

September 5, 2021
Assemble in God's Name

Prelude: Karen Speros

Ringling of the Church Bell

Call to Worship

L: This is the day the Lord has made.

P: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

L: Let us worship God who is the creator of our world.

P: Morning has broken. Praise God that we are here to celebrate another day!

Prayer of Invocation

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You and worthily magnify Your holy name through Christ or Lord. Amen.

***Hymn #664 "Morning Has Broken"**

- 1** Morning has broken like the first morning; blackbird has spoken like the first bird. Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!
- 2** Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven, like the first dew fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.
- 3** Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning, born of the One Light Eden saw play! Praise with elation; praise every morning, God's recreation of the new day!

***Call of Confession**

If our actions mirrored our words, if our hands were mentored by our hearts, if we walked the talk - we would be God's children. But too often, it is our silence, our doubts, our fears which tell others who we truly are. Let us confess to God how we have not been as faithful as we hope, as we pray to you now.

***Prayer of Confession**

Most Merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Forgive us. Restore us. Help us to live a godly, righteous and honorable life, one that glorifies You and only You.

***Time for Silent Prayer of Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon**

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: Exodus 31:12-18

Moses told the Israelites that the Lord had said:

The Sabbath belongs to me. Now I command you and your descendants to always obey the laws of the Sabbath. By doing this, you will know that I have chosen you as my own. 14-15 Keep the Sabbath holy. You have six days to do your work, but the Sabbath is mine, and it must remain a day of rest. If you work on the Sabbath, you will no longer be part of my people, and you will be put to death.

16 Every generation of Israelites must respect the Sabbath. 17 This day will always serve as a reminder, both to me and to the Israelites, that I made the heavens and the earth in six days, then on the seventh day I rested and relaxed. 18 When God had finished speaking to Moses on Mount Sinai, he gave him the two flat stones on which he had written all of his laws with his own hand.

***Hymn #286 "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"**

- 1** Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life anew, that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.
- 2** Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure, until with thee I will one will, to do and to endure.
- 3** Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly thine, until this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.
- 4** Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die, but live with thee the perfect life of thine eternity.

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 20:1-16

As Jesus was telling what the kingdom of heaven would be like, he said: Early one morning a man went out to hire some workers for his vineyard. 2 After he had agreed to pay them the usual amount for a day's work, he sent them off to his vineyard. 3 About nine that morning, the man saw some other people standing in the market with nothing to do. 4 He said he would pay them what was fair, if they would work in his vineyard. 5 So they went. At noon and again about three in the afternoon he returned to the market. And each time he made the same agreement with others who were loafing around with nothing to do. 6 Finally, about five in the afternoon the man went back and found some others standing there. He asked them, "Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?" 7 "Because no one has hired us," they answered. Then he told them to go work in his vineyard. 8 That evening the owner of the vineyard told the man in charge of the workers to call them in and give them their money. He also told the man to

begin with the ones who were hired last. 9 When the workers arrived, the ones who had been hired at five in the afternoon were given a full day's pay. 10 The workers who had been hired first thought they would be given more than the others. But when they were given the same, 11 they began complaining to the owner of the vineyard. 12 They said, "The ones who were hired last worked for only one hour. But you paid them the same that you did us. And we worked in the hot sun all day long!" 13 The owner answered one of them, "Friend, I didn't cheat you. I paid you exactly what we agreed on. 14 Take your money now and go! What business is it of yours if I want to pay them the same that I paid you? 15 Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Why should you be jealous, if I want to be generous?" 16 Jesus then said, "So it is. Everyone who is now first will be last, and everyone who is last will be first."

Sermon **"Bring Workers in the Vineyard"** Janet Ellingworth

- *Hymn** **"Forth in Thy Name, O Lord"**
- 1 Forth in your name, O Lord, I go, my daily labor to pursue; thee, only thee, resolved to know in all I think or speak or do.
 - 2 The task your wisdom hath assigned, O let me cheerfully fulfill; in all my work your presence find, and prove your good and perfect will.
 - 3 Thee may I set at my right hand, whose eyes mine inmost substance see, and labor on at thy command, and offer all my work to thee.
 - 4 For thee delightfully employ whatever thy bounteous grace hath given, and run my course with even joy, and closely walk with thee in heaven.

***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;

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.



September 5, 2021 ~ 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Ministers: The members of the congregation

Pastor: Rev. Scott Prouty ~ Guest Speaker: Janet Ellingworth



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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

God's Tithes and Your Offering Received

Offertory: Karen Speros

***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**

Almighty and Gracious God, we pray for Your blessing today. Your word says that we will find joy in offering our time, talents and money to meet the needs of others. Help us to give freely, sacrificially and cheerfully towards the work of Your Kingdom. Bless our jobs and businesses with prosperity so that we may keep earning money to support not only our families but Your Kingdom's work. We give You our tithes and offerings now, but more importantly, we give You our love. Amen.

***Hymn**

"Jesus, Thine All-Victorious Love"

1 *Jesus, thine all-victorious love shed in my heart abroad; then shall my feet no longer rove, rooted and fixed in God.*

2 *O that in me the sacred fire might now begin to glow; burn up the dross of base desire and make the mountains flow!*

3 *O that it now from heaven might fall and all my sins consume! Come, Holy Ghost, for thee I call, Spirit of burning, come!*

4 *Refining fire, go through my heart, illuminate my soul; scatter thy life through every part and sanctify the whole.*

***Benediction**

***Postlude:** Karen Speros

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

Year of Equality

Did you know? Minnesota schools are becoming segregated once again: In 1993-1994, less than one percent of the Minneapolis region's black students attended highly segregated districts. Today roughly a quarter of the region's black students attend a highly segregated school.

Visioning Retreat~ We are postponing the Visioning Retreat to this winter. With Covid concerns, family gatherings, the early harvest and work schedules we were running into to many obstacles to have a good turnout at this time.

Looking at the Week Ahead:

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

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

Monday, September 6: Church Offices closed... Labor Day!

Tuesday, September 7: 2:00 pm: Pastor Scott visits Scott & Laura Kohler

3:30 pm: Pastor Scott visits Scott & Joyce Goodyear

Evening: Committee Meetings ?

7:00 pm: Pastor Scott visits Don & Lorrie Quinn

Wednesday, September 8: All Day: Pastor Scott has General Assembly Committee Meeting

Thursday, September 9: All Day: Pastor Scott has General Assembly Committee Meeting

5:30 pm: Deacon's Meeting

Friday, September 10: 7:30 am: Pastor Scott has Dollar for Scholars Meeting

All Day: Pastor Scott has General Assembly Committee Meeting

6-9:00 pm: Church Visioning Retreat

Saturday, September 11: 9:00am-3:00 pm: Church Visioning Retreat

Sunday, September 12: 10:15 am: Worship with Holy Communion

Confirmation Class will start on **Wednesday, September 15**, at 6pm.

Sunday School begins on **Sunday, September 19**, at 9:00 am.

Youth Club starts on **Wednesday, September 22**, from 3:45-5:45 pm, with no meal being served.

Presbyterian 4Hs (Holiness, Hands, Heart, Head) 7-12th graders will start on **Wednesday, September 22**, from 7-8 pm.

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

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

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 ~ Are you an "Imagination Angel"?! 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).

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

Surveys from Session ~ There is still time to fill out the two surveys! You can fill them out via the link that was sent to your email, or by paper copy. Let Tina know if you need one. We look forward to hearing from you!

Sponsor a Backpack: The Deacons are still working on their "Backpacks for Mexico" project through the month of September! They are challenging all church members to sponsor a backpack with a \$10 donation each! *Note: Please include your name on your donation. The backpacks will be personalized for distribution.*

You're Invited ~ St. Catherine's Annual Fall Festival is **Sunday, September 12**, from 11 am - 2 pm. Lunch will be served from 11 am - 1 pm. There are children's and adult games, face painting, a cake walk, bingo, silent auction and so much more!

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 - Rick Hauge, Cora Tiffany, Olivia Schneider, 7th - Jackie Venable

Anniversaries: 8th - Dan & Shari Fuhr, Nancy & Kevin Miller

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.