

## Assemble in God's Name

### Prelude

### Ringling 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

L: The Lord has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and a sound mind.

**P: Though the shadows fall, we will trust in the God who works behind the scenes.**

L: Who knows that you have come to this position for a time like this?

**P: Like Esther, we rise to bring light into the darkness, trusting in God's saving power.**

L: Come, let us worship the King of Kings, who turns mourning into dancing.

**P: Let us worship the Lord.**

### \*Prayer of Invocation

Holy and Sovereign God, You are the One who is always at work, even when we cannot see Your hand. You call Your people to faithfulness in every generation, placing us where we are for Your holy purposes. As You strengthened Esther to act with courage and trust, strengthen us by Your Spirit today. Gather us into Your presence. Quiet our fears, awaken our faith, and open our hearts to Your Word. Fill us with the power of Your love, that our worship may honor You and prepare us to serve You with wisdom, compassion, and courage. Reign among us, O Christ, and transform us by Your grace, that we may leave this place ready to follow wherever You lead. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, we pray. Amen.

\*Hymn #32                    *"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"*

### \*Call to Confession

Friends, God calls each of us for such a time as this. Yet we know that we do not always answer with courage. We cling to comfort, remain silent when justice calls, and trust our own security more than God's faithfulness. Even so, God is gracious, merciful, and ready to forgive. Let us confess our sin before God and one another.

### \*Prayer of Confession

Holy God, You have positioned us in this time and place for a purpose, yet we confess we often shrink back. We are comfortable in our palaces, silent in the face of injustice, and fearful or risking our comfort to stand with the vulnerable. Forgive us for prioritizing ourselves over Your calling. Give us the courage of Esther, trusting our lives to You. Through Jesus Christ who risked it all for us, we pray. Amen.

### \*Time for Silent Prayers of Confession

### \*Assurance of Pardon

L: Hear the good news: The God who called Esther did not abandon her, and the God who calls us is faithful still. In Jesus Christ, God has entered our story, bearing our sin and overcoming our fear with perfect love. We are forgiven, restored, and set free to live with courage and hope. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

**P: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! 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

### Prayer of Illumination

Gracious God, by Your Holy Spirit, open our ears to hear Your Word and our hearts to receive it with faith. As we listen to the story of Esther, help us to recognize Your presence, even when You seem hidden, and Your call, even when the path is uncertain. Give us wisdom to discern Your will, courage to answer Your call, and trust to believe that You are at work for the good of Your people. Shape us through Your living Word, that we may be faithful in our own time and place, serving You with humble hearts and steadfast hope. Through Jesus Christ, the Living Word, Amen.

**Scripture Reading:** Esther 4:1-17

**Sermon**

*"Esther-Queen of Persia"*

Melissa Danneman

\*Hymn #697                    *"Take My Life"*

\*The Apostle's Creed: (page 35 in hymnal)

### Announcements, Sharing of Joys and Concerns

**The Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer:** (page 35 in hymnal)

## Give Thanks to God

### Call for the Offering

God has entrusted each of us with gifts, resources, and opportunities to serve God's kingdom. Like Esther, we have been placed where we are not for ourselves alone, but that God's love and justice might be made known through us. With grateful hearts, let us offer our lives and our gifts to the Lord, trusting that God will use them to bring hope, healing, and new life to the world.

## God's Tithes and Your Offering Received Offertory

### \*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

Generous God, all that we have comes from Your gracious hand. Receive these gifts, and receive us also, as offerings dedicated to Your service. Bless what we have given, that it may bring hope to the fearful, justice to the oppressed, and compassion to all who are in need. Give us the courage of Esther to use every gift You have entrusted to us for Your purposes. May our generosity reflect the love of Christ, who gave Himself completely for the life of the world. Use these offerings—and our very lives—for Your kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Hymn #442 "Just As I Am"

Holy Communion: Pastor Gwen Bohlke

### \*Hymn #835 "Just a Closer Walk With Thee"

### \*Benediction

### \*Postlude

*\*Please stand in body or spirit.*

*Music Used by Permission. OneLicense#742024-A*

### 2026 Per-Capita: \$47.00 per person

**Job Listing** ~ The Redwood Area Food Shelf is looking to hire a new part-time Coordinator. We are looking for a dependable, self-motivated, detail oriented person who has a commitment to food access, dignity and community service. If you are interested in more information, stop into the Food Shelf at 500 E. Bridge St. or call (507) 627-3653.

**July Ushers:** Head Usher: Dan Tiffany

Ushers: Bruce & Ann Tiffany, Leon King, Lois Davis, Dan Alexander

**July Communion Servers (July 5):** Head Server: Sonya Alexander

Tony & Molly Miller, Leon King, Scott Goodyear, Dan Alexander, Diane Davis

**July Deacon of the Month:** Amber Kleinhuizen

**Today's Greeter:** Char Gilland

**July Money Counters:** Michael Joldersma & Mike Bentson

## 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.



**July 5, 2026**

**Melissa Danneman**

Ministers: The members of the congregation

**235 East 4th Street, PO Box 444**

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Dining Room Phone: 507-627-2430

Office Email: churchofc@hotmail.com

Church Website: fpcrwf.org

### Pray for The Following

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.

**July Birthdays:** 1st: Deb Hess, Kim McKay, Kevin McKay, 6th: Ryan Kramer, 7th: Dan Tiffany, 8th: Aubree Hicks, Trevin Sharpe, Julie Rienstra, 12th: Claire Stephens, 21st: Savannah Joldersma, 22nd: LeAnne Corder, 25th: David Fuhr, Knox Kramer, 28th: Kassie Sweetman, 29th: Bruce Tiffany, 30th: Julie Fiala, 31st: Anne-Marie Danielson

**July Anniversaries:** 9th: Mark & Dorie Oja, 11th: Keegan & Shellie Mammen, 18th: Rick & Fran Hauge, 19th: Randy & Lynn Juell, Peggy & Ross Dolezal, 23rd: Brian & Stephanie Klavetter

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

*Bunny Nolting, Lois Tiffany, Marlys Verdoes, Merlin Goudy*

**All Those Fighting Cancer:** *Gerry Hess, Jim Curtis, Shayla Shaw, Sally Sisk - Julie Fiala's Sister*

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

### Calendar of Events ~ Looking at the Weeks Ahead

**Sunday, July 5:** 10:15 am: Worship with Holy Communion

**Tuesday, July 6:** **Church Office Closed**

**Wednesday, July 8:** 8:00 am: Bible Study

3:00 pm: Bible Study

**Thursday, July 9:** **Church Office Closed**

**Friday, July 10:** **Church Office Closed**

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**Sunday, July 12:** 10:15 am: Worship in the Park

Following Worship: Friendship Dinner in the Park

**Tuesday, July 14:** Office Hours: 8am-10am

**Wednesday, July 15:** 8:00 am: Bible Study

9:00 am: Piecemakers

3:00 pm: Bible Study

**Thursday, July 16:** Office Hours: 8am-10am

**Friday, July 17:** Office Hours: 8am-2pm

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**Sunday, July 19:** 10:15 am: Worship

**Wednesday, July 22:** 8:00 am: Bible Study

3:00 pm: Bible Study

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**Sunday, July 26:** 10:15 am: Worship

**Wednesday, July 29:** 8:00 am: Bible Study

3:00 pm: Bible Study

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

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