

First Presbyterian Church



512 Third Street SW

Rochester, Minnesota 55902

Phone 282-1618

Service for the Lord's Day
September 24, 2017
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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 and atrium 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

Sonata

George Phillip Telemann

Dwight Jennings and Karen Sessler, alto recorders

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 Advanced Directives Workshop

Ariel Boswell

Minute for Stewardship

Karen Sessler

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

(8:30) Elizabeth Remfert

(11:00) Patricia Talen

O give thanks to the Lord! The Lord hears the cries of the people.

Give thanks to the Lord.

The works of the Lord are great. Remember what God has done.

Give thanks to the Lord.

God has done miracles, and the Lord always remembers God's covenant.

Give thanks to the Lord. Glory and praise is due to the Lord!

◆ **Hymn 32**

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

ELLACOMBE

Call to Reconciliation (please be seated)

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sins against God and our neighbors.

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.

Reading from the Gospels

Matthew 20:1-16

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu ia! Praise we sing for God's Ho - ly Word!

lja 2006

Message

The "unfair" nature of grace

Rev. T. J. Parlette

** A moment for reflection – may God continue to speak to us in the silence. **

Our Response

◆ **Hymn 766**

The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound

McKEE

◆ **Affirmation of Faith**

Anne Weems

We believe in God, in Jesus Christ, in the Holy Spirit, and in you and in me.
 We believe the Holy Spirit has freed us to worship as a community.
 We believe the Holy Spirit works through
 balloons and ministers; daisies and wiggly children;
 clanging cymbals and silence; drama and the unexpected;
 choirs and banners; touching and praying;
 spontaneity and planning; faith and doubt;
 tears and laughter; leading and supporting;
 hugging and kneeling; dancing and stillness;
 applauding and giving; creativity and plodding;
 words and listening; holding and letting go;
 thank you and help me; Scripture and alleluias;
 agonizing and celebrating; accepting and caring;
 through you and through me through Love.
 We believe God's Holy Spirit lives in this community of dancing,
 hand-holding people where lines of age and politics and life-styles are crossed.
 We believe in praising God for Life.
 We believe in responding to God's grace and love and justice for all people.
 We believe in the poetry within each of us.
 We believe in dreams and visions.
 We believe in old people running and children leading.
 We believe in the Kingdom of God within us.
 We believe in Love. Amen.

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Offertory

At the offertory
(8:30)

When Peace Like a River
(See hymn 840 for text.)
Robert Jacobson, baritone

Philip Bliss

(11:00)

Come, Labor On
Chancel Choir and congregation (see page 5)
Chancel Choir (stanzas 1-3); congregation (stanza 4)

John Ferguson

◆ **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**

Lord, giver of all good gifts, thank you for the resources gathered here. Use these gifts for the advancement of your Kingdom. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Sending

◆ **Hymn 346** For the Healing of the Nations ST. THOMAS

◆ **Benediction**

◆ **Benediction Response 748** Go with Us, Lord TALLIS' CANON

Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day,

That in Your Spirit strong and true our lives may be our gift to You.

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Postlude Intermezzi Hermann Schroeder
Jeff Daehn, guest organist

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.

Sacrament of Baptism

8:30 a.m. Micah James Konkol

Introduction

Presentation

Professions of Intent and Faith

Blessing of the Water

Baptism

Welcome

Elder:

... all baptized children may become faithful disciples.

Congregation

With joy and thanksgiving we welcome Micah James Konkol and all children into Christ's church. We promise to love, encourage, support and share the gospel with all children that they may know and follow Christ.

Elder:

The peace of God be with you

Congregation

And also with you.

Response 188 Jesus Loves Me (stanza 1) JESUS LOVES ME

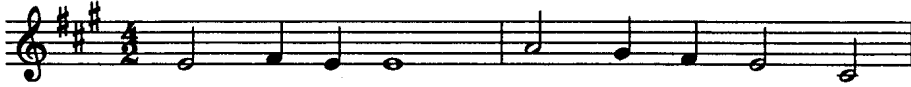
Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to Him belong; they are weak but He is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!

Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

The baptismal candle and rose are gifts from the congregation to the families of Micah James Konkol. The rose symbolizes our joy in the life of each child and the candle symbolizes our commitment as a congregation to support the parents in raising their children in the Christian faith. The baptismal banner celebrates the sacrament of baptism. The shell with drops of water is a symbol of Jesus' baptism. The water of Baptism links us to the goodness of God's creation, the grace of God's covenant with our ancestors and the living water offered by Jesus.

Come Labor On



Choir: 1. Come, la - bor on. Who dares stand i - dle
 Choir: 2. Come, la - bor on. Claim the high call - ing
 Choir: 3. Come, la - bor on. A - way with gloom - y
 All: 4. Come, la - bor on. No time for rest, till



on the har - vest plain While all a - round us
 an - gels can - not share; To young and old the
 doubts and fear! No arm so weak but
 glows the west - ern sky, Till the long shad - ows



waves the gold - en grain? And to each ser - vant
 gos - pel glad - ness bear. Re - deem the time; its
 may do ser - vice here; Though fee - ble a - gents,
 o'er our path - way lie. And a glad sound comes



does the Mas - ter say, "Go work to - day."
 hours too swift - ly fly. The night draws nigh.
 may we all ful - fill God's righ - teous will.
 with the set - ting sun, "Well done, well done!"

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
Susanna L. Stone, Coordinator of Youth and Christian Education	Brian D. Stevens, Custodian

Child Care staff: Margie Schaaf

Security and custodial personnel: Steven Aug, Sally Evans, Tami Rinn

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 September 24 – October 3 (and beyond)

TODAY – September 24

We thank all who are sharing their ministries in worship today, with a special “thank you” to Jeff Daehn, guest organist.

The **chancel flowers** are given for the Glory of God by Char Davis in memory her family.

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 Events: Beyond the Headlines* (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.

50+ Solos’ Faith/Fellowship will meet for lunch at noon in the lounge.

Our next **group walk will be at Root River Park** September 24 at 1 p.m. Root River Park is a relatively new park, and is another of Olmsted County’s best kept secrets. We’ll check out the old stagecoach bridge and the 90-foot tall limestone bluffs. The trail is about 2 miles long, and is a nice wide grass covered trail. You might want to bring a camera.

Directions to Root River Park (4012 80th Street SE):
Go South on County Road 1 through Simpson
Go under the underpass
Go about 2 miles, take a left (go East) on 80th Street SE (there is a small gray shed on the corner)
The Park is located at the end of the street
There is a sign on CR 1 and at the entrance to the Park (Mark Mueller)

TUESDAY – September 26

Chancel Guild meets at 1 p.m.

WEDNESDAY – September 27

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	Adult Bible study– <i>Being Humble</i>
7:00	Joyous Praise handbells (grades 6-12 & adults)

THURSDAY – September 28

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

Chancel Choir rehearses at 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY – October 1 (World Communion Sunday)

Worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

“What it means to be a sanctuary church.” The Social Concerns Committee will lead a discussion during the education hour at 9:40 a.m. Everyone is invited to this discussion on a relevant issue.

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One of our parish nurses will be in the library between services October 1 to take your **blood pressure**.

Peace and Global Witness Offering will be dedicated at both services, although you can contribute to the offering anytime through October.

Five Advanced Directives workshop on end-of-life planning, sponsored by parish nurses in the area, at 1 p.m. at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Kasson. Contact Ariel Boswell (fpcparishnursing@gmail.com) for more information and to reserve a place.

TUESDAY – October 3

Grief Support Group meets at 11 a.m. in the library.

Deacons meet at 7 p.m. in the south fireside room. Most committees meet. Check with your lead elder if you aren’t sure about yours.

WEDNESDAY – October 4

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

Wednesday activities are on as scheduled.

THURSDAY – October 5

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

Chancel Choir rehearses at 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY – October 7

The **Fall Gathering of Presbyterian Women** of the Twin Cities Area Presbytery will be held at the Church of the Apostles, Burnsville beginning at 9 a.m. The theme is “Interfaith Outreach: Understanding Our Muslim Neighbors.” The mission project for the Gathering is school kits. Circle chairs have a list of required items.

SUNDAY – October 8

Worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

The **Bdecan VBS team** invites you to a presentation between first and second services. We will show slides of the Vacation Bible School program we presented at the Bdecan Church and talk about our experience! It will give us an opportunity to thank you for your generous support for this program.

For Your Information

Book Giveaway Continues. As the church library revitalization project continues about 50 books that were donated to the library the last few years have been added to the collection including 12 volumes of Jan Karon’s Mifford series. Outdated books are continually being removed and made available for free. Look for the “free books” note on boxes in the library and the foyer and the cart in the atrium. (Jay Rowland and Al Dollerschell)

Pick up your **all-church calendar for 2017-2018** so you can plan for the church’s yearlong cycle of activities.

Among the Church Family

Congratulations to Edith Albrecht who will celebrate her 105th September 27.

Congratulations to Louise Bastron who will celebrate her 94th birthday September 30.