Let us confess our sin.

Silent Confession

Kyrie 604

Lamb of God

AGNUS DEI (Farlee)

◆ Please stand if you are able.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak, and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord. Amen.

Words of Life

Hear what the prophets have spoken: that everyone who believes in Christ receives forgiveness of sins through his name. Friends, believe the good news:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

◆ **Gloria Patri 581**

Glory Be to the Father

GREATOREX

◆ **Passing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

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

Anthem

Light's Glittering Morn Bedecks the Sky
Chancel Choir; James Sessler, bass

Horatio W. Parker

Light's glitt'ring morn bedecks the sky. Heav'n thunders forth its victor cry; the glad earth shouts her triumph high, and groaning hell makes wild reply. While He the King, the mighty King, despoiling death of all its sting, and trampling down the pow'rs of might, brings forth His ransomed Saints to light.

That Eastertide with joy was bright, the sun shone out with fairer light, when to their longing eyes restor'd, th'Apostles saw their risen Lord. He bade them see His hands, His side, where yet the glorious wounds abide; these tokens true which made it plain the Lord indeed was risen again.

O Jesu, King of gentleness do Thou Thyself our hearts possess; that we may give Thee all our days, the tribute of our grateful praise.

O Lord of all with us abide. The strife is o'er, the battle done, in this our joyful Eastertide. The victory of life is won, from every weapon death can wield, Thine own redeemed forever shield. The song of triumph has begun.

Alleluia, all praise be thine, O risen Lord, from death to endless life restored. All praise to God, the Father be, and Holy Ghost eternally. Alleluia, Amen.

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The Word

Prayer for Illumination

Lee J. Afdahl

O Lord our God, your word is a lamp to our feet and a
light to our path. Give us grace to re - ceive your truth in
faith and love, that we may be o - be - dient
to your will and live al - ways for your glo - ry through
Je - sus Christ our Sav - vior A - - men.

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Reading from the Epistles

1 Corinthians 15:19-26

Anthem (9:30) Share the Easter Joy Mark Patterson
Calvin Choir; Katie Kruger, director; Barbara Depman, accompanist

Go tell the news of the risen Lord, Alleluia, lift up your voice.
Go tell the news of the risen Lord, Alleluia, Alleluia, go share the Easter joy.
Christ is risen from the grave, Alleluia, Alleluia.
Let the joyful song be raised, Alleluia, Alleluia.

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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 24:1-12

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Response 243

Be Not Afraid

BE NOT AFRAID

Message

An Idle Tale?

Rev. T. J. Parlette

A Festival of Resurrection

I believe in the resurrection.

I believe that Jesus died on the cross, his hands and feet held to the wood by metal spikes. I believe that his body was pierced by the soldier's spear, and even the sun was darkened as all creation grieved the death of God's eternal Son.

I believe in the resurrection.

I believe that Jesus' body was placed in a borrowed tomb, where it lay for three days. (A silent pause)

I believe that the power of God brought life to his dead body and rolled the stone away from the entrance so all might see that Jesus was no longer there.

I believe in the resurrection. I believe that the unbelievable story of the women was true, just as the angel had announced: "He is not here; he has risen, just as he said."

Hymn 233 (stanza 1)

The Day of Resurrection!

LANCASHIRE

I believe in the resurrection.

I believe that there is no force in the universe that could stop, hinder, contain, or successfully oppose the risen Savior, my Lord, Jesus Christ.

No nails are long enough to hold him to any cross unless he wills it to be so.

No tomb can be sealed so tightly – by Pilate, or Herod, or Caesar himself.

Were there an army of a thousand guarding the tomb, it would make no difference.

Jesus said he would lay down his life and take it up again. And he did.

I believe in the resurrection.

I believe that Jesus appeared to eleven discouraged, defeated, demoralized disciples in a room where the doors were locked and all hope was lost.

I believe that when he showed them his nail-pierced hands and his spear-pierced side, they fell at his feet and cried out, "My Lord and my God."

I believe that in the days that followed, hundreds saw him alive. All their doubt was removed; their fear was gone. What could the world do to them?

Jesus was alive!

Hymn 242 (stanza 1) Day of Delight and Beauty Unbounded IN DIR IST FREUDE

I believe in the resurrection. I believe that Jesus lives today – as powerfully and perfectly alive as he was two thousand years ago, and for all time past and yet to come.

I believe he empowers his followers to follow in his footsteps, fight forces of evil, and find their peace and joy and eternal hope in him.

I believe in the resurrection.

I believe that Jesus calls women, men and children to join him in changing the world, one heart and one life at a time, starting with their own.

We believe all this,

Because we believe in the resurrection!

◆ **Hymn 238** Thine Is the Glory JUDAS MACCABEUS

Our Response

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

Invitation to the Offering

We belong to Christ Jesus; all things are his, for he is Lord of all. Let us offer a portion of what we have received.

Offertory

At the Offertory

Alleluia
Chancel Choir

Ralph Manuel

◆ **Offertory Response 609** Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia! alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

◆ **Unison Prayer of Dedication**

We praise you, O God, and give you thanks that you have given us such joy, such grace, and such hope, in the resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord. Let our lives be proof of that good news. Let all our words and actions, our love and service, bear witness to your resurrection power; for the sake of our living Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Sending

◆ **Hymn 246** Christ Is Alive! TRURO

◆ **Benediction**

◆ **Benediction Response** Hallelujah! from MESSIAH G. F. Handel

Please return the music to the ushers after the service.

Postlude Toccata from SYMPHONY V Charles Marie Widor

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.



We thank these members and friends for contributing to the Easter Flower Fund. Deacons will deliver the flowers to our C.A.R.E. members after today's services.

Ken and Marylynn Aalderks
 Lyle and Zoe Abrahamson
 Lee Afdahl and Van Jacobsen
 Jay and Carolyn Beck
 Richard and Janice Bennett
 Gordon and Sondra Danielson
 Shirley Edmonson
 David and Char Ellefson
 Judy Felten
 C Michel and Mary Jo Harper
 John Hohnstein
 Sandra Holloway
 Ruth Ann Ibach

William and Jeannine Karnes
 Patricia Keith
 M Pauline Krieger
 Robert and Charlene Kyle
 Donna Lee
 Robert and Susan McClocklin
 Mark and Michelle Mueller
 Nancy Nock
 William and Heidi Oehler
 Roger and Denise Ring
 Don Scholz
 Tony and Judy Smithson
 Alfred and Ursula Thedens

Calendar for the week of March 27 – April 3 (and beyond)

TODAY – March 27

We thank all who are sharing their ministries in worship today. A special thanks goes to Steffi Tetzloff (trumpet) and Gabe Perkins (timpani) for participating in today's services.

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.

Easter Brunch will be served by the youth group from 8:30-11 a.m. No reservations are necessary; cost is a freewill donation. Proceeds benefit Feed My Starving Children, a project our youth group will work with in June.

All Sunday school classes and Calvin and Cherub Choir rehearsals for today are cancelled and will resume next Sunday.

Deacons: Please pick up the plant for your C.A.R.E. member *after* today's 11 a.m. service, from 7-10 a.m. Monday, or from 7:15 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday. Thank you!

MONDAY – March 28

Church Office will be closed. **Church** will be open from 7-10 a.m. for Deacons to pick up plants.

TUESDAY – March 29

Forums@First at 7 p.m. See description on page 6.

WEDNESDAY – March 30

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	Bible study "What's the meaning of Babel? (Al Depman)"
7:15	Joyous Praise handbells (grades 6-12)

THURSDAY – March 31

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

Chancel Choir rehearses at 7:30 p.m.

Deadline for the church office to receive donations for **Minnesota FoodShare**.

SUNDAY – April 3

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. April 3 and available to take your blood pressure.

For Your Information

Turn your old blue jeans into Hope! FPC youth are collecting used **denim** jeans to use at a Sole Hope shoe cutting party April 24. Sole Hope provides closed-toe shoes and the medical care to remove parasites from the feet of Ugandan children. At the party we'll cut and bundle denim "uppers" that will be shipped to shoemakers in Uganda who will add the soles and complete the shoes.

The **Spring Gathering of Presbyterian Women** of the Twin Cities Area will be Saturday, April 23 at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Austin. PW will pay the registration fee, which includes lunch, for all who attend. Get your registration to Peg Parsons, PW treasurer, by April 13. Speakers will talk about the Global Exchange to the Caribbean and the successful integration of refugees in Austin. Mission projects include baby kits for the Rural Health Initiative in Sierra Leone and Little Dresses for Reiser Relief in Haiti.

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 atrium or write a check to the church and designate it for "Channel One." Envelopes are in the pew racks.

Rummage Sale alert. Due to scheduling conflicts the Presbyterian Women's rummage sale has been rescheduled to April 30! This will allow you to get a little more spring cleaning done and empty some closets. You can start bringing items to the church April 18.

SAVE THE DATE
VBS @ FPC – June 13-17

Forums@First – Tuesday, March 29, 7 p.m.

DYING IN THE AGE OF MODERN HEALTHCARE

"I took a man I picked up from the street to our Home for the Dying in Calcutta. When I was leaving he told me: 'I have lived like an animal on the streets, but I am going to die like an angel. I will be smiling.' He did die smiling, because he felt loved and surrounded by care." (Mother Teresa)

Young, old, healthy, ill.....we're all going to die. Factual and blunt, yes. But the truth exists. Each of us will die; it's a matter of how we die. The way we die remains with the living. Is there something(s) we can do to have some control over our eventual death? Yes, there are multiple actions that can be taken to allow us some control over our own death, and those we dearly love.

The way we die today in our advanced healthcare system is not so simple; it's more of a process with multiple options to consider in diagnosis and treatment. Sixteen per cent of us die suddenly within minutes of the onset of a catastrophic event like a heart attack, stroke, or accident. The other 84% of us die in stages due to chronic disease such as diabetes, heart disease, lung disease or cancer. Today, the dying process requires decisions on the part of the individual and family that will determine the quality of dying. Everyone deserves a good death and a good death requires planning.

On Tuesday, March 29, "Forums @ First" will present their next Forum:
"Dying in the Age of Modern Healthcare."

A panel of experts from the fields of Palliative Medicine, Hospice, and Law, will present a very informative program that addresses the many issues each of us will be challenged with at some point in our lives. An enlightening presentation and discussion will allow and encourage audience participation. It can be the beginning for "you" as we address the concerns and issues that will help "you" as you begin that journey.

In addition to the presentation and discussion, a 6-page resource guide will be available after the Forum. It features books and literature resources where "you" can find assistance beyond that presented at the Forum. It will include copies of Advanced Directives for Health Care and sources for those presented.

We of the Social Concerns Committee encourage "you" to attend. Please bring loved ones that need to be a part of the discussion. Neighbors, friends and all other interested parties are encouraged to attend.

When: Tuesday, March 29, 2016

Time: 7 p.m.

Where: First Presbyterian Church / 512 Third Street SW, Rochester, MN 55902

Who: You, friends, family, neighbors and invited guests.

"Faith in Action"
Social Concerns Committee, First Presbyterian Church

About Our Church

Rev. Thomas J. (T.J.) Parlette, Pastor

Rev. Jay P. Rowland, Associate Pastor

Lee J. Afdahl, Director of Music/Organist

Rick L. Morris, Coordinator of Youth and Christian Education

Kathleen M. Kruger, Music Assistant

Susan K. Kruger, Office Administrator

Harry E. Coleman, Facility Manager

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.)