



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.

March 7, 2021 ~ 10:15 am ~ Third Sunday of Lent

Rev. Scott Prouty

Assemble in God's Name

Prelude: Elaine Hagen

Ringing of the Church Bell (Usher)

Call to Worship

L: Through the creation of the universe,

P: You love us, Lord.

L: Through guidance, call and commandment,

P: You love us, Lord.

L: Through the gift of Your son, Jesus,

P: You love us, Lord.

L: Through our worship and our response to Your word,

P: We love You, Lord.

Prayer of Invocation

Eternal God, Your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of Your Son. Help us to hear Your word and obey it, that we may become instruments of Your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Hymn #20

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

Refrain: All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

1 Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings, God made their glowing colors; God made their tiny wings.

[Refrain]

2 The purple-headed mountain, the river running by, the sunset, and the morning that brightens up the sky:

[Refrain]

3 The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun, the ripe fruits in the garden, God made them everyone.

[Refrain]

4 God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell how great is God Almighty, who has made all things well. [Refrain]

Call to Confession

Are you thirsty for grace? Are you hungry for mercy? God is calling; come to the waters.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Good and gracious God, there are times when we choose not to follow the rules. There are times when we stray off course. There are times when we choose the path of sin. In a time of quiet, we bring before You those times when we have failed to keep Your commandments when we have decided that we know better.

Time for Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Listen, so that you may live: the steadfast love of the Lord never fails. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.

Response Hymn #582 “Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”

1 *Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

2 *World without end, without end, Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. 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: Psalm 19

“The heavens keep telling the wonders of God, and the skies declare what he has done. ² Each day informs the following day; each night announces to the next. ³ They don’t speak a word, and there is never the sound of a voice. ⁴ Yet their message reaches all the earth, and it travels around the world. In the heavens a tent is set up for the sun. ⁵ It rises like a bridegroom and gets ready like a hero eager to run a race. ⁶ It travels all the way across the sky. Nothing hides from its heat. ⁷ The Law of the Lord is perfect; it gives us new life. His teachings last forever, and they give wisdom to ordinary people. ⁸ The Lord’s instruction is right; it makes our hearts glad. His commands shine brightly, and they give us light. ⁹ Worshiping the Lord is sacred; he will always be worshiped. All of his decisions are correct and fair. ¹⁰ They are worth more than the finest gold and are sweeter than honey from a honeycomb. ¹¹ By your teachings, Lord, I am warned; by obeying them, I am greatly rewarded. ¹² None of us know our faults. Forgive me when I sin without knowing it. ¹³ Don’t let me do wrong on purpose, Lord, or let sin have control over my life. Then I will be innocent, and not guilty of some terrible fault. ¹⁴ Let my words and my thoughts be pleasing to you, Lord, because you are my mighty rock^[a] and my protector.

Hymn #14

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

1 *For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:*

Refrain: *Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

2 *For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night, hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light: [Refrain]*

3 *For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind’s delight, for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight: [Refrain]*

4 *For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild: [Refrain]*

5 *For thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely given; for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven: [Refrain]*

Gospel Lesson: Exodus 20:1-17

God said to the people of Israel: ² I am the Lord your God, the one who brought you out of Egypt where you were slaves. ³ Do not worship any god except me. ⁴ Do not make idols that look like anything in the sky or on earth or in the ocean under the earth. ⁵ Don’t bow down and worship idols. I am the Lord your God, and I demand all your love. If you reject me, I will punish your families for three or four generations. ⁶ But if you love me and obey my laws, I will be kind to your families for thousands of generations. ⁷ Do not misuse my name.^[a] I am the Lord your God, and I will punish anyone who misuses my name. ⁸ Remember that the Sabbath Day belongs to me. ⁹ You have six days when you can do your work, ¹⁰ but the seventh day of each week belongs to me, your God. No one is to work on that day—not you, your children, your slaves, your animals, or the foreigners who live in your towns. ¹¹ In six days I made the sky, the earth, the oceans, and everything in them, but on the seventh day I rested. That’s why I made the Sabbath a special day that belongs to me. ¹² Respect your father and your mother, and you will live a long time in the land I am giving you.

¹³ Do not murder. ¹⁴ Be faithful in marriage. ¹⁵ Do not steal. ¹⁶ Do not tell lies about others. ¹⁷ Do not want anything that belongs to someone else. Don't want anyone's house, wife or husband, slaves, oxen, donkeys or anything else.

Sermon

Hymn #39

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee. Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not. As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning, new mercies I see. All I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

2 Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. [Refrain]

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide, strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow: blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! [Refrain]

Affirmation of Faith: The Law of God (page 36 in hymnal)

Announcements, Sharing of Joys and Concerns

The Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

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

Today Everlasting Creator, we come with full and grateful hearts for sunny days and rainy days. We give thanks for laughter and tears, rules and freedom and the ability to walk and the ability to think. For the many blessings in our lives, we are in awe of You. May these tithes and offerings reflect our hearts of gratitude. May these gifts be a blessing to the world and continue Your mission and ministry. 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

"Have Thine Own Way Lord"

1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds thy hands have made, I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, thy power throughout the universe displayed:

Refrain: Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art!

2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees, when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze: [Refrain]

3 And when I think that God, his Son not sparing, sent him to die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing, he bled and died to take away my sin: [Refrain]

4 When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in humble adoration, and there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!" [Refrain]

Holy Communion

Benediction

Postlude: Elaine Hagen

The Ringing of the Church Bell (Usher)

Year of Equality

Did you know? Damage caused by natural disasters, and recovery efforts launched in their aftermaths, have increased wealth inequality between races in the United States. (2018 study by Rice University and the University of Pittsburgh). To learn more about this read "Natural disasters widen racial wealth gap" on eurekaalert.org

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: Nancy Miller

Looking at the Week Ahead:

Today: 10:15 am, Worship with Holy Communion

Monday, March 8: Noon: Pastor Scott has Rotary

7:00 pm: Session Meeting

Tuesday, March 9: 6:00 pm: Christian Education Committee Meeting IN-PERSON at Church

6:00 pm: Mission Committee ZOOM Meeting

Wednesday, March 10: 6:30 pm: Lenten Bible Study - ZOOM

Thursday, March 11: 5:00 pm: Deacon Meeting

Sunday, March 14: 10:15 am, Worship

Afternoon: Gertsema Family Packing Weekend Food Bags

Tina will be on vacation March 10-16.

March 17: Chimes Deadline

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

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

Please join us next Wednesday at 6:30 pm, for our Bible Study on Zoom. Please sign up with the church office at churchofc@hotmail.com so we can send you zoom instructions.

There will be **two** Good Friday services, both online and both at noon. The Redwood Area Ministerial will be doing one and the Presbyterian pastors of Redwood Falls, Windom, Foley, St. Cloud, Randall and Baxter will be doing another one. The information of how to watch these services will be sent out closer to Good Friday.

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 – Matthew Prouty, Sally Dording, 8th – Kim Becklund, 9th – Becky Bruns, Doreen Steenblock,

10th – Rachel Karnitz, 11th – Stephen Dording, Pam Iverson, Ryan Rohlik,

13th – Amber Rohlik, Jackson Plotz, Rhys Meyers

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.