

Fifth Sunday in Lent - March 18, 2018 ~ 10:15 am

Assemble in God's Name

Prelude/Choral Introit

Call to Worship

L: This is the day God has promised: the day of the new covenant.

P: We are here, because our hearts are filled with love for our God.

L: No longer carved on cold stone, this covenant is engraved on our hearts.

P: Our hearts are open so God's Word can shape us.

L: We will reach out to our neighbors, our friends and family, even to strangers.

P: Our hearts are ready to serve God and all of God's people.

Prayer of Invocation

You have forgotten more than we will ever think of; You have forgiven more than we will ever do; You have shattered the cold stones encasing our hearts, so You could write Your name on them. Redeemer of all, we praise You. You plant the seed of grace and hope deep within us, watering them with Your love; You call us to follow, so we may join You in serving the broken of our world. Jesus of the tears, we praise You. You journey with us, leading us closer to the cross; You center us on the One we would follow, so we can see Jesus clearly; You point to Your watch, so we know the hour for faithfulness has come. Generous Spirit, we praise You. God in Community, Holy in One, we open our mouths to sing Your praise. Amen.

***Hymn #744** *"Arise, Your Light is Come!"*

***Call to Confession**

If we would see Jesus, we must open our eyes to the ways we have not followed Him as disciples. If we want God to create new hearts within us, we must speak of the old ways in which we continue to live. If we seek God's mercy, we must confess all that keeps us from living as God's children. Join me, as we come to the One who will forgive us.

***Unison Prayer of Confession**

O Heart which seeks our own: we yearn for Your presence in our lives, yet turn away from You time and again. We want to serve others, but become obsessed with our own desires. We need Your Word to fill our emptiness, yet let it be silenced by the noise of our world. Our hearts are clogged with the foolishness of our lives, and often struggle to beat in rhythm with Your own. In this silence, and in the depths of our hidden souls, come to us and make us whole, Steadfast Love. Write grace upon our hearts, so we might be more forgiving people; write mercy on our hearts, so we might become more welcoming people; write hospitality upon our hearts that we might become more like Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, who came for all people, even us.

***Time for Silent Prayer of Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon**

L: A new heart, a generous spirit, a fresh start: these are the gifts our God gives to us.

P: Through Christ, we are cleansed; through Christ, we are healed; through Christ, we become new people. Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Gloria Patri** *Hymn #581*

***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

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Page 930

Moment for Children

Dorie Oja

Anthem

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

Chancel Choir

Gospel Lesson

John 12:20-36

Page 1301

Sermon

***Hymn #726**

"Will You Come and Follow Me"

***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

***Doxology** *Hymn #606*

***Offertory Prayer**

As You write upon our hearts, soften them with Your compassion. As You soften them, open us to the needs of those close to us, as well as those in every corner of Your world. As You open us to the hurts and heartaches of Your children, give us the grace to be as generous with our gifts as You are in blessing us. Take these gifts and use them to share peace, love, grace, and joy with all of Your people. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Go in God's Name

***Hymn #215**

"What Wondrous Love Is This"

*Benediction

Choral Benediction/Postlude

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

Ushers for March: Scott Kohler, Laura Kohler, Butch & Faythe Amberg, Troy Amberg, Leon & Sharon King, David Danielson, Ryan Kramer, Jerilyn Kodet, Rick Kramer

April Communion Servers: Shari Fuhr, Deb Hess, Becky Bruns, Lynn Juell, Nancy Miller, Marlys Mathiowetz, Shellie Mammen

Greeting You Today: Deacon of the Month: Leon King, Rachel Karnitz, Suzanne Menth

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.

Congratulations ~ Congratulation Meyers family on your new addition. 9 lbs. 6 oz. 21.5 inch long Rhys Eugene Meyers was born on Tuesday, March 13, in New Ulm.

You Are Invited ~ There will be a 100th birthday party for Muriel Moon at Sunwood at 2:15 pm, on **Thursday, March 22**. Come have a piece of cake and beverage and wish Muriel a Happy Birthday. You can stay and play bingo if you wish.

Officer Training ~ The Presbytery Elder/Deacon Training was reschedule due to weather. The new date is **Saturday, March 24**, from 10-2 pm, here at the church! Even if you didn't sign up for the first meeting YOU CAN STILL COME!!! Please contact Pastor Scott or Pastor Pamela if you have any questions OR if you plan to attend. Lunch will be provided.

Friendship Dinner ~ Our next Friendship Dinner is **Sunday, March 25**, from 5-6:30 pm. The menu will feature; soups, breads and desserts. Everyone is welcome!

Easter Breakfast ~ The Mission Service Team (MST) Costa Rica will be serving a light breakfast from 8:30-9:45 on Easter Sunday. Please join us before the worship service for egg bake, muffins/breads, juice/ coffee! Bring your family and guests! A free will offering will be taken to help support service projects and activities during the team's upcoming mission trip to Costa Rica in July.

Attention Seniors ~ Please have your graduation picture, a baptism picture and any other church related photos to the **church office by March 30!** You can email them to: churchofc@hotmail.com or drop them off in the office mailbox (please label your photos so they can be returned to you). Graduation Sunday is scheduled for **May 6**, please mark your calendars and plan to attend. Please contact Pam Prouty if you have any questions.

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.



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Ministers: The members of the congregation

Pastor: Rev. Scott Prouty



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Church Calendar

Sunday, March 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, March 19:	Noon:	Pastor - Rotary
Tuesday, March 20:	4:30-6:00 pm:	Ruby's Pantry
Wednesday, March 21:	9:00 am:	Piecemakers
	1:30 pm:	Dorcas Circle - Parlor
	5:15 pm:	Youth Club
	6:00 pm:	Meal
	6:30 pm:	Lenten Service
		Youth Faith in Action
Saturday, March 24:	10-2:00 pm:	Presbytery Elder/Deacon Training - Here
Sunday, March 25:		Palm Sunday
	8:45 am:	Breakfast/Sunday School
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	5-6:30 pm:	Friendship Dinner
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Thanks FPC congregation for faithfully supporting Presbyterian Mission in South Sudan through the South Sudan Education & Peace-building Project. I'm writing to let you know that others like you are considering traveling to Juba, South Sudan to experience the country first-hand and, among other things, to: (1) discover how God is at work there through the PC(USA) and our partners; (2) seek to understand current issues and challenges; (3) meet our Presbyterian mission co-workers and learn about their ministries; (4) experience the hope of lives being transformed. It would be a challenging trip, in terms of travel and accommodations and, of course, the security situation in South Sudan is very volatile, as it is a country at war. We would have to depend on our mission co-workers living in country to determine whether it is safe at the time of the trip. That said, it would also be an incredible opportunity for spiritual and missional engagement. The timeframe currently being considered for this trip is the first quarter of 2019, and the group would be accompanied by Debbie Braaksma, Africa Area Coordinator for World Mission. The size of the group would be six ideally, and a maximum of eight. Plans will need to be made soon to allow for adequate preparation, so we need a decision no later than Friday, April 13. Please let me know if anyone from FPC is interested and I will send additional information. Grace and Peace, Rev. Rhonda K. Kruse (Mission Engagement Advisor–Midwest Presbyterian Mission)

"Listening in the spiritual life is much more than a psychological strategy to help others discover themselves. In the spiritual life the listener is not the ego, which would like to speak but is trained to restrain itself, but the Spirit of God within us. When we are baptized in the Spirit - that is, when we have received the Spirit of Jesus as the breath of God breathing within us - that Spirit creates in us a sacred space where the other can be received and listened to. The Spirit of Jesus prays in us and listens in us to all who come to us with their sufferings and pains." -Henri Nouwen

Pray For The Following:

Pray for the unchurched and lonely.

Pray for members of our Church Family that have recently lost loved one: Maynard & Joyce Nolting, their daughter, Wendy, passed away on Tuesday, March 13. Please keep the Nolting family in your thoughts and prayers.

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: Today - Diane Aakre, 21st - Beau Stough, 22nd - Jonathan Sweetman, Muriel Moon, 23rd - Hope Norgaard, Aubrie Milhausen

Anniversaries: 22nd - Kyle & Stacie Hicks, Don & Lorrie Quinn

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

Muriel Moon, Millie Bunting, Gordon Alexander, Jeanette Kotval

All Those Fighting Cancer: Tom Umscheid (Pam Prouty's cousin's husband),

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.