



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.

April 1, 2021 ~ 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday
Rev. Scott Prouty

Assemble in God's Name

Prelude: Elaine Hagen

Hymn #223 *"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"* (stanzas 1 & 4)

1 When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died, my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

4 Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small; love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

Call to Worship

L: Jesus said I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.

P: Just as Christ has loved us, let us love one another.

L: Beloved people of God: This is the day when Christ, our Passover Lamb, surrendered Himself to those who would kill Him, setting us free from sin and death forever.

P: This is the day when Christ, our Teacher and Lord, knelt to wash the disciples' feet, showing us how to love and serve one another.

L: This is the day when Christ, the bread of heaven, shared a holy meal with His followers,

P: offering a feast of abundant life and grace for all.

Prayer of Invocation

O God, Your love is embodied in Jesus Christ. Wash us from the stain of sin, so that, in hours of danger, we may not fail, but follow Your Son through every trial, and praise Him always as Lord and Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Hymn #216 *"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"*

1 Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand, the shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land; a home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way, from the burning of the noontide heat, and the burden of the day.

2 Upon the cross of Jesus mine eye at times can see the very dying form of One who suffered there for me; and from my stricken heart with tears two wonders I confess: the wonders of redeeming love and my unworthiness.

3 I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place; I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face; content to let the world go by, to know no gain or loss, my sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross.

Call to Confession

With confidence in God's abundant mercy, let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Eternal God, whose covenant with us is never broken, we confess that we fail to fulfill Your will. Though You have bound Yourself to us, we do not bind ourselves to You. In Jesus Christ You serve us freely, but we refuse Your love and withhold ourselves from others. We do not love You fully or love one another as You command. In Your mercy, forgive and cleanse us. Lead us once again to Your table and unite us to Christ, who is the bread of life and the vine from which we grow in grace. Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Time for Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

Response *Hymn #227 "Jesus, Remember Me" (sing twice)*

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom. Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

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: Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

I love you, Lord!

You answered my prayers.

² *You paid attention to me,
and so I will pray to you
as long as I live.*

*What must I give you, Lord,
for being so good to me?*

¹³ *I will pour out an offering
of wine to you,
and I will pray in your name
because you
have saved me.*

¹⁴ *I will keep my promise to you
when your people meet.*

¹⁵ *You are deeply concerned
when one of your loyal people
faces death.*

¹⁶ *I worship you, Lord,
just as my mother did,
and you have rescued me
from the chains of death.*

¹⁷ *I will offer you a sacrifice
to show how grateful I am,
and I will pray.*

¹⁸ *I will keep my promise to you
when your people*

¹⁹ *gather
at your temple
in Jerusalem.*

Shout praises to the Lord!

Gospel Lesson: John 13:1-17, 31b-35

It was before Passover, and Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and to return to the Father. He had always loved his followers in this world, and he loved them to the very end.

² Even before the evening meal started, the devil had made Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot,^[a] decide to betray Jesus.

³ Jesus knew that he had come from God and would go back to God. He also knew that the Father had given him complete power. ⁴ So during the meal Jesus got up, removed his outer garment, and wrapped a towel around his waist. ⁵ He put some water into a large bowl. Then he began washing his disciples' feet and drying them with the towel he was wearing.

⁶ But when he came to Simon Peter, that disciple asked, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

⁷ Jesus answered, "You don't really know what I am doing, but later you will understand."

⁸ "You will never wash my feet!" Peter replied.

"If I don't wash you," Jesus told him, "you don't really belong to me."

⁹ Peter said, "Lord, don't wash just my feet. Wash my hands and my head."

¹⁰ Jesus answered, "People who have bathed and are clean all over need to wash just their feet. And you, my disciples, are clean, except for one of you." ¹¹ Jesus knew who would betray him. That is why he said, "except for one of you."

¹² After Jesus had washed his disciples' feet and had put his outer garment back on, he sat down again.^[b] Then he said: Do you understand what I have done? ¹³ You call me your teacher and Lord, and you should, because that is who I am. ¹⁴ And if your Lord and teacher has washed your feet, you should do the same for each other. ¹⁵ I have set the example, and you should do for each other exactly what I have done for you. ¹⁶ I tell you for certain that servants are not greater than their master, and messengers are not greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷ You know these things, and God will bless you, if you do them.

After Judas had gone, Jesus said:

Now the Son of Man will be given glory, and he will bring glory to God. ³² Then, after God is given glory because of him, God will bring glory to him, and God will do it very soon.

³³ My children, I will be with you for a little while longer. Then you will look for me, but you won't find me. I tell you just as I told the people, "You cannot go where I am going." ³⁴ But I am giving you a new command. You must love each other, just as I have loved you. ³⁵ If you love each other, everyone will know that you are my disciples.

Meditation

Give Thanks to God

We are greatly thankful for your support of the church. We will not be passing the Offering plates today, but they are in the back of the sanctuary if you would like to give your tithes and offerings. For those of you watching at home you may give through our church website or mail your check to Post Office Box 444, Redwood Falls, MN.

Offertory Prayer

Thanks be to You Good and Gracious God who blesses us every day. Thanks be to You Good and Gracious God for this opportunity to offer ourselves and our resources to You. Thanks be to You Good and Gracious God for these offerings that will spread Your love everywhere. Amen.

Response Hymn #647 "Give Thanks"

1 Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One; give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son.

2 And now let the weak say, "We are strong, let the poor say, "We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!" Give thanks. Give thanks.

Go in God's Name

Hymn #525

"Let Us Break Bread Together" (stanzas 1 & 2)

1 Let us break bread together on our knees; (on our knees) let us break bread together on our knees.

Refrain: *When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)*

2 Let us drink wine together on our knees; (on our knees) let us drink wine together on our knees. [Refrain]

Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also, with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them up to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe. You made us in Your image and freed us from the bonds of slavery. You claimed us as Your people and made a covenant to be our God. You fed us manna in the wilderness and brought us to a land flowing with milk and honey. When we forgot Your covenant You spoke through prophets, calling us to turn again to Your ways. Therefore, we praise You, joining our voices with the celestial choirs and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of Your name:

P: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is one who comes in Your name. Hosanna in the highest.

L: You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. In humility he descends from Your heights, to kneel in obedience to love's commands. He who is boundless takes on the bondage of our sin. He who is free takes our place in death's prison. He who is risen leads us to eternal life. Remembering all our mighty and merciful acts, we take this bread and this wine from the gifts You have given us and celebrate with joy the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ. Accept this, our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen. Great is the mystery of faith:

P: Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again.

L: Gracious God, pour out Your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these, Your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By Your Spirit unite us with the living Christ and with all who are baptized in His name, that we may be one in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world. Lead us, O God, by the power of Your Spirit to live as love commands. Bound to Christ, set us free for joyful obedience and glad service. As Jesus gave His life for ours, help us to live our lives for others with humility and persistent courage. Give us strength to serve You faithfully until the promised day of resurrection, when, with the redeemed of all the ages, we will feast with You at Your table in glory. Through Christ, all glory and honor are Yours, almighty God, with the Holy Spirit in the holy church, now and forever. Amen. As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are told to pray:

P: Our Father...

Breaking of the Bread

The Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Unison prayer after Communion

God of grace, we give You thanks for the feast of redemption we have shared in the body and blood of our Savior. As You have nourished us with love, let our lives proclaim Your great love for the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit one God, now and forever. Amen.

Stripping of the Church

During the stripping of the church, we will sing #228 "**Were You There.**"

After the stripping of the church, all depart in silence.

1 Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (Were you there?) Were you there when they crucified my Lord? O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (Were you there?)

2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? (Were you there?) Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? (Were you there?)

3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side? (Were you there?) Were you there when they pierced him in the side? O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they pierced him in the side? (Were you there?)

4 Were you there when the sun refused to shine? (Were you there?) Were you there when the sun refused to shine? O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when the sun refused to shine? (Were you there?)

5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? (Were you there?) Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? (Were you there?)

Good Friday ~ We have **two** Virtual Good Friday Services that are available for you to watch. One is put on by the Redwood Area Ministerial Association. The other is put on by the Presbyterian Pastors of Baxter, Foley, Randall, Redwood Falls, St. Cloud and Windom. Here are the links can be found posted to our church website and Facebook page or contact the church office and they can be resent to you.