

Assemble in God's Name

Prelude

Ringing of the Church Bell

Welcome

Read Vision Statement

God's timeless love transforms each of us to joyously continue the ministry of Jesus Christ in our community and in our world.

Call to Worship

Leader: We have many ways of understanding God. God protects us like a mother bird sitting on her nest.

People: God is everywhere, like the wind.

Leader: God comforts us like a hug.

People: God teaches us who we are. God calls us Belonging, Beloved and Delightful.

Leader: As people who belong, who are beloved and who God delights in, let us worship God together!

Prayer of Invocation

Lord God, as we worship You today, may scripture be a mirror that helps us see ourselves. Just like the people in the Bible, may we too learn to follow You and trust the names You call us: Belonging, Beloved and Delightful. May scripture also be a window today, helping us see the ancient Middle Eastern world that is different from our own, but teaches us things we need to know today. As we ponder Your stories and Your presence, help us discover that You are trustworthy and Your names for us are true: Belonging, Beloved and Delightful. In Jesus precious name we pray. Amen.

Hymn #2 "Come, Thou Almighty King"

***Call to Confession**

Eve and Adam listened to the snake in the garden as the snake suggested that they were not smart enough, did not know enough, were not really good. They believed these names the snake called them. And what we believe about who we are matters! It changes the way we act. That is why it's so important to know and trust God's names for us. Let us confess our forgetfulness together.

***Prayer of Confession**

Lord God, You taught us that You are good, and when you created humans, You called us very good. But we struggle. We struggle to trust who You say You are, and we struggle to trust the names you call us. We wonder if You are good and if we belong, if we are beloved, if You really delight in us. When we forget who You are and who we are, it brings pain, confusion and destruction. You gave us Jesus to remind us of who You are and who we are. Teach us wisdom as we walk with Your Son in the wide and wild world. Teach us to recognize Your voice, know what Your Spirit feels like, and trust You completely. Amen.

***Silent Prayers of Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon**

Put your hand over your heart, like you're pressing on a name tag. Repeat these names God has for you:

I am loved.

I belong with God.

I am good.

I am treasured.

I am honored.

I am never alone.

I am protected.

Lord God, Thank You for your forgiveness and for loving us so much. Amen.

***Response #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 life 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

Chancel Choir

Moment for Children: Dorie Oja

Prayer for Illumination

Lord Jesus, Open my eyes that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me. Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free. Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see. Open my eyes; illumine me, Spirit divine. Amen.

Responsive Reading: From Isaiah 58: 6, 7

Leader: Is not this the fast that I choose: to loosen the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?

People: Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

Leader: Then your light shall break forth like dawn.

People: Then your healing shall spring us quickly!

Leader: Your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.

People: Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, “Here I am.”

Scripture Lesson: Deuteronomy 10: 17-19

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Gospel Reading: A story inspired by Matthew 11; 23; Luke 7; 11; 14

“Jesus and the Party People” by Mariko Clark from The Book of Belonging

Sermon

“Sharing the Gift of Belonging”

Beth Buckwalter-Miller

***Hymn #307**

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

***Affirmation of Faith:** *From “A Brief Statement of Faith*

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Announcements, Sharing of Joys and Concerns

The Pastoral Prayer & The Lord’s Prayer

Give Thanks to God

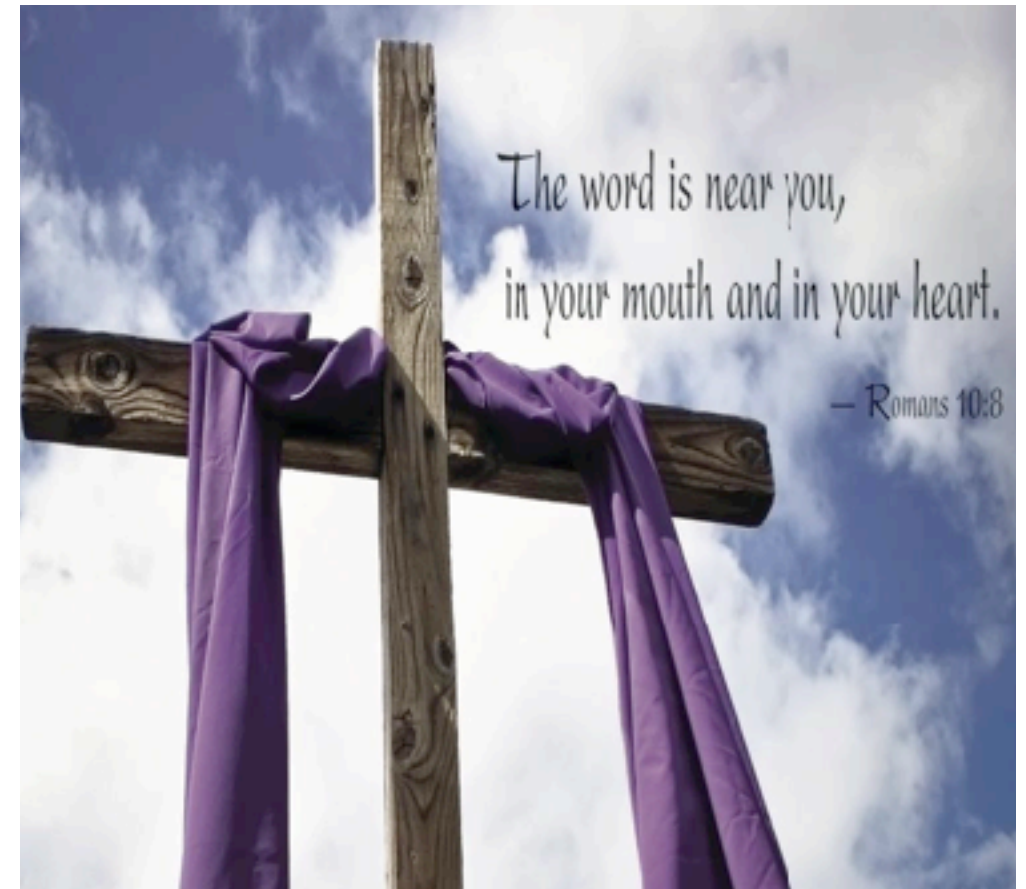
Call for the Offering

God’s Tithes and Your Offering Received

Offertory

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 9, 2025 - 1st Sunday of Lent

Pastor: Rev. Scott Prouty ~ Beth Buckwalter-Miller

Ministers: The members of the congregation

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***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**

Lord God, your kingdom is already spilling in, and there are no outsiders here. Your kingdom is upside down and inside out. Your kingdom is a place of belonging. Use the tithes and offerings given today for the good work of your kingdom. In Jesus Name we pray. Amen.

***Hymn #838 “Standing on the Promises”**

***Benediction**

Go out into the world in peace. Have courage. Hold onto what is good. Repay no one evil for evil. Strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak, help the suffering. Honor all people. Love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you. Amen.

***Postlude**

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

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Many of the prayers and readings today have been taken from "The Book of Belonging: Bible Stories for Kind and Contemplative Kids" by Mariko Clark.

March Ushers: Head Usher Leon King, Ushers: Butch & Faythe Amberg, Troy Amberg, Mark Oja, Rick Kramer, Jerilyn Kodet, Ryan, Lindsey & Knox Kramer

March Communion Servers - March 16: Head Server: Adrienne Danielson
Servers: Leon King, Dave Danielson, Tony Miller, Bob & Sonya Alexander, Dan Alexander

March Deacon of the Month: Adrienne Danielson

Today's Greeters: Nick & Katherine Brozek

March Money Counters: Rick Hauge & Dan Tiffany

April Money Counters: Michael Joldersma & Julia Fiala

Church Photos: Reminder... The church office enjoys getting church related photos!!!

Thank you for your donation to the Food Shelf; 167 items (plus 40 travel toothbrushes & dental floss), 46 animal donations and 4 clothing items were donated.

Youth Opportunities ~ Youth Club invites kids grades K-4 on Wednesdays from 4-5:15 pm. Kids age 3 through 4th grade are invited to join Sunday School on Sundays at 9 am.

Volunteers Needed ~ Bridge Street Bargains Thrift Store is looking for volunteers. If you can help in any way, please contact Jennie at 320-693-8811.

Friendship Dinner ~ Please join us for our March Friendship Dinner on March 9, following worship. Sandwiches and salads will be served. **If you would like to donate a salad, please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex.**

Church Meeting ~ We will be having another church meeting on March 9, following the Friendship Dinner.

Game Night ~ You are invited to our first game night on March 23, at 4:30 pm. Please feel free to bring your favorite game to share. A meal will be provided, bring your own beverages.

Pray for The Following

Prayer for Members of our Church Family that have recently had surgery: Pastor Scott, prayers for a quick recovery following his surgery.

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 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 local, national, world political leaders.

Birthdays: *Today: Doreen Steenblock, Becky Bruns, 10th: Rachel Karnitz, 11th: Stephen Dording, Pam Iverson, Ryan Rohlik, 13th: Amber Rohlik, Rhys Meyers, Jackson Plotz, 14th: Dan Kohler, Courtney Siegfried, 15th: Fran Hauge, TJ Juell, Tara Steinkrans, Fred Bloedow*

Members of our Church Family in Nursing Homes, Assisted Living or Other Facilities:
Bunny Nolting, Todd Peterson

All Those Fighting Cancer: *Shayla Shaw*

If you know of something/someone to add to the Prayer List, please contact the church office.

Calendar of Events ~ Please look ahead at the calendar of events. **PLEASE CONFIRM your visits** with Pastor Scott by contacting the church office.

Looking at the Weeks Ahead

Tuesday, February 18-March 10: Pastor Scott on Medical Leave

Sunday, March 9: 10:15 am: Worship with Guest Speaker Rev. Beth Buckwalter-Miller
Following Worship: March Friendship Dinner
Following Dinner: Church Meeting

Tuesday, March 11: 10:00 am: Pastor Scott has Ministerial Meeting

Wednesday, March 12: 7:00 am: New Testament Bible Study
2:00 pm: Apocrypha Bible Study
4-5:15 pm: Youth Club
5-7:00 pm: Pastor Scott has GA Zoom Meeting
5:30 pm: Deacon Meeting

Thursday, March 13: 9-5:00 pm: Pastor Scott has GA Meeting

Friday, March 14: 9-Noon: Pastor Scott has GA Meeting

Sunday, March 16: 9:00 am: Sunday School
9:15 am: Choir Practice
10:15 am: Worship with Holy Communion
Following Worship: Packing Weekend Food Bags: Bentson

Monday, March 17: 7:00 pm: Session Meeting

Tuesday, March 18: 9:00 am: Pastor Scott takes communion to Todd Peterson
10:30 am: Pastor Scott visits Lois Davis
2:00 pm: Pastor Scott visits Doreen Steenblock
3:00 pm: Pastor Scott visits Kathy Peterson
4:00 pm: Pastor Scott takes communion to Bunny Nolting

Wednesday, March 19: 7:00 am: New Testament Bible Study
9:00 am: Piecemakers
2:00 pm: Apocrypha Bible Study
4-5:15 pm: Youth Club

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

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