

First Presbyterian Church



512 Third Street SW

Rochester, Minnesota 55902

Phone 282-1618

Service for the Lord's Day
November 12, 2017
Twenty-third 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 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

Joy and Delight
Alleluia Ringers

Brenda Austin

*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) Lucinda Cutrer
(11:00) William Nichols

Rejoice and be glad!

For God is our salvation.

Rejoice and be glad!

For God is great.

Let us worship the Lord.

◆ **Hymn 638**

O Come and Sing unto the Lord

IRISH

Call to Reconciliation (please be seated)

Beloved, we are called to live in right relationship with God by loving one another.

Therefore, let us confess our sins to the One who pardons our offenses.

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

Loving God, we confess that we have sinned against you by not honoring you or loving one another. When we ignore injustice in the world our worship brings you no delight. Make haste to help us, that we may stand in right relationship with you and the whole of your creation and sing your praises through the mercy of Christ, our resurrected Savior. Amen.

Words of Life

Sisters and brothers, rejoice and be glad, for God is mighty to save and comes to you in peace to forgive, restore, and strengthen you eternally in Christ. Amen.

◆ Gloria Patri 581

Glory Be to the Father

GREATOREX

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

◆ 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.

The Word

Prayer for Illumination 463 (stanza 1) How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

Reading from the Old Testament

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Anthem (8:30)

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers
Chancel Choir

arr. Michael Larkin

Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice!

Rejoice, rejoice, believers; and let your lights appear. The evening is advancing, and darker night is near.

The bridegroom is arising and soon is drawing nigh. Up, pray and watch and wrestle; at midnight comes the cry.

The watchers on the mountain proclaim the bridegroom near; go forth as he approaches with alleluias clear.

The marriage feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand. Arise, O heirs of glory; the bridegroom is at hand.

Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice! Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear. Rejoice! Arise, O Sun so longed

for, o'er this benighted sphere. With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see the day of earth's redemption that sets your people free!

Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice!

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(11:00)

Will You Be Ready?

Mark Patterson

Calvin Choir; Katie Kruger, director; Barbara Depman, accompanist

People who walk in darkness have seen a great light.

The light will shine upon them, may it shine brightly tonight.

Will you be ready for the light, ready for the light to shine upon you?

Will you be ready for the light, ready for the light to shine?

Will you be watching, will you be list'ning? Will you hear the angels sing?

Will you be waiting, will you be searching for a Savior and a King?

People keep watching, true light is coming. Look for a bright star in the East.

Look for the Christ Child, born in a manger, there you will find the Prince of Peace.

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Time for All Our Young Worshippers

Hymn

sung to All Things Bright and Beautiful

ROYAL OAK

Come, Lord Jesus, to this holy place, and bless the children here.

Guide them, mold them in your gentle ways, to know your love so dear.

Text by Judith Smithson.

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 Psalter

Psalms 78:1-7

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia Response 587

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

CELTIC ALLELUIA

Message

Leaning Into God

Rev. T. J. Parlette

Moment for Reflection Hymn 455 Listen to the Word That God Has Spoken

LISTEN

Please sing three times.

Our Response

Dedication of Pledges

Prayer of Consecration (in unison)

O God, our gracious and generous creator, we gratefully acknowledge your ownership and recognize our stewardship. All we have is a trust from you. We thank you that through Christ's love, we have learned the relationship between giving and living. Teach us to give as loyal partners with him. We would pledge to you an honorable share of our income. May our pledges express our genuine, sincere faith and true loyalty. Use us and our offerings to extend the worldwide kingdom of him who loved us and gave himself for us. In his name we pray and pledge. Amen.

Offering our Pledges to God

Please come down the center aisle and place your pledges in the baskets on the communion table. There are extra pledge cards in the pew racks if necessary. The regular offering will be received later in the service.

Prayer of Dedication (in unison)

Almighty God, giver of every good and perfect gift, who has shown us that it is more blessed to give than to receive, we dedicate these pledges to the service of your church, humbly praying that all our gifts and energies may be used in the extension of your kingdom here on earth. Accept these pledges, we pray; multiply them in your service and then transform them into loving deeds of grace and mercy, given in Christ's name and to the everlasting glory of your name – for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

- ◆ **Hymn of Dedication 712** As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought FOREST GREEN

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

Offertory

At the offertory Wake, Awake, for the Night Is Coming Wayne Wold

- ◆ **Offertory Response 643** (stanza 1) Now Thank We All Our God NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

Now thank we all our God, with heart, and hands, and voices,
who wondrous things hath done, in Whom His world rejoices.

Who from our mother's arms hath bless'd us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

Text in public domain.

- ◆ **Unison Prayer of Dedication**

O great and loving God, we give you thanks that you have given your faithful people a love for justice and the gift of generosity. Bless these gifts and with them reveal your righteousness as we await the coming of your peace. Amen.

Sending

- ◆ **Hymn 624** I Greet Thee Who My Sure Redeemer Art TOULON

- ◆ **Benediction**

- ◆ **Benediction Response** Go Now in Peace Don Besig

Postlude Wake, Awake, for the Night Is Coming 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.

Go Now in Peace

Don Besig

Voice

Go now in peace. Nev - er be a - fraid. God will go
with you each hour of ev - 'ry day. Go now in faith, stead-fast strong and
true. Know He will guide you in all you do. Go now in
love, and show you be - lieve. Reach out to othe-ers so all the world can
see. God will be there watch - ing from a - bove. Go now in
peace, in faith, and in love.

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Stewardship 2018: Gratitude: thankful, grateful, blessed.

Our ability to accomplish our goal depends on the generous financial support of the congregation. Please do your part by making a generous pledge and returning your card during worship today, by mail, or in the offering plate any Sunday before the end of November. Extra pledge cards are in the pew racks if you forgot yours today or if you already returned yours and would like to come forward for the dedication of pledges.

Session has called a meeting of the congregation for 9:30 a.m., immediately following the first service, to elect new classes of deacons and elders and congregational representatives for the Endowment and Nominating Committees.

The Nominating Committee will present the names of

For Deacon in the Class of 2018: Lettie Eckberg

For Deacon in the Class of 2020: Mary Beyerle, Allen Dollerschell, Margie Schaaf, and Shelley Steger

For Elder in the Class of 2019: Ron Kreinbring

For Elder in the Class of 2020: Lucinda Cutrer, Sarah Edgerton, Gregg Erickson, James Sessler, and James Talen

For congregation-at-large member of Endowment Committee Class of 2020:

For congregation-at-large members of the Nominating Committee Class of 2018:

Tammy Buchanan, Katie Lenn, Terry Narr, Jason Wobig, and Melissa Wobig

Nominations from the floor will be accepted provided the nominee has given prior approval to having his or her name placed on the slate.

Calendar for the week of November 12 – November 19 (and beyond)

SUNDAY – November 12 (Stewardship Dedication)

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

The **chancel flowers** are given for the Glory of God by Marilyn Olseen and Gordon Olseen in memory of Bill Olseen.

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* (south fireside room/A-104)

Chancel Choir rehearses at 9:45 a.m.

MONDAY – November 13

Sign up by today for the Advent Bible study.

TUESDAY – November 14

A **Festival of Music committee** meets at 7:15 p.m. in the north fireside room.

WEDNESDAY – November 15

Items for the **December newsletter** are due today either to fpc_carol@hotmail.com or in the office.

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

Crafters Group meets at 3 p.m. in the social hall.

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>Gratitude</i>
7:00	Joyous Praise handbells (grades 6-12 & adults)

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 – *Gratitude*

7:00 Joyous Praise handbells (grades 6-12 & adults)

THURSDAY – November 16

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

Chancel Choir rehearses at 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY – November 18

Ruth Circle meets at 10 a.m. in the lounge.

SUNDAY – November 19

Worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

A **Festival of Music** presents Rachel Laurin, concert organist, at 4 p.m. in the sanctuary. From Quebec, Canada, Laurin is well known as a composer and organist and is skilled in the art of improvisation.

The **Sharing Tree** will be in the atrium and decorated with paper ornaments representing four charitable programs in Rochester: Alternative Leaning Center, Dorothy Day House, Family Promise, and MedCity Foundation. Select a gift tag from the tree and follow the instructions on the back of the tag. Your participation in the Sharing Tree is looked forward to by many in our community.

MONDAY – November 20

Esther Circle meets at 1 p.m. in the lounge.

TUESDAY – November 21

Session meets at 7 p.m. in the south fireside room.

WEDNESDAY – November 22

NO Wednesday activities November 22 because of Thanksgiving break.

THURSDAY – November 23

The church will be closed in observance of Thanksgiving.

FRIDAY – November 24

The church will be closed.

SUNDAY – November 26

Worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

For Your Information

Greeters needed for Sunday services. Be a greeter at a Sunday morning service and welcome members and visitors to worship. To volunteer, please contact Jeff Remfert (j.remfert@gmail.com) or write your name and e-mail address on the Greeter Sign-up Sheet at the Welcome Desk. You will receive an e-mail from SignUpGenius showing a calendar where you can sign up for one or more services. Thank you!

On Wednesday evenings from November 29 through December 20, Rev. Parlette will lead an **Advent study** on the book "Faithful: Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph." Register by calling the church office. The book for the study is \$13.50, payable to the church.

Help celebrate the Advent season with a \$15 donation to the **poinsettia fund**. The plants will decorate the sanctuary in December and then be delivered by the Deacons to our 40 C.A.R.E. members. To contribute, put your check (note for poinsettias) in the offering plate or mail it to the church office.

Sign up to light the candles on the Advent wreath. Sign up at Sign Up Genius. Follow the link if you received an "invite." If you didn't, log on or register at www.signupgenius.com and search for signups created by duffer34@gmail.com. You can also e-mail Paul Steger at duffer45@gmail.com and he will sign you up. We have one opportunity left – 11 a.m. service on December 3.

Run.Hide.Fight. In response to the shooting at the church in Texas, below is a link to a video produced by the FBI: "Run Hide Fight" dramatizing an active shooter situation to provide instruction about *how to survive*. Warning: this is a very realistic, disturbing but very *effective* video. It portrays a gunman shooting people and what it would be like to be caught in this situation. As we struggle to accept the reality of this phenomenon, it's important to be prepared and have a plan. This is the policy First Presbyterian would follow in the event of such an event. (Jay Rowland)

- Search fbi.gov active shooter resources
- Scroll to "For the public: responding to an active shooter crisis situation"
- Click on the arrow

Among the Church Family

Congratulations to Tom and Marilyn Theismann who will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary November 18.

Happy Birthday to William Johnson, who will celebrate his 93rd birthday November 17.

Happy Birthday to Lucille Bill, who will celebrate her 95th birthday November 20.

We extend our condolences to Alex Kuisle and Katie Kruger on the death of Alex's father, Richard Kuisle, November 4.