

August 29, 2021
Assemble in God's Name

Prelude: Elaine Hagen

Ringling of the Church Bell

Call to Worship (James 1:19-25)

L: Let us not deceive ourselves.

P: Let us look at ourselves in the mirror.

L: Let us look at ourselves in light of God's law.

P: Let us be quick to listen and slow to speak. Let us worship God.

Prayer of Invocation

O God, author and giver of all good things, plant in our hearts the love of Your name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

***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]**

***Call of Confession** (Psalm 15:1-2)

O Lord, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill? Those who walk blamelessly and do what is right. Let us confess all that keeps us from dwelling with God.

***Prayer of Confession**

Holy God, Your truth is oftentimes hard to hear. We confess our avoidance, our purposeful distractions, our prideful arrogance that keeps us from hearing and responding to your Word. Although You send us messages and messengers, we dismiss and disregard those who tell us we are wrong. Have mercy upon us, Holy God. Open us to hearing the truth no matter how it is conveyed.

***Time for Silent Prayer of Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon**

Hear the Good News! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. 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**

Proclaim God's Word

Prayer of Illumination

Responsive Reading: Psalm 15

Who may stay in God's temple or live on the holy mountain of the Lord? 2 Only those who obey God and do as they should. They speak the truth 3 and don't spread gossip; they treat others fairly and don't say cruel things. 4 They hate worthless people, but show respect for all who worship the Lord. And they keep their promises, no matter what the cost. 5 They lend their money without charging interest, and they don't take bribes to hurt the innocent. Those who do these things will always stand firm.

Scripture Lesson: James 1:17-27

Every good and perfect gift comes down from the Father who created all the lights in the heavens. He is always the same and never makes dark shadows by changing. 18 He wanted us to be his own special people,[a] and so he sent the true message to give us new birth. 19 My dear friends, you should be quick to listen and slow to speak or to get angry. 20 If you are angry, you cannot do any of the good things that God wants done. 21 You must stop doing anything immoral or evil. Instead be humble and accept the message that is planted in you to save you. 22 Obey God's message! Don't fool yourselves by just listening to it. 23 If you hear the message and don't obey it, you are like people who stare at themselves in a mirror 24 and forget what they look like as soon as they leave. 25 But you must never stop looking at the perfect law that sets you free. God will bless you in everything you do, if you listen and obey, and don't just hear and forget. 26 If you think you are being religious, but can't control your tongue, you are fooling yourself, and everything you do is useless. 27 Religion that pleases God the Father must be pure and spotless. You must help needy orphans and widows and not let this world make you evil.

Sermon

***Hymn #716**

"God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

1 God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store, nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door: gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise; thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

2 Skills and time are ours for pressing toward the goals of Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and freedom, races joined, the church made one. Now direct our daily labor, lest we strive for self alone. Born with talents, make us servants fit to answer at your throne.

3 Treasure, too, you have entrusted, gain through powers your grace conferred: ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the gospel word. Open wide our hands in sharing, as we heed Christ's ageless call, healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.

***Affirmation of Faith:** (From: A Brief Statement of Faith)

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love, God created the world good and made everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.

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: Elaine Hagen

***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.

***Offertory Prayer**

Eternal God, You bless us with abundant gifts. Receive these tokens of our gratitude and use them to fulfill Your will. May the gifts we give support Christ's work and ministry in this world. Amen.

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.



August 29, 2021 ~ 14th Sunday after Pentecost

Ministers: The members of the congregation

Pastor: Rev. Scott Prouty



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***Hymn #32**

“I Sing the Might Power of God”

1 I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise, that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies. I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day. The moon shines full at God's command, and all the stars obey.

2 I sing the goodness of the Lord who filled the earth with food. God formed the creatures through the Word, and then pronounced them good. Lord, how thy wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eye, if I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky!

3 There's not a plant or flower below but makes thy glories known. And clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from thy throne, while all that borrows life from thee is ever in thy care, and everywhere that we can be, thou, God, art present there.

***Benediction**

***Postlude:** Elaine Hagen

***Please stand in body or spirit.**

Year of Equality

Did you know? Racial segregation in Minnesota schools has had a long and varied history. In territorial Minnesota the state's school children attended largely integrated schools. By the mid-19th century district's such as St. Paul began aggressively and officially segregating schools. In the mid-to-late 20th century Minnesota had changed course, and led the nation in school reintegration.

Looking at the Week Ahead:

Sunday, August 29: 9:00 am: Worship (masks worn and no music)
10:15 am: Traditional Worship

Monday, August 30: 10:30 am: Pastor Scott visits Lee & Diane Davis
1:00 pm: Pastor Scott has a Presbytery Zoom Call
2:00 pm: Pastor Scott visits Paul & Elaine Hagen
3:30 pm: Pastor Scott visits Rick Kramer & Jerilyn Kodet

Wednesday, September 1: 9:00 am: Piecemakers
7:30 pm: Presbyterian 4Hs Leader Meeting

Thursday, Septembers 2: 11:00 am: Pastor Scott has Presbytery Committee Meeting in Willmar
7:00 pm: Nominating Committee Meeting

September 4-5: Pastor Scott is attending the 58th Annual ISNA Convention.

Sunday, September 5: 10:15 am: Worship with Guest Speaker, Janet Ellingworth

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

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

August Ushers: Head Usher Wayne Mann, Scott Mann, Kevin McKay, Paul Hagen, Marlys Mathiowetz, Winston & Rosie Venable, Sue Osborne, Shelby Enright

September Ushers: Head Usher Scott Goodyear, Mike & Connie Bentson, Rachel Karnitz, Robb & Robin Schneider, Kory Schneider, Dale Starr, Don Dagner, Gene & Fae Becklund

September Communion Servers: Current Ruling Elder Michael Joldersma, Scott Goodyear, Don Dagner, Joleen MacHolda, Lois Davis, Rhonda Joldersma

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 First Presbyterian Church, 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!

Checks should be written to: First Presbyterian Church with "Imagination Library" in the memo line. Thank you!

Congregational Vitality Survey ~ Dear Church Family, Please take some time to complete the Congregational Vitality Survey. You can fill out the survey via the link that was sent to your email, or by paper copy (if you need a paper copy please let Tina or Adrienne Danielson know). We look forward to hearing from you. In Christ, Session

Sponsor a "Backpack": The Deacons are asking for your support in their mission project "Backpacks for Mexico". The goal is to raise funds to purchase backpacks with all the supplies needed for the children in Mexico. We are challenging all church members to sponsor a backpack with a \$10 donation each! **This mission project runs through the month of September.** Help make this mission project successful once again. Remember God loves a cheerful giver! Thank You! *Note: Please include your name on your donation. The backpacks will be personalized for distribution.*

Vacation Bible School - 60 happy campers age 4 through 4th grade from 1st Presbyterian, Gloria Dei, and St. Cornelia's churches had a great time at VBS! The camping themed program was full of lively music, interactive Bible stories, crafts and games, and yummy snacks. Thank you to Molly, Tony, Lauren & AJ Miller, Steph Klavetter, Marlys Mathiowetz, Sonya Alexander, Connie, Eliza & Max Bentson, Pastor Scott & Matthew Prouty and Ann Tiffany for helping make the VBS experience so fun for everyone! The offering collected was given to Ramsey Park in gratitude for and celebration of God's beautiful creation. The money will be used to help purchase food and medical care for the animals, flowers for planters at the River Walk and small tree replacements in Ramsey Park.

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: 29th - Tori Fuhr, September 1st - Merlin Goudy, 2nd - Jenny Bloedow, Richard Aakre

Anniversaries: 2nd - Shaun & Becky Bruns

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

Millie Bunting, Jeanette Kotval, Bob & Bunny Nolting, Ardis Alexander,
Dorothy Symes, Lucille Byram, Joyce McKay, Janean McKay

All Those Fighting Cancer: Kathy Tiffany (Glen Tiffany's wife/Donna Potter's sister-in-law),
Julie Fiala's sister Jill

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.