

Assemble in God's Name

Prelude

Ring 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: Come, let us worship through our praises, our songs and our very being.

P: We come today as children of God - with ready hearts, with voices prepared to sing praises and open hands to worship our Lord.

L: Come, feel the peace of God's presence in this Holy place.

P: For the Spirit is already moving among us-stirring hope, awakening joy, and calling us deeper into God's grace.

L: The Lord is good, and His love endures forever,

P: we stand in His boundless grace, held by mercy that never fades and welcomed into the presence of our faithful God.

All: Let us worship with gladness, for the God who is good is also the God who is with us.

*Unison Prayer of Invocation

Spirit of the Living God — fall afresh upon our lives, fill us with life anew. Bind us together as Your people, unite our voices in praise, and empower our worship with Your living presence. Come, Holy Spirit, and dwell among us. Amen.

Hymn #435 *"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

*Call to Confession

Brothers and sisters in Christ, approach the throne of grace, do not be afraid, for God knows our hearts are troubled, please pray with me confessing our faults and failings to God.

*Unison Prayer of Confession

God of Compassion and Mercy, like Peter we often ask "how often should I forgive?" We confess that we want limits, we want fairness, we want forgiveness only when it feels deserved. Yet You, O Lord, call us into a grace that stretches farther than our comfort and deeper than our understanding. We confess the grudges we hold, the wounds we nurse, and the quiet ways we withhold compassion from those who have hurt us. Forgive us when we cling to resentment instead of releasing it into Your mercy. Teach us the way of Christ, the way of forgiveness without counting, the way of compassion without condition, the way of love that mirrors Your own. In the silence of this moment, hear the confessions we carry within...

*Silent Prayers of Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

L: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

P: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*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

Moment for Children: Michelle Johanneck

Unison Prayer of Illumination

Prepare our hearts, O God, to accept Your Word. Quiet within us every voice but Your own, so that we may hear every Word and live it, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 103:8-13 (NIV)

L: The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.

P: He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever;

L: he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him;

P: as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

L: As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him;

P: for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust.

Gospel: Matthew 18: 21-35 (Life Principles Bible)

L: The gospel of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

"Mirror the Heart of God"

Sue Goebel

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

Announcements, Sharing of Joys and Concerns

The Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

L: Loving God, we come before Your presence this morning - many with weary hearts, while others carry burdens too heavy to name.

P: Lord, in Your mercy hear our prayer.

L: You know the stories we carry, the worries that keep us awake, the grief that sits quietly beneath our smiles. You meet us in every place of need.

P: Lord, in Your compassion, hold us close.

L: Like Peter, we ask, "How often must I forgive?" And You answer with grace that stretches beyond our limits. Teach us to forgive as we have been forgiven, to release what binds us, and to walk in the freedom of Your mercy.

P: Spirit of the Living God, renew our hearts.

L: When our strength falters, lift us. When our hope dims, kindle it. When our love grows thin, fill us again with Your steadfast love that is higher than the heavens and deeper than all our fears.

P: Lord, let Your steadfast love surround us.

L: Gather us as Your people-the joyful, the hurting, the uncertain, the hopeful-and breathe Your peace upon us. Make us instruments of Your grace in a world longing for compassion.

P: In Your mercy, make us whole.

L: God of healing, touch those lives that experience pain and suffering, may they feel comfort and strength through Your grace. We lift those in our midst and those upon our hearts in silent meditation. . . .

Silence

L: Now as Jesus taught His disciples saying:

P: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Give Thanks to God

Call for the Offering

With open hearts and open hands, we let go of the things that possess us, we offer our gifts to God, and we dedicate our lives in service to Jesus Christ. Freely we have received, now freely let us give.

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.

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 13, 2026

Sue Goebel

Ministers: The members of the congregation

235 East 4th Street, PO Box 444

Office Phone: 507-627-8751

Dining Room Phone: 507-627-2430

Office Email: churchofc@hotmail.com

Church Website: fpcrwf.org

***Unison Offertory Prayer**

Heavenly Provider, we thank You for Your bounteous gifts of love and grace each day. In a small way, we bring these gifts before You for our gratefulness that we may share with those whose lives may be touched by Your grace and mercy in meaningful ways. Bless our offering to open doors to new mission projects, feed the hungry, clothe the naked and provide spiritual nourishment to the lost and gone astray. We are thankful for the opportunity to share those blessings with others. Amen.

Hymn #513 *“Let us Break Bread Together”

The Service of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

Great Thanksgiving

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: Holy God, You have called us to this holy place, where You have fed us with Your Word and filled us with Your Spirit. In the fullness of time, You sent Jesus Christ-our Teacher, our Shepherd, Our Savior and our Friend. He healed the broken, welcomed the forgotten, and proclaimed Your kingdom of forgiveness and hope.

All: Thanks be to God.

L: And so, with all who have gone before us, with the saints of every time and place, and with all creation that sings Your praise, we lift our voices in joy.

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Breaking of the Bread and Communion of the People

Unison Prayer after Communion

Holy God, we thank You, we praise, we glorify You, for You have fed us with Your Word and filled us with Your Spirit. Send us out to show and tell the love of Jesus Christ to a hungry, thirsty world. Amen.

Hymn #742 *“We Will Walk with God”

***Benediction**

L: Go out filled with forgiveness upon your heart carrying the mercy of Christ to every place you walk, let kindness be the pattern of your days and grace the language of your life.

P: May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. Amen.

***Postlude**

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

Music Used by Permission. OneLicense#742024-A

2026 Per-Capita: \$47.00 per person

September Ushers: Head Usher: Don Dagner

Usher: Scott Goodyear, Dale & Sandy Starr, Michael & Rhonda Joldersma, Paul Hagen

September Communion Servers (September 13): Head Server: Rick Hauge, Shari Fuhr, Scott Goodyear, Michael Joldersma, Nancy Miller, Sonya Alexander, Dan Alexander

September Deacon of the Month: Dan Tiffany

Today’s Greeter: Kevin McKay

September Money Counters: Michael Joldersma, Nancy Miller

October Money Counters: Nathan Stephens, Sonya Alexander

November Money Counters: Nathan Stephens, Leon King

December Money Counters: Bob Alexander, Laura Kohler

Friendship Dinner ~ Everyone is invited to the Deacon’s friendship dinner **TODAY**, following worship. The menu: sloppy joe’s, salads, deserts and beverages. Everyone is welcome!

Youth Club ~ Kids in Kindergarten-5th grade are welcome to join us at Youth Club! The fall session will begin on Wednesday, September 16, from 4:00-5:15 in Ramsey Park where we'll explore and play in God's great outdoor classroom! :) Please drop off and pick up your kids at the Lower Shelter area that day. The following week, September 23, we will NOT meet since there is a Redwood Valley Elementary School Family Fun Game Night scheduled that afternoon/evening. We'll be back in the church on Wednesday, September 30.

Meals on Wheels ~ The Deacons are in charge of Meals on Wheels delivery in October. There is a signup sheet in the Narthex.

Coat Drive ~ The Deacons are partnering with our local school district to help keep children and families warm this winter. We're collecting **new or gently used coats** (sizes 4T through adult small). Donations can be dropped off in the large box in the south entryway of the church. Coats will be delivered to the elementary school in October and shared with those in need.

Thank you for helping us make a difference in our community! ~ The Deacons

Church Family: I wanted to pass along a farewell message and thank you for my time spent as part of First Presbyterian. Lauren has been living in Rochester and working at Mayo as an RN since 2025. I am moving there to be closer to her and her boyfriend, Joey, who works for the Austin Police Department. I am working for the school district in Rochester and am looking forward to getting settled when I move in a few weeks. While I'm excited for a new adventure, the move comes with a lot of mixed feelings. This church community was always welcoming and felt like home. I will miss the connections we made here and the wonderful memories of Sunday School, VBS, friendship dinners, and Christmas Eve candlelight hymns. Thank for supporting both me and Lauren, as well as my mom, Suzanne, when she lived with us. You will always have a special place in our hearts. ~ Rachel Karnitz

Calendar of Events ~ Looking at the Weeks Ahead

- Sunday, September 13:

9:00 am: Sunday School
9:15 am: Choir Practice
10:15 am: Worship - Holy Communion
11:15 am: Friendship Dinner
- Monday, September 14:

5:30-9:00 pm: Scouts Use of Church
- Tuesday, September 15:

Church Office Closed
All Day: Presbytery Use of Church
6:30 pm: Scouts Board Meeting
- Wednesday, September 16:

9:00 am: Piecemakers
3:00 pm: Bible Study
4-5:15 pm: Youth Club at Lower Shelter Ramsey Park
- Sunday, September 20:

9:00 am: Sunday School
9:15 am: Choir Practice
10:15 am: Worship

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

- For Prayers: Please contact the Prayer Chain: Char Gilland @ 507- 640 - 0210
- 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.

This week's Birthdays: 14th: Don Quinn, 15th: Tegan Hicks, 16th: Candy Zaske, 19th: Mike Salmon, Eloise Brozek

This week's Anniversaries: Today: Bob & Sonya Alexander

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

Bunny Nolting, Lois Tiffany, Marlys Verdoes

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

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