



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.

January 10, 2021 ~ 10:15 am ~ Rev. Scott Prouty
Epiphany/Installation of Officers/Holy Communion

Assemble in God's Name

Prelude: Elaine Hagen

Ringing of the Church Bell

Call to Worship

L: O come, let us worship the Lord and consider what wondrous things God has done:

P: The Magi who study the heavens follow a guiding star!

L: O come, let us worship the Lord and consider what wondrous things God has done:

P: The peoples who live in the shadows see a glorious light!

L: O come, let us worship the Lord and consider what wondrous things God has done:

P: The Christ who embodies the Word unveils the hidden plan, making us joint heirs of the promise of salvation through the gospel!

L: O come, let us worship the Lord,

P: for God has done wondrous things!

Prayer of Invocation

For those who seek a Savior we lead them to the Stable. To the One who was born to bring freedom, forgiveness, and liberty. For those who seek assurance we lead them to the light, to the One who opens eyes to understanding God's Word and truth. For those who seek forgiveness, we lead them to a grace beyond comprehension to wholeness healing peace. Amen.

Hymn #147

"The First Nowell" (vs. 1-3)

1 The first Nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay, in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain: *Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.*

2 They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far; and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. [Refrain]

3 And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far; to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. [Refrain]

Call to Confession

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God, though we have rebelled against God. Let us then renounce our willfulness and seek God's mercy by confessing our sins.

Prayer of Confession

Ever-patient God, we are a people who live in thick darkness. We stumble around bombarded by news of war and poverty, famine and genocide, injustice and oppression. The turmoil of things and issues and people of the dark, can overwhelm and paralyze us. Help us be people of the light, shining your light of righteousness, peace, and joy into all the dark places of our lives and world. Unlock the mystery and glory of the babe born in Bethlehem. Turn our aimless wanderings into a journey of purpose guided by Your star. Let the light break into our lives and our world, and transform us into people of the light.

Time for Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

As certain as the dawn follows the night, so is the promise of God's forgiveness and love for us all. Arise and Shine. Follow the star. Find the light of the world born in Bethlehem and be transformed from darkness into light. Amen.

Response Hymn #581 "Gloria Patri"

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.

Share the Peace of Christ with One Another

(Comment below to share the Peace of Christ.)

Proclaim God's Word

Prayer of Illumination

Responsive Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Jerusalem, stand up! Shine! Your new day is dawning. The glory of the Lord shines brightly on you. ²The earth and its people are covered with darkness, but the glory of the Lord is shining upon you. ³Nations and kings will come to the light of your dawning day.

The Lord said: ⁴Open your eyes! Look around! Crowds are coming. Your sons are on their way from distant lands; your daughters are being carried like little children. ⁵When you see this, your faces will glow; your hearts will pound and swell with pride.^[a] Treasures from across the sea and the wealth of nations will be brought to you.

⁶Your country will be covered with caravans of young camels from Midian and Ephah.^[b] The people of Sheba^[c] will bring gold and spices in praise of me, the Lord.

Hymn #147 "The First Nowell" (vs. 4-6)

4 This star drew nigh to the northwest; o'er Bethlehem it took its rest, and there it did both stop and stay, right over the place where Jesus lay.

Refrain: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

5 Then entered in those wise men three, full reverently upon their knee, and offered there in his presence their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. [Refrain]

6 Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord, that hath made heaven and earth of nought, and with his blood our life hath bought. [Refrain]

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 2:1-12

¹⁴When Jesus was born in the village of Bethlehem in Judea, Herod was king. During this time some wise men^[a] from the east came to Jerusalem ²and said, "Where is the child born to be king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east^[b] and have come to worship him." ³When King Herod heard about this, he was worried, and so was everyone else in Jerusalem. ⁴Herod brought together the chief priests and the teachers of the Law of Moses and asked them, "Where will the Messiah be born?"

⁵They told him, "He will be born in Bethlehem, just as the prophet wrote, ⁶'Bethlehem in the land of Judea, you are very important among the towns of Judea. From your town will come a leader, who will be like a shepherd for my people Israel.'" ⁷Herod secretly called in the wise men and asked them when they had first seen the star. ⁸He told them, "Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, let me know. I want to go and worship him too." ⁹The wise men listened to what the king said and then left. And the star they had seen in the east went on ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰They were thrilled and excited to see the star.

¹¹When the men went into the house and saw the child with Mary, his mother, they knelt down and worshiped him. They took out their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh^[c] and gave them to him. ¹²Later they were warned in a dream not to return to Herod, and they went back home by another road.

Sermon

Hymn #697

"Take My Life" (vs. 1-3)

1 Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee; take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

2 Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love; take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee, swift and beautiful for thee.

3 Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King; take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee, filled with messages from thee.

The Installation of Officers: Dan Tiffany, Julie Rienstra, Julie Fiala – Deacons
Deb Hess, Sonya Alexander, Nancy Miller – Ruling Elders

Pastor: Let us Renew our Baptismal Vows: Do you believe in God the Father Almighty?

People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, Our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Pastor: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, and the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Pastor: Will you continue in the apostles teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in be in prayer?

People: I will, with God's help.

Pastor: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People: I will, with God's help.

Pastor: Will you proclaim by word and deed the Good News of God in Christ?

People: I will, with God's help.

Pastor: Will you seek to serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People: I will, with God's help.

Pastor: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People: I will, with God's help.

Pastor: Remember Your Baptism and be faithful to your vows. There are different gifts,

People: But it is the same spirit who gives them.

Pastor: There are different ways of serving God,

People: But it is the same Lord who is served.

Pastor: God works through different people in different ways,

People: But is the same God whose will is brought about through them all.

Pastor: Each one is given a gift by the Spirit,

People: To use it for the common good.

Pastor: Together we are the Body of Christ,

People: And individually members of Christ.

ALL: Though we have different gifts, together we are a ministry of reconciliation lead by the risen Christ.

Pastor: I will begin the installation service by asking the candidates the constitutional questions as prescribed by the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church USA. Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

Candidates: I do.

Pastor: Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?

Candidates: I do.

Pastor: Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

Candidates: I do and will with God's help.

Pastor: Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?

Candidates: I will with God's help.

Pastor: Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?

Candidates: I will with God's help.

Pastor: Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?

Candidates: I will with God's help.

Pastor: Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?

Candidates: I do with God's help.

Pastor: Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

Candidates: I will with God's help.

Pastor: (For ruling elders) Will you be a faithful elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in governing bodies of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

Elder Candidates: I will with God's help.

Pastor: (For deacons) Will you be a faithful deacon, teaching charity, urging concern, and directing the people's help to the friendless and those in need? In your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

Deacon Candidates: I will with God's help

Clerk of Session: Do You, the members of First Presbyterian Church accept Julie Rienstra, Julie Fiala, and Dan Tiffany as deacons, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead you in the way of Jesus Christ? If so say, We do.

Congregation: We do.

Clerk of Session: Do You, the members of First Presbyterian Church accept Nancy Miller, Sonya Alexander, Deb Hess and Molly Miller as elders, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead you in the way of Jesus Christ? If so say, We do.

Congregation: We do.

Clerk of Session: Do You agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide you, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church? If so, say we do.

Congregation: We do.

Prayer of Installation

Pastor: Let us Pray. We give you thanks that you have called Dan Tiffany, Julie Rienstra and Julie Fiala whom we install in your name to be deacons in your church and Deb Hess, Sonya Alexander, Molly Miller and Nancy Miller to be elders in your church. God of grace, through the Holy Spirit, gentle as a dove, burning as fire, empower your servants Julie, Julie and Dan for the office and work of a deacon in the church and your servants Molly, Nancy, Deb and Sonya for the office and work of an elder in the church of God that your people may be strengthened, and your holy name be glorified forever; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Pastor: You are now Deacons and Elders in the Church of Jesus Christ and for this congregation, First Presbyterian Church. Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Amen.

Hymn #697 ***"Take My Life" (vs. 4-6)***

4 Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold; take my intellect and use every power as thou shalt choose, every power as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine. Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne, it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store; take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee, ever, only, all for thee.

Announcements, Sharing of Joys and Concerns

The Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Give Thanks to God

We thank you for continuing to support the church even though we cannot meet in person at this time. Please send your tithes and offerings to PO Box 444, Redwood Falls, or donate on our church website. Thank you!

Offertory Prayer

Holy One, Your light has come. Your light shines brightly in our humble lives. We place this offering upon Your altar as an outpouring of Your light within us. Glory hallelujah! Amen.

Doxology Hymn #606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Go in God's Name

Hymn #69 ***"Here I Am Lord"***

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain: *Here I am Lord, Is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart*

2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have born my peoples pain. I have wept for love of them, they turn away. I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone. I will speak my word to them, Whom shall I send?.

Refrain: *Here I am Lord, Is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart*

3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame. I will set a feast for them, my hand will save finest bread I will provide, till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life to them, Whom shall I send?

Refrain: *Here I am Lord, Is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart*

Holy Communion

Benediction

Postlude: Elaine Hagen

The Ringing of the Church Bell

Visits/Worship—If you would like an in-person, over the phone, or zoom visit with Pastor Scott, please contact him at 627-5486. If you would be interested in attending one of the in-person worship services, please contact Pastor Scott.

Upcoming Worship Services ...

The Second Sunday of January (January 10) we will have our installation of officers. We will do the worship service on Zoom that day at 10:15 am. A Zoom link will be emailed out on Friday, January 8.

The Third Sunday of January (January 17) we will have our Annual Meeting FOLLOWING worship, via a Zoom link that will be sent out on Friday, January 15.

The Fourth Sunday of January (January 24) SanDawna Ashley will be preaching and we will bless our Mission Booklet during morning worship.

Imagination Library ~ We're looking for a few good people to be our next "Imagination Angel". Will you donate, so a child in our area can receive a story book each month until they enter Kindergarten? It only takes \$30 to bless a child for one year with the gift of reading. You can mail donations to "Imagination Library-FPC", PO Box 444, RWF, MN or give online at <https://donate.imaginationlibrary.com/> (make sure to designate Redwood Area to receive your donation). This program is entirely supported by donations and will only continue with your generosity.

We thank our community partners First Presbyterian Church of Redwood Falls, Redwood Lions Club, Rotary Club of Redwood Falls and Ruby's Pantry. Thank you!

Looking at the Week Ahead:

Sunday, January 10:	10:15 am: Worship with Installation Service LIVE on Facebook/Zoom
Monday, January 11:	Noon: Pastor Scott has Rotary 7:00 pm: Session Meeting
Wednesday, January 13:	11:30 am: Pastor Scott & Tina's Weekly Call
Sunday, January 17:	10:15 am, Worship LIVE on Facebook Following Worship: Annual Meeting via ZOOM Afternoon: Paige Paplow Packing Weekend Food Bags

Our Sunday morning service is on our local channels...

Nuvera (Channel 3), Media-Com (Channel 8): Mondays at 10 am, Wednesdays at 7 pm!

Pray for The Following:

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: Today – Jacob Bloedow, 12th – Maddie Hicks, 14th – Deanie Fuhr, Bailey Kramer, 16th – Rosemary Bennett

Anniversaries: 14th – Leon & Sharon King

Members of our Church Family in Nursing Homes, Assisted Living or Other Facilities:

Millie Bunting, Jeanette Kotval, Bob & Bunny Nolting, Ardis Alexander, Bob Brown

All Those Fighting Cancer: Rick Kramer, Alexis Martin, Sharon King,

Kathy Tiffany (Glen Tiffany's wife/Donna Potter's sister-in-law), Mark Grommesch (Gerry & Deb Hess's son-in-law)

Pray for all those fighting other diseases: Shellie Mammen (lupus), Corrine Gertsema (multiple sclerosis),

Tripp Meyers (epilepsy)

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