



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 4, 2021 ~ 10:15 am ~ Easter Sunday
Rev. Scott Prouty

Assemble in God's Name



Prelude: Elaine Hagen

Ringing of the Church Bell (Usher)

Call to Worship

L: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

P: CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED!

L: Darkness has been vanquished!

P: THE BRILLIANT LIGHT OF HOPE HAS COME!

L: Come let us worship and celebrate the Good News!

P: ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN! AMEN!!

Prayer of Invocation

Lord God of heaven and earth, Creator of our world, and everything in it, yet as close to us as our own breath—Holy is Your name. In You we live and move and have our being; we are Your own children, the work of Your hands. We pray that Your Holy Spirit would move among us as we worship, opening our eyes to Your presence, opening our ears to Your Word. Receive the worship of our hearts and minds and bodies; may it be a pleasing offering to You. We pray in the name of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, in whose death and resurrection, we find life. Amen.

Call to Confession

Even the obstacle of death has been removed between us and God. If death no longer stands in our way, we can be sure that our sin does not either. Let us confess our sins that they may be washed away by the mercy of our risen Lord.

Prayer of Confession

Risen Lord, we have seen the empty tomb, and yet we sometimes act as if we have seen nothing. Why must we continue in fear? Why must we be afraid of death even after its defeat? Yes, this is a glorious day of mirth and song, but forgive us when we are quick to forget its Good News. Help us be a people of resurrection not just on this day but all days. Fill our hearts with Your resurrection promise of life that we might turn from sin and be renewed. Eliminate from us the fear of sin that we might tell this glad story - that Christ is risen, He is risen, indeed! This we pray in the name of Your Risen Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Time for Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

L: Sisters and Brothers in Christ, hear the good news of the Gospel: the tomb is empty! Our Lord and Savior has risen from the grave! That which has been dead is alive! No barrier, none whatsoever, can keep us from the love of God! I announce to you this day that our sins are forgiven!

P: Alleluia! 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

Scripture Reading: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

118 Tell the Lord how thankful you are, because he is kind and always merciful.

2 Let Israel shout, "God is always merciful!"

14 My power and my strength come from the Lord, and he has saved me.

15 From the tents of God's people come shouts of victory: "The Lord is powerful!"

16 With his mighty arm the Lord wins victories! The Lord is powerful!"

17 And so my life is safe, and I will live to tell what the Lord has done.

18 He punished me terribly, but he did not let death lay its hands on me.

19 Open the gates of justice! I will enter and tell the Lord how thankful I am.

20 Here is the gate of the Lord! Everyone who does right may enter this gate.

21 I praise the Lord for answering my prayers and saving me.

22 The stone that the builders tossed aside has now become the most important stone.

23 The Lord has done this, and it is amazing to us.

24 This day belongs to the Lord! Let's celebrate and be glad today.

Gospel Lesson: John 20:1-8

Jesus is Alive!

20 On Sunday morning while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. 2 She ran to Simon Peter and to Jesus' favorite disciple and said, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb! We don't know where they have put him."

3 Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. 4 They ran side by side, until the other disciple ran faster than Peter and got there first. 5 He bent over and saw the strips of linen cloth lying inside the tomb, but he did not go in.

6 When Simon Peter got there, he went into the tomb and saw the strips of cloth. 7 He also saw the piece of cloth that had been used to cover Jesus' face. It was rolled up and in a place by itself. 8 The disciple who got there first then went into the tomb, and when he saw it, he believed. 9 At that time Peter and the other disciple did not know that the Scriptures said Jesus would rise to life. 10 So the two of them went back to the other disciples.

Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene

11 Mary Magdalene stood crying outside the tomb. She was still weeping, when she stooped down 12 and saw two angels inside. They were dressed in white and were sitting where Jesus' body had been. One was at the head and the other was at the foot. 13 The angels asked Mary, "Why are you crying?"

She answered, "They have taken away my Lord's body! I don't know where they have put him."

14 As soon as Mary said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there. But she did not know who he was.

15 Jesus asked her, "Why are you crying? Who are you looking for?"

She thought he was the gardener and said, "Sir, if you have taken his body away, please tell me, so I can go and get him."

16 Then Jesus said to her, "Mary!"

She turned and said to him, "Rabboni." The Aramaic word "Rabboni" means "Teacher."

17 Jesus told her, "Don't hold on to me! I have not yet gone to the Father. But tell my disciples that I am going to the one who is my Father and my God, as well as your Father and your God." 18 Mary Magdalene then went and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord. She also told them what he had said to her.

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed (Page 35 in Hymnal)

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.

Announcements, Sharing of Joys and Concerns

The Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Give Thanks to God

We greatly appreciate your support of the Church. We will not be passing the offering plate, we have them placed in the back of the Sanctuary. If you are watching from home, please if you are able, make your donation on-line on our Church Website or send your donation to PO Box 444, Redwood Falls. Thank you!

Offertory Prayer

Majestic One, today we celebrate the miracle that was created for all who are ready to receive. Your absolute decree of the Risen Son reminds us that our faith is connected intimately to Your amazing, unwavering love. The unconditional love that You repeatedly uplift is our reminder to love all of Your children. Multiply these gifts so the promises of a seemingly distant heaven becomes more of a reality on Earth. Glory Hallelujah! Amen and Amen.

Go in God's Name

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.

Solo: Peggy Dolezal

Holy Communion

**For those that feel comfortable staying, we will have an Easter Sing-a-Long.
If you do not feel comfortable, thank you for coming today. Have a blessed Easter!**

Easter Sing-a-Long

Hymn "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

1 Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia! Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia! Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

3 But the pains which he endured, Alleluia! Our salvation have procured. Alleluia! Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia! Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

4 Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! Praise eternal as God's love. Alleluia! Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

Hymn "Hear the Bells Ringing"

1 Hear the bells ringing, they're singing, that you can be born again! The angel up on the tombstone said, "He has risen, just as He said. Quickly now, go tell His disciples that Jesus Christ is no longer dead!" Joy to the world, He has risen, Alleluia! He has risen, Alleluia! He has risen, Alleluia!

2 Hear the bells ringing, they're singing, "Christ is risen from the dead!" The angel up on the tombstone said, "He has risen, just as He said. Quickly now, go tell His disciples that Jesus Christ is no longer dead!" Joy to the world, He has risen, Alleluia! He has risen, Alleluia! He has risen, Alleluia!

Hymn "Christ Arose"

1 Low in the grave He lay, Jesus my Savior! Waiting the coming day, Jesus my Lord! Up from the grave He arose; with a mighty triumph o'er His foes; He arose a victor from the dark domain, and He lives forever, with his saints to reign. He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!

2 Vainly they watch His bed, Jesus my Savior! Vainly they seal the dead, Jesus my Lord! Up from the grave He arose; with a mighty triumph o'er His foes; He arose a victor from the dark domain, and He lives forever, with his saints to reign. He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!

3 Death cannot keep its prey, Jesus my Savior. He tore the bars away, Jesus my Lord! Up from the grave He arose; with a mighty triumph o'er His foes; He arose a victor from the dark domain, and He lives forever, with his saints to reign. He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!

Hymn "He Lives"

1 I serve a risen Savior; He's in the world today. I know that He is living, whatever men may say. I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer, And just the time I need Him He's always near.

Chorus: He lives! He lives! Christ Jesus lives today! He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way. He lives! He lives! Salvation to impart! You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart.

2 In all the world around me I see His loving care, And though my heart grows weary I never will despair. I know that He is leading, thro' all the stormy blast; The day of His appearing will come at last. **Chorus**

3 Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian! Lift up your voice and sing Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ, the King! The Hope of all who seek Him, the Help of all who find, None other is so loving, so good and kind. **Chorus**

Hymn "Because He Lives"

1 God sent His son, they called Him Jesus; He came to love, heal and forgive; He lived and died to buy my pardon, An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives!

Chorus: Because He lives, I can face tomorrow, Because He lives, all fear is gone; Because I know He holds the future, And life is worth the living, Just because He lives!

2 How sweet to hold a newborn baby And feel the pride and joy he gives; But greater still the calm assurance: This child can face uncertain days because He Lives! **Chorus**

3 And then one day, I'll cross the river, I'll fight life's final war with pain; And then, as death gives way to victory, I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives! **Chorus**

Benediction

Postlude: Elaine Hagen

The Ringing of the Church Bell (Usher)

Year of Equality

“Easter is a day above all days...It asserts that man’s extremity is God’s opportunity.”-Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Visits-If you would like an in-person, over the phone, or zoom visit with Pastor Scott, please contact him at 627-5486.

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!

The Elder of the Day will be overseeing our policy actions on Sunday mornings as we strive to stay safe during this pandemic. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to this person.

Today’s Elder of the Day: Rick Hauge

Easter: If you brought Easter flowers for this morning’s service, please remember to take them home with you!

Card Shower ~ Kay Jensen is turning 80 on April 11. Her family is planning a birthday card shower for her. They are hoping she will get 80 cards. If you would like to send a card to Kay, her address is: 30909 Knox Ave., Redwood Falls.

Looking at the Week Ahead:

Sunday, April 4, Easter Sunday: 10:15 am: Worship

Monday, April 5: Noon: Pastor Scott has Rotary

7:00 pm: Pastor & Nadia’s Monthly Call

Tuesday, April 6: Committee Meetings

Wednesday, April 7-Friday, April 9: Pastor: GA Committee Meetings

Thursday, April 8: Deacon Meeting

Saturday, April 10: Pastor: Synod Meeting

Sunday, April 11: 10:15 am: Worship

Afternoon: Savannah Carroll 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: 7th – Chip Nearing, Amanda (Milhausen) Barnes, 9th – Marilyn Fuhr

Anniversary: 7th – Pete & Dody Fuhr

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

Millie Bunting, Jeanette Kotval, Bob & Bunny Nolting, Ardis Alexander, Dorothy Symes

All Those Fighting Cancer: Rick Kramer, 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.