

First Presbyterian Church



512 Third Street SW

Rochester, Minnesota 55902

Phone 282-1618

Service for the Lord's Day
September 22, 2019
Fifteenth 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.
 - Enjoy coffee and fellowship in the social hall following both services.
- Visitors, please use a blue mug so we can identify and greet you.

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

Gathering

Prelude Chorale and Variations on NUN DANKET ALL' UND BRINGET EHR' Gaël Liardon

Greeting and Welcome

Please sign the Opportunity for Friendship Register and pass it to the person next to you.

Minute for Stewardship

Building and Grounds Committee

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

(8:30) Jane Hallman

(11:00) Patricia Talen

Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time on and forevermore.

From sunrise to sunset, may the name of the Lord be praised.

God raises the poor from the dust, and lifts the needy from the ash heap,

To make them sit with princes, with the princes of God's people.

Praise the Lord! Praise, O servants!

Praise the name of the Lord.

◆ **Hymn 407** Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers NUN DANKET ALL' UND BRINGET EHR'

Call to Reconciliation with God (please be seated)

Even though we continually turn away from God, the Lord is eager to forgive. Trusting in the promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

Silent Confession

Kyrie

arr. David N. Johnson

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

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◆ Please stand if you are able.

Responsive Prayer of Confession

O Christ, your love is without limit; you gave your very life for us.

Forgive us Lord, when we your people are hesitant to share even the smallest of our gifts.

O Christ, you model a life of service, always attentive to the ones in need.

Forgive us, Lord, when we your people refuse to hear the cries of our neighbors.

O Christ, you call us into community, joining the church in one faith, one baptism.

Forgive us, Lord, when we fail to live up to your calling. Forgive us, renew us, and remake us into your faithful people. Amen.

Words of Life

Our loving God desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. Hear the Good News! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

◆ **Gloria Patri**

Glory to the Father

GLORIA PATRI

Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly
Spi-rit: as it was in the be-gin-nin-g, is
now, and will be for-ev-er. A-men. A-men. A-men.

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◆ **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 395 (st. 3) (please be seated) Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

LIEBSTER JESU

Glo-rious Lord, your-self im-part, Light of Light, from God pro-ceed-ing.
Touch our lips and ears and heart; help us by your Spir-it's plead-ing.
Hear the cry your church now rais-es;
hear, and bless our pray'rs and prais-es.

Text and music in Public Domain

Reading from the Prophets

Amos 8:4-7

Time for All Our Young Worshippers

Hymn 761 (st. 2)

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

BEECHER

Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth, let us follow,
never falt'ring, reconciling folk on earth. Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people,
young and old, blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold.

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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 Gospels

Luke 16:1-13

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia Response

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Repeat Alleluia

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Message

Hard to Believe

Rev. T. J. Parlette

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

Our Response

◆ Hymn 694

Great God of Every Blessing

AURELIA

◆ Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed (Traditional)

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy
Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,
dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the
dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the
Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the
forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

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

Offertory (8:30)

Lay Up Your Treasures in Heaven

Pepper Choplin

"Lay up your treasures in heaven,
O people, lay up your treasures in glory
where nothing in this world can take them away."
O listen, people, hear the Master say,
"Come and lay up your treasures in heaven.
Your treasures in this world will fade away,
but the things of the Lord will last forevermore!"

Well, the Lord looked out and saw the people there,
tied up in worry and burdened with care. He said,
"Seek first the kingdom and you will see the things that will last for eternity!"
Some people trust in their silver and gold, they put their faith in the wealth they hold.
But fortunes will fade and kingdoms fall, so put your trust in the Lord of all!

Text: based upon Matthew 6:19-34

Chancel Choir and Youth Choir

(11:00)

Aria

Antonio Vivaldi, ed. and arr. S. Drummond Wolff

◆ **Offertory Response 36** (sts. 2 and 3) For the Fruit of All Creation AR HYD Y NOS

◆ **Unison Prayer of Dedication**

Gracious God, source of our daily bread and Sabbath trust, you feed us with your love and equip us to share in your purpose. Receive the offerings of our wounded spirits, our guarded purses, our meager strength, and continue to expand our hearts, until we live with the boldness and joy of Easter morning; for we pray in the name of your son, Jesus, and by the power of your Spirit. Amen.

Sending

◆ **Hymn 450** Be Thou My Vision SLANE

◆ **Benediction**

◆ **Response 547** (st. 3) Go, My Children, with My Blessing AR HYD Y NOS

“Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit’s power filled you; here my tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.”

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Postlude Canonic Trio and Prayer on SLANE Larry Visser

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.

About Our Church

Rev. Thomas J. (T.J.) Parlette, Pastor
Rev. Jay P. Rowland, Associate Pastor
John E. Stender, Director of Music and Organist
Lee J. Afdahl, Director of Music Emeritus
Susan K. Kruger, Office Administrator
Kathleen M. Kuisle, Calvin and Cherub Choirs
Janine M. Yanisch, First Players bands
Harry E. Coleman, Facility Manager
Tyler Sczurek, Custodian
Child Care staff: Maria Alma Candido, Esther Lebron, Brenda Thorson
Security and custodial personnel: Than Boutelle, Sally Evans, Vera Herr, Tami Rinn

Office hours: Monday-Thursday (7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.); Friday (7:30 a.m.-3 p.m.); Saturday (closed)

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 22 – September 29 (and beyond)

SUNDAY – September 22

We thank all who are sharing their ministries in worship.

Today's **chancel flowers** are given for the Glory of God by Terri Vrtiska and Bernie Swenson in memory of Doris M. Vrtiska and Hilma M. Swenson.

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)
- 9:40-10:20: Sunday school for age 3-grade 1
- 9:40-10:20: Calvin Choir for grades 2-5
- 10:20-11:00: Sunday school for grades 2-5
- 10:20-10:50: Cherub Choir for age 4-grade 1
- 9:40-10:45: Middle School Sunday school (grades 6-8) in youth room
- 10:00-10:30: High School Sunday morning discussion (grades 9-12) in room A103

Adults:

- 9:40 a.m.: *Current Issues: Fighting the Tide of History* (lounge E207)
- 9:40 a.m.: *Kerygma Study: "The Jesus Movement and the World of the Early Church"* (south fireside room/A104)

Chancel Choir rehearses at 9:45 a.m.

Pick up your **all-church calendar for 2019-2020** so you can plan for the church's yearlong cycle of activities. Calendars are in the atrium, foyer, narthex, and office.

Sign up today in the atrium for the **Homecoming Celebration** on October 6.

TUESDAY – September 24

Chancel Guild meets at 1 p.m.

WEDNESDAY – September 25

Wednesday Activities	
4:15	Alleluia Ringers (grades 2-5)
5:00	Youth Choir (grades 6-12)
5:00	Recorder Ensemble
5:45	Middle/High School youth (grades 6-12)
6:30	Bible Study: <i>Anointing Jesus</i> (Al Depman)
7:00	Joyous Praise handbells (intergenerational)

THURSDAY – September 26

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

Chancel Choir rehearses at 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY – September 28

The congregation is invited to celebrate Alfred and Ursula Thedens' 70th wedding anniversary at a reception in the social hall from 1-4 p.m.

SUNDAY – September 29

Worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

Education hour:

- 9:40-10:45: Nursery - preschool (3-years-old)
- 9:40-10:20: Sunday school for age 3-grade 1
- 9:40-10:20: Calvin Choir for grades 2-5
- 10:20-11:00: Sunday school for grades 2-5
- 10:20-10:50: Cherub Choir for age 4-grade 1
- 9:40-10:45: Middle School Sunday school (grades 6-7) in youth room
- 9:40-10:45: Confirmation (grades 8-9) in room A102

10:00-10:30: High School Sunday morning discussion (grades 10-12) in room A103

Adults:

- 9:40 a.m.: *Current Issues: Fighting the Tide of History* (lounge/E207)
- 9:40 a.m.: *Kerygma Study: "The Jesus Movement and the World of the Early Church"* (south fireside room/A104)

TUESDAY – October 1

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 2

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

All **Wednesday activities** are on as scheduled. See September 25 for details.

THURSDAY – October 3

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

Chancel Choir rehearses at 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY – October 6 (World Communion Sunday)

Worship and communion at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

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

One of our parish nurses will be in the library between services October 6 to take your **blood pressure**.

A two-week **new member class** begins October 6. Anyone interested in joining First Presbyterian Church, or in finding out more about our church, is welcome. The class will meet in the conference room (A-209) at 9:40 a.m. If you decide to join, new members will meet with the Session October 13 and be recognized by the congregation at the 11 a.m. service that day.

Among the Church Family

Congratulations to Derald and Sandy Holloway who will celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary September 26.

Congratulations to Ronald and Judy Hunter who will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary September 27.

Happy Birthday to Louise Bastron who will celebrate her 96th birthday September 30.

We extend our condolences to Sharon and William Nichols on the death of Sharon's mother, Mildred Moore, September 4 in Lawrence, Kansas at the age of 99 years.

For Your Information

Support for victims of Hurricane Dorian

Hurricane Dorian has left the Bahamas with massive damage and countless people without shelter and adequate food and water. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is already assisting with relief and we are all able to help. The Mission Committee has designated \$1000 to Hurricane Relief. You may write a check and put Hurricane Relief in the memo line and place it in the offering plate or bring or mail it to the office. It is also possible to give online by going to the PDA website with code DR000194.

Thank you.

Nominating Committee needs names for new officers for next year

The **Nominating Committee** will soon begin looking for candidates to serve the congregation beginning January 2020. There are positions open for six Elders on the Session, seven Deacons, and an at-large candidate for the Endowment Committee. These are three-year terms, 2020 - 2022. In addition, there are five openings for next year's Nominating Committee, a one-year commitment. If you are interested in finding out more about what these positions entail, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee. If there is someone you'd like to nominate for a position, we will be glad to consider them as part of our outreach.

Members of this year's Nominating Committee are Joe Doppler, lead elder; Lucinda Cutrer, elder; Gregg Erickson, Paul Herr, Kathryn Lenn, Britta Youmans, Lindsay Zetzsche (congregation-at-large members), and Andrew Thoreson (Deacon representative).

Have you signed up for your Good News?

You're off to college or an out-of-town job. Have you (or your parents) made arrangements to have the church newsletter sent to you? Call **Sue** (282-1618) and she'll be happy to add your name to the mailing list.

Likewise, if you'd like to stay in touch by getting the weekly Good News in Brief via e-mail, let us know your e-mail address. We're happy to send either one (or both) to you but we need to know where you are.

Welcome visitors to our church through artwork

Session recently discussed placing a piece of exterior art somewhere on the north side of the sanctuary.

Carved in the stone above the north doors we invite people to "Come Ye Apart and Rest Awhile." Our church is located close to the medical complex and many people pass by our church every day. We often see people having lunch on our front steps and it seems like a natural gathering space. A piece of sculpture would be a welcoming Christian statement through art.

Certainly we would need to raise money for this project. We would also like to form a small group of people who have an interest in this and could formulate ideas about its selection and placement. If you are interested, please contact Sue in the church office.

~ Ron Kreinbring / Building and Grounds Committee

Presbyterian Women gather in Kasson

The Fall Gathering of Presbyterian Women of the Twin Cities Area Presbytery will be held Saturday, October 12, at the First Presbyterian Church in Kasson. The theme is "Immigration and Detention." The speaker is Mary Hogan, Community Relations Officer for Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Homeland Security. PW will pay the registration fee, which includes lunch, for any who can attend. Please register with Peg Parsons by October 5.



Homecoming Sunday Celebration

Sunday, October 6, noon

Homecoming Sunday will be October 6 after the second service. Welcoming and Nurturing will grill the main dish and we are asking folks to bring a side dish or dessert to share.

If you would like to be involved in the program – sharing about how FPC is home to you or about our history together, please contact Allyson Maurer at 507-259-3878 or allyson227@yahoo.com.

Please make a reservation today in the atrium.