

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.

May 15, 2022 ~ Confirmation Sunday

Ministers: The members of the congregation

Pastor: Rev. Scott Prouty

Assemble in God's Name

Ringing of the Church Bell

Prelude

Elaine Hagen

Call to Worship

L: Through every age and in every place, the Christ in whose name we gather, calls disciples with a simple invitation, words of challenge: "Come follow me."

P: And where is it that we go with Christ?

L: Christ leads us among enemies and strangers, causing us to regard all persons as potential friends.

P: Christ leads us into uncharted places of spiritual wilderness where the Word and Will of God are the only reliable guides.

L: Christ leads us to love ourselves just so we might be found, just so grace might become real.

P: And Christ leads us to the apparent dead-end of a cross to reveal a highway to new life.

All: We gather to worship the Christ who leads. May we gain the wisdom and courage to follow.

Prayer of Invocation

God of Covenant and Caring, You have placed us in a world of endless variety and fascination. Keep our feet steady on the path and our hearts close to Your purposes so that we might be equipped for the journey and energized by Your presence in our lives. In Christ's spirit, we pray. Amen.

***Hymn #488** *"I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry"*

***Call to Confession**

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; yet we are justified by the gift of God's grace through the redemption that is ours in Christ Jesus. Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

***Prayer of Confession**

O God, we confess that in a world filled with many voices, we have often failed to hear Your voice, choosing instead to respond to the popular and the near at hand. You have poured out the gift of Your Spirit in our Baptism, but we have given in to a spiritless life of routines. You have confirmed in us Your covenant of love, but we have conformed to the general lovelessness which surrounds us. Forgive us this day, for claiming our name in Christ and

living a nameless existence. May the spirit of promises spoken blend this day with promises renewed, that we might be restored to a sense of what is needful for our wholeness as persons. In Christ's name we pray together saying,

***Assurance of Pardon**

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." We believe and although we fall short, we must persevere to the end. Hold tight to God's Word. 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**

Proclaim God's Word

Anthem

"Break & Share It"

Chancel Choir

Prayer of Illumination

Responsive Reading: Psalm 1

Page 648

Hymn #188

"Jesus Loves Me!"

Scripture Lessons: 1 Timothy 4:12-16

Page 1449

Sermon

***Hymn #69**

"Here I am Lord"

The Reaffirmation of Baptism of: Max Bentson, Lucas Fuhr, Knox Kramer, Ethin Mammen, Lauren Miller, Claire Stephens

Elder Sonya Alexander: Max Bentson, Lucas Fuhr, Knox Kramer, Ethin Mammen, Lauren Miller and Claire Stephens are presented by the session for the reaffirmation of the baptismal covenant. They now desire to profess their faith publicly and to accept great responsibility in the life of the church and God's mission in the world.

Rev. Scott Prouty: We rejoice that you now desire to declare your faith and to share with us in our common ministry. In Baptism you were joined to Christ and made members of His body. In the community of people of God, you have learned of God's purpose for you and for all creation. You have been nurtured at the table of our Lord and called to witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Elder Sonya Alexander: You are citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus Himself as the cornerstone.

Rev. Scott Prouty: Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

Candidates: I do.

Rev. Prouty: Who is your Lord and Savior?

Candidates: Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

Rev. Prouty: Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying His word and showing His love?

Candidates: I will, with God's help.

Rev. Prouty: Will you devote yourself to the church's teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers?

Candidates: I will, with God's help.

Individual Statements of Faith of the Confirmation Class

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

Laying on of Hands: (The candidates kneel, the mothers put the cross around their child's neck, the fathers place their hands upon their child's head.)

Rev. Prouty: O Lord, uphold Claire, Ethin, Knox, Lauren, Lucas and Max by Your Holy Spirit. Daily increase in them Your gifts of grace; the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in Your presence, both now and forever. Amen. Knox, Max, Claire, Ethin, Lauren and Lucas remember Your baptism and be thankful, and know that the Holy Spirit is at work within You. Amen.

Candidates: Thanks be to God.

Welcome

Elder Sonya Alexander: Clarie Stephens, Lucas Fuhr, Ethin Mammen, Lauren Miller, Max Benton and Knox Kramer, by professing your faith publicly, you have expressed your intention to grow in the covenant God made with you in your baptism. May the Spirit continue to strengthen and sustain you in the worship and mission of the church.

All: Amen. Alleluia!

Rev. Prouty: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Hymn#192 *"Shine, Jesus, Shine"*

Announcements, Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Give Thanks to God

God's Tithes and Your Offering Received

Offertory

Elaine Hagen

***Responsive 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.

***Offertory Prayer**

Loving God, we are gathered together to listen to Your Word and to witness to its truths. We give joyously today and dedicate this offering to Your work. We are inspired to share Your glorious love with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Increase our talents and offerings so that Your name is exalted with unending praise. Blessed is Your name! Amen.

***Hymn #521 “In Remembrance of Me” (Vs. 1 & 2)**

Holy Communion

***Hymn #521 “In Remembrance of Me” (Vs. 1 & 2)**

***Benediction**

***Postlude** Elaine Hagen

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

The carnations are in honor of our confirmands today. There will be cake and refreshments served downstairs after the worship service in honor of the confirmands.

Bible Study ~ We have a weekly morning Bible Study on Wednesdays from 7-8 am, in the church parlor. We are reading the book of Exodus together and discussing it. Anyone is welcome to come whether you have studied the Bible for years or you are just starting. I hope to see you there! ~ Pastor Scott

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!

VBS - Vacation Bible School - Sunday, June 12 - Wednesday, June 15, at our church from 6-8 pm. Kids age 4 - those having completed 4th grade are invited to attend. Please return your child’s registration form by May 25. If you need another form, ask Ann Tiffany or stop in the church office.

May Ushers: Greg Dording, Stephen Dording, Kim McKay, Tom & Barb Stough, Julie Rienstra, Brady Stough, Shawn Corder, Leann Heimer, Gary Hindt

May Communion Servers: Ruling Elder Michael Joldersma, Shawn Corder, Julie Rienstra, Karen Speros, Rhonda Joldersma, Dan Tiffany, Sonya Alexander

Deacon of the Month: Dan Tiffany

Today’s Greeters: Bob & Sonya Alexander, Dan & Maria Alexander

Half-Time Youth Coordinator for Presbytery: Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys is looking for a Youth Coordinator that has a passion for spiritual formation in children and youth. The individual would be responsible for: connecting youth and youth leaders across the Presbytery, organizing youth events, resourcing congregations, coordinating Triennium and accompanying youth to the event, plan youth leader training events, organizing presbytery-wide Zoom confirmation classes. We are looking for someone to be the face of the youth program for the Presbytery. Some travel required. Interested persons should provide a cover letter with brief faith statement, and a resume with two references by June 1, 2022. Send/ email to Karen Lange (karen@minnesotavalleys.org), Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys, PO Box 431, Kerkhoven MN 56252.

Looking at the Week Ahead

Sunday, May 15:	9:00 am:	Sunday School
	9:15 am:	Choir Practice
	10:15 am:	Worship - Holy Communion, Confirmation Sunday
	Following Worship:	Packing Weekend Food Bags
Monday, May 16:	Noon:	Pastor Scott - Rotary
	7:00 pm:	Session Meeting
Tuesday, May 17:	Chimes Deadline	
	9:00 am:	Pastor Scott visits Judy Curtis
	10:00 am:	Pastor Scott visits Laura Kohler
	11:00 am:	Pastor Scott visits Gerry & Deb Hess
	2:00 pm:	Pastor Scott visits Doreen Steenblock
	3:30 pm:	Pastor Scott visits Leon & Sharon King
	4-6:30 pm:	Ruby’s Pantry
Wednesday, May 18:	7-8:00 am:	Bible Study
	9:00 am:	Piecemakers
	7-8:00 pm:	LAST 4Hs - BINGO with Prizes
Sunday, May 22:	9:00 am:	Sunday School - LAST DAY
	9:15 am:	Choir Practice
	10:15 am:	Worship - Senior Sunday

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: 18th - Joyce Goodyear, Larry Wessels

Anniversaries: 19th - Bruce & Ann Tiffany, 20th - Dave & Corrine Gertsema

Members of our Church Family in Hospice Care: Dorothy Symes, Jeanette Kotval

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

Millie Bunting, Bob & Bunny Nolting, Ardis Alexander, Lucille Byram, Joyce McKay

All Those Fighting Cancer: Ralph Revier, Julie Fiala's sister, Jill Nelson

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.

Statements of Faith

Max Bentson

I believe that God is the Father of all and He will help when you are misled God will help you get back on to the right path of life.

And I believe that Jesus is our one and only Savior.

And that the Holy Spirit will guide you thru your whole life and will help you do God's work during your life.

When we get baptized it is God accepting us into His big family and that we will be loved forever.

When we take the Holy Communion it represents Jesus making a big sacrifice for us so we should be able to make sacrifices for Him in our daily lives.

My favorite passage is 1 John 2:15 *"So not love the world or anything that belongs to the world. If you love the world, you do not love the Father"*. I like it because it tells that worldly possessions have nothing to do with God so love God not the world.

I plan on working as a Sunday School teacher when I grow up.

Lucas Fuhr

I believe that God the Father created the earth and everything on it.

I believe that God created people in God's image.

And I believe Jesus is our Savior who died on the cross for our sins.

When I think of the Holy Spirit I think of it working through me to spread God's world and spread kindness to others.

To me Holy Communion represents Jesus' sacrifice to the world.

Baptism means you're entered forever into God's kingdom.

My favorite Bible verse would have to be Philippians 4:11-13 *"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me"*. I think about this verse a lot when I'm competing in sports and it's meaningful to me because it helps me find strength when I'm tired and to persevere and do my best.

In the future I want to become a Deacon to further help with the church.

Knox Kramer

I believe God the Father is creator of heaven, earth, people and animals. And all that we can see.

I believe that Jesus was crucified on the cross for us so we could be forgiven for our sins. He is our Savior.

I believe the Holy Spirit leads me and guides me.

I believe that Holy Communion helps us remember the sacrifices that Jesus made for us.

I believe Holy Baptism marks us forever as God's children.

My favorite Bible story is the creation story because it is pretty cool how God created everything in six days and rested on the seventh. My favorite Bible verse is Psalm 18:29 *"For by you, I can run against a troop and by my God I can leap over a wall"*. I like how it talks about if you have faith in God, you can do miraculous things.

In the future, I plan to attend church more often and I would like to become a Deacon someday.

Ethin Mammen

I believe that God the Father is our creator, and we are all created as He thinks we should be.

I believe that Jesus is our Savior, and He guided us through our world when it is too big for us.

I believe the Holy Spirit makes us want to help others and give back.

To me, Holy Communion is a reminder that Jesus sacrificed a lot for our sins.

To be baptism is our way to join God's kingdom and become cleansed of our sins.

My favorite Bible verse is Hebrews 6:1 *"But grow in the face and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen."* This is my favorite verse because it gives me motivation to keep growing and getting better.

I would like to help fund the mission trips and participate in them. I would also like to continue helping my mother at Ruby's Pantry.

Lauren Miller

I believe that God is the Father that watches over us and has everyone's life planned out. He is also the creator of everything and is the Parent that is always looking out for us in the best way possible. He also has a plan for all of us.

Jesus is our Savior that died on the cross for us. He is God's Son and wants us to live like Him.

The Holy Spirit is the part of the trinity that help us in our daily lives and guides us. It is God working through us down on earth.

Holy Communion is a way to get closer to God's kingdom. And to have us remember why Jesus died on the cross for us. It represents Christ's body and blood.

During Baptism you are marked as a child of God. The baptism waters cleanse us and make us new.

My favorite Bible story is about Esther, when she saved all the Jewish population from death using her faith, her smarts and her looks. She ended up saving them all. Back at that time women weren't equal to men at all. Esther is just really cool. The story motivates me to do important things.

I will help the church by doing mission trips and helping around the community. I will also help out at church services.

Claire Stephens

I believe that God the Father is the creator of everything. God is the reason everything happens.

God knows everything. God is there for us and helps us everyday.

I believe that Jesus the Son was sent from God to save us from our sins. He died on the cross to cover the sins of humanity.

I believe that the Holy Spirit helps people be more like God in our spirit.

To me the Holy Baptism means we are God's children and the Holy Spirit is within us.

Holy Communion means to me that we are remembering the sacrifice that Jesus made and he will return.

My favorite Bible story is about Ruth and Naomi. Ruth was very dedicated to her mother-in-law and was willing to help her in any way.

I want to help the church by going on mission trips and becoming a Deacon in the future.