

**First Sunday in Lent - February 18, 2018 ~ 10:15 am**

**Assemble in God's Name**

**Prelude/Choral Introit**

**Call to Worship**

L: We come, so God might open our eyes, that we may discover the wonders surrounding us;

**P: that we may embrace the joy deep within us.**

L: We gather, so Christ might widen our hearts, that we may hear the sounds of brokenness around us;

**P: that we may sing the melodies of hope.**

L: We are here, so the Spirit might teach us the ways of humility, that we may walk that street named Enduring Love;

**P: that we may wait at the corner called Faithfulness.**

**Prayer of Invocation**

How You love us, God of rainbow promises! Like a mother who teaches her son the steps for his first dance, like the father who goes out with his daughter after work so she can learn how to drive, You love us that much and more. How You offer yourself to us, Brother of the beloved! You gather us up in Your arms, simply to hear our deepest hopes; You reach out Your scarred hands to gently wipe our fears away; You stain a cross with Your blood, so we may be washed clean in the tears pouring down God's face. How You share Yourself with us, journey's Spirit! You bathe our wearied souls in the cooling waters of baptism; You wipe the dust of the wilderness out of our eyes so we can see the kingdom; You teach us those ancient ways which offer new life for each of us. God in Community, Holy in One, be with us in this Lenten season. Amen.

**\*Hymn #166**

***"Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"***

**\*Call to Confession**

God takes our broken promises and turns them into vows of faithfulness. God takes our biggest failings and shapes lives of service. God listens to our prayers of confession and changes them into songs of mercy. Let us come to the One who pours forgiveness into our lives, praying,

**\*Unison Prayer of Confession**

We admit we are hesitant to walk to Jerusalem and beyond with You, God of Glory. In a world where we worry about tomorrow before enjoying today, we race by Your moments of silence, of learning. In that flood of worries, which can overwhelm us, we may miss that assurance that You have not cut us off from Your grace. In the deserts of our desires, we may ignore that feast of hope, of joy, of life you offer to us. Forgive us and have mercy on us, Gentle Guardian of our souls. In humility, may we offer our lives to others. In love, may we share

Your grace with everyone we meet. In hope, may we wait for You all our days, as You come to us in the life and joy of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

**\*Time for Silent Prayer of Confession**

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

L: In this place we find God's word, God's way, God's love, God's forgiveness. What more do we need to sustain us as we continue as pilgrims along the way?

**P: In every wilderness, on every road; in every moment, in every life; in every journey, in every heart, we receive the daily bread we need - God's hope, God's mercy, God's joy. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.**

**\*Response** *Hymn #519 "You Are My Strength When I am Weak"*

**\*Share the Peace of Christ with One Another**

(Members and guests, please pass the attendance pad from left to right)

**Proclaim God's Word**

**Prayer of Illumination**

**Responsive Reading**

Psalm 25:1-10

Page 663

**Moment for Children**

Rev. Pamela Prouty

**Anthem**

***"Hymn of Promise"***

Chancel Choir

**Gospel Lesson**

Mark 1:9-15

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**Sermon**

**\*Hymn #783**

***"When We Are Tested"***

**\*Affirmation of Faith:** The Apostle's Creed (Page 35 in Hymnal)

**Announcements, Sharing of Joys and Concerns**

**The Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer**

**Give Thanks To God**

**God's Tithes and Your Offering Received**

**Offertory**

**\*Response** *Hymn #658 "God is So Good" (vs. 1&2)*

### \*Offertory Prayer

Not tomorrow, but today we are offered the chance to become a part of Your healing work, of bringing peace to a broken world, of feeding the hungry, and welcoming the excluded. Today, not tomorrow, we offer our gifts as well as our lives to this ministry of blessing and hope. Amen.

### Go in God's Name

*"Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"*

\*Hymn #291

\*Benediction

**Choral Benediction/Postlude**

(\*) Asterisk signifies to please stand if you are able.

**Ushers for February:** Bob Alexander, Sonya Alexander, Kyle, Aubree & Maddie Hicks, Todd Peterson, Rick & Denise Siegfried, Larry & Sue Wessels

**Mar. Communion Servers:** Scott Kohler, Rick Hauge, Kathy Peterson, Leon & Sharon King, Sonya Alexander, Maynard Nolting

**Greeting You Today:** Deacon of the Month: Sharon King, Randy & Lynn Juell, Mark & Dorie Oja

**Our Televised Worship Services** ~ Tune in to NU-Telecom - channel 3, and Media-com - channel 8, on Mondays at 10 am, and Wednesdays at 7 pm.

**Mission Service Team (MST) Fundraiser** ~ Please join us for *"An Evening in Italy"*, **Sunday, February 25**, at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church at 5:30 pm. Relax and enjoy appetizers, an Italian meal, dessert and special music! Tickets are \$15 per person and are available from Diane Davis or Ann Tiffany following the church service today or in the church office. Proceeds from this event will help fund service projects at Roblealto Bible Home in Costa Rica where the mission team will visit in July, 2018. Team members from 1st Presbyterian are Lee & Diane Davis, Rick & Fran Hauge, Marlys Mathiowetz and Ann Tiffany.

*"But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."-Matthew 5:44*

Who do you have a hard time loving? Commit to praying every day this week for that person; thank God for something particular about that person, imagine Him wrapping that person up in His loving arms, ask God to show you His Image in that person.

*"To be able to love one another, we must pray much, for prayer gives a clean heart and a clean heart can see God in our neighbor. If now we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten how to see God in one another."*

*-Mother Teresa*

## First Presbyterian Church of Redwood Falls

Our Vision Statement of the First Presbyterian Church of Redwood Falls is: God's timeless love transforms each of us to joyously continue the ministry of Jesus Christ in our community and in our world.



**First Sunday in Lent** - February 18, 2018 ~ 10:15 am

Ministers: The members of the congregation

**Pastor: Rev. Scott Prouty**



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**Volunteers Needed** ~ The Redwood Area Hospital is seeking hospice volunteers. The annual hospice volunteer training course will be held February 22 and 23 from 8am-4pm. If you are interested in becoming a hospice volunteer, contact Samantha Loomis at 637-4668.

**Choir** ~ The choir will be practicing following Lenten services on Wednesday evenings, throughout the Lenten season.

**Congregational Meeting** ~ Following worship on **Sunday, March 4**, we will be having a congregational meeting to elect Nathan Stephens as our new Deacon.

**Church Calendar**

**Sunday, February 18:** 8:45 am: Breakfast/Sunday School  
 9:15 am: Choir Practice  
 10:15 am: Worship  
 Following Worship: Packing Weekend Food Bags  
 7:00 pm: Confirmation

**Monday, February 19:** **President's Day - Church Office Closed**

Noon: Pastor - Rotary  
 7:00 pm: Pastor visits Tony & Molly Miller  
 8:00 pm: Pastor visits Nathan & Valerie Stephens

**Tuesday, February 20:** 4:30-6:00 pm: Ruby's Pantry

**Wednesday, February 21:** 9:00 am: Piecemakers  
 1:30 pm: Dorcas Circle  
 5:15 pm: Youth Club  
 6:00 pm: Meal  
 6:30 pm: Lenten Service

Youth Faith in Action

Following Wroship: Choir Practice

**Thursday, February 22:** 7:00 pm: Pastor visits Brian & Stephanie Klavetter  
 8:00 pm: Pastor visits Rachel Karnitz & Suzanne Menth

**Saturday, February 24:** 10-2:00 pm: Elder & Deacon Training - Here

**Sunday, February 25- Saturday, March 3: Pastor Scott will be out of the office - continuing education trip.**

**Sunday, February 25:** **Second Sunday of Lent**

8:45 am: Breakfast/Sunday School  
 9:15 am: Choir Practice  
 10:15 am: Worship - Guest Speaker

**The Deacons are on a Mission...** The Deacons are using the month of March and the March Food Share Campaign to make a difference for our local food shelf. So lets get on board with the Deacons and make a difference in March. On Sunday, March 4, Deacons will hold a "Cash vs Cans" competition... Pick a team and join in the fun... Who will win?! Cans or Cash?! On Sunday, March 11, the Deacons will put on a cooking show with food collected! Don't miss out on seeing what the Deacons will whip up! The Deacons will round off with a Hold-up. Sunday, March 18, the Deacons will pull out all the stops, you won't want to miss it! The Mission committee has agreed to match up to \$500 collected.

**Transformation Ministry Event** ~ Minnesota Valleys Presbytery is partnering with Midwest Initiative for Leading Transition to host a two and half day transformation training event, April 5-7, at the Presbyterian Church in St. Cloud. The event is designed for congregation teams and will focus on the complexity of leading churches through a transformation process. The faculty will address the misconceptions of the one size fits most concepts of church growth strategies. Trained in building the capacities of leaders to enter systems, coach change and resourcing various congregational systems this event will assist participants in retooling for ministry in the 21st century. **If you are interested in this event please talk to Pastor Scott BY MARCH 5!**

**Pray For The Following:**

**Pray for expecting parents of our Church Family:** Curt & Claire Meyers

**Pray for the unchurched and lonely.**

**Pray for people living in our communities, the disenfranchised and people in other countries.**

**Pray for those who are having financial or marital difficulties.**

**Pray for those grieving the loss of a loved one.**

**Pray for those seeking employment.**

**Pray for our leaders at the city, county, state and national level and all military personnel.**

**Pray for those in need of food, medicine and shelter.**

**Pray for our church leaders and teachers.**

**Pray for our local, national, world political leaders.**

**Birthdays:** 18th - Brady Stough, 19th - Shawn Corder, 21st - Peggy Dolezal, 24th - Dan Steenblock

**Members of our Church Family in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities:**

Muriel Moon, Millie Bunting, Gordon Alexander, Jeanette Kotval

**All Those Fighting Cancer:** Wendy Nolting, Tom & Dawn Umscheid (Pam Prouty's cousins),

Kathy Tiffany (Glen Tiffany's wife/Donna Potter's sister-in-law)

**Pray for all those fighting other diseases:**

Shellie Mammen (Lupus), Corrine Gertsema (multiple sclerosis)

**If you know of something/someone to add to the Prayer List, please contact the church office.**