

First Presbyterian Church



512 Third Street SW

Rochester, Minnesota 55902

Phone 282-1618

Service for the Lord's Day
March 12, 2017
Second Sunday in Lent

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Welcome to worship!

- First Presbyterian Church welcomes families with young children. Staffed nursery care is available during worship and Sunday school. 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 atrium and social hall after the first service and in the atrium after the second service.

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

Gathering

Prelude

Were You There?
Alleluia Ringers

Spiritual, arr. Barbara Kinyon

*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

(8:30) Van Jacobsen
(11:00) Paul Steger

From where will our help come?

Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Who is our keeper?

The Lord is our keeper, by day and by night.

How long will God protect us?

**God will keep our going out and our coming in from this time on and
forevermore.**

Let us worship the Lord.

◆ Hymn 165

The Glory of These These Forty Days

ERHALT UNS, HERR

Call to Reconciliation (please be seated)

We cannot earn God's grace or favor. It comes to us, not as something owed, but as a gift freely given. Confident in God's love for us, even when we are ungodly, we confess our sins in faith.

Silent Confession

Kyrie 604

Lamb of God

AGNUS DEI (Farlee)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace; grant us peace.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we come before you in need of forgiveness and grace. You call us to trust in you completely, but we do not. We are timid and fearful as we follow your lead. We justify our actions and words, though we know they are not what you require. We struggle to understand the new life Christ offers, preferring old habits to risky change. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to be born again into the life of Christ, trusting that you have included us by grace in the family of faith. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Words of Life

Friends, God is for us, not against us! For that very reason, God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Believe the good news, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven! 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 (please be seated)

Lisa Riggle

Lord, let me be a ves - sel through - which your love is

poured; — let it fill me, wash o - ver me, — cov - er me ev - er more.

Reading from the Epistles

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

Anthem

(8:30)

I Will Lift Mine Eyes (Psalm 121)

Jake Runestad

Chancel Choir

I will lift mine eyes unto the hills. From whence comes my help? My help comes from the Lord; He is the maker of heav'n and earth. He will not let your foot be moved. He who keeps you will not slumber nor sleep. The Lord is thy keeper. The Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand. The sun shall not harm you by day nor the moon by night. The Lord will keep you from all evil. He will keep your soul. The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this day forth forevermore.

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(11:00) God So Loved the World (John 3:16) John Horman
Cherub Choir; Katie Kruger, director; Carol Shaffer, accompanist
God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoso believeth,
believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world
through Him might be saved. God so loved the world.

Time for All Our Young Worshipers

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 Old Testament Genesis 12:1-4a
This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Message *Our Common Spiritual Ancestor* Rev. T. J. Parlette
*** A Moment for Reflection ***

Our Response

◆ **Hymn 50** Deep in the Shadows of the Past SHEPHERD'S PIPES

◆ **Affirmation of Faith** from A Brief Statement of Faith PC(USA), part 1

**In life and death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one
triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of
God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching
by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up
the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to
repent and believe the gospel.**

**Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering
the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world.**

**God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the
power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.**

**With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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

Offertory (8:30) God So Loved the World (John 3:16) John Stainer
Chancel Choir

God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoso believeth,
believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world
through Him might be saved. God so loved the world.

(11:00) Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word Johann Pachelbel

◆ **Offertory Response** KINGDOM
For the gifts which you have given, for the love which you have poured,
for the words which you have spoken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.

◆ **Unison Prayer of Dedication**
**Gracious God, we dedicate to you not only these gifts, but also ourselves, in
deep gratitude – for your call on our lives, your guidance in the baptismal
journey, and for blessing us that we may be a blessing to others. Accept what
we bring for your own good purposes. In Christ we pray. Amen.**

Calendar for the week of March 12 – March 17 (and beyond)

SUNDAY – March 12

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

The **chancel flowers** are given for the Glory of God by Diane and Jon Closson in honor of their loved ones.

A **nursery** for infants through 3-year-olds is staffed throughout the morning. We also offer a 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 (3-years-old)

9:40-10:45: Sunday school/education hour for grade 6 – adult education

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 grades 2-5

Adults:

9:40 a.m.: *Current Issues: Current Events: the Pros and Cons* in the lounge (E-207)

9:40 a.m.: *Kerygma Bible Study of Matthew* in south fireside room (A-104)

Chancel Choir rehearses at 9:45 a.m.

A **Festival of Music** will present Lee Afdahl and Friends in an organ and piano plus concert at 4 p.m. in the sanctuary. Joining Lee this year are Christopher Boswell, Jeremy Braun, Classic Brass Quintet, Dwight Jennings, Katie Kruger, Tom Overlie, Mary Schneekloth, and Karen Sessler.

WEDNESDAY – March 15

Items for the **April Good News** are due to Carol Evans either at fpc_carol@hotmail.com or in the office.

Priscilla Circle will meet at 9:15 a.m. in the lounge.

A Festival of Music is hosting **Noonday Organ Recitals** from 12:15 – 12:45 p.m. each Wednesday in Lent. Today's guest musician is Dr. Greg Peterson, organist at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa.

Crafters Group will meet at 3 p.m. in the social hall. Bring that almost finished project or help us make cards for C.A.R.E. members of FPC.

Lenten Bible Study Opportunity. Rev. Parlette is leading a Lenten Bible study on "The Call: The Life and Message of the Apostle Paul" from 6:30-8 p.m. in the lounge. The study is based on the book by Adam Hamilton.

Wednesday Activities	
4:15	Alleluia Ringers (grades 2-5)
5:00	Youth Choir (grades 6-12)
5:45	Middle School youth group (grades 6-8)
5:45	Senior High youth group (grades 9-12)
6:30	Bible study – "The Call: The Life and Message of the Apostle Paul" led by Rev. Parlette.
7:00	Joyous Praise handbells (intergenerational)

Don some green and join us in the social hall for our **annual Irish dinner** at 5:30 p.m.! The menu highlight will be "A Kiss and a Coddle," an Irish comfort food made with potatoes, sausage and bacon. Sign-up sheets will be available in the atrium on Sundays March 5 and 12 between services!

THURSDAY – March 16

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

Chancel Choir rehearses at 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY – March 18

Ruth Circle will meet at 10 a.m. in the lounge.

SUNDAY – March 19

Worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

MONDAY – March 20

Esther Circle will meet at 1 p.m. in the lounge.

TUESDAY – March 21

Session will meet at 7 p.m. in south fireside room.

Festival of Music Committee will meet at 7:15 p.m. in the north fireside room.

WEDNESDAY – March 22

All **Wednesday activities** are on as scheduled.

Guest recitalist for the March 22 **Noonday Organ Recital** will be Sue Fortney Walby, organist at First Presbyterian Church in LaCrosse, Wisconsin.

SUNDAY – March 26 (Cantata Sunday)

Worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m. The Chancel Choir and orchestra will present two cantatas, *Great Is the Lord* by Andrew Carter and *Te Deum* by John Rutter.

Drs. Leslie and Cynthia Morgan, PCUSA mission co-workers in Bangladesh, will talk about their work at a special presentation from 9:40-10:45 a.m. in the activity center.

For Your Information

To accommodate those attending the Noonday Organ Recitals, **please do *not* park in the parking lot** between 12 noon and 1 p.m. on Wednesdays in Lent. Thank you!

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.

The **P.W. rummage sale** is scheduled Saturday, May 20. Donations may be brought to church beginning Monday, May 8. Many volunteers will be needed the week of May 15! We are particularly looking for an additional co-chair to work with Judy Kruesel and Sally Brooks. Please call Judy (250-5128) or Sally (281-5802) if you are interested.

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

Among Our Church Family

Congratulations to Clifford and Patricia Gastineau who will celebrate their 66th wedding anniversary March 16.

Congratulations to Val Battenburg who will celebrate her 101st birthday March 17.

Congratulations to Ruby Rose who will celebrate her 95th birthday also on March 17.