



**30 APRIL 2017**

**3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER**

*CCLI License #3049316 grants permission  
for reprinting of words and music*

**WELCOME to Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church!**

If this is your first time here we want to say a special thank you for worshipping with us today. Whether you're visiting, seeking a new spiritual direction in your life, or simply looking for a church home, we pray that *SPIRIT OF LIFE* might be the place for you to grow. Living a life of faith is no easy matter—until we try living life without faith. We're glad you worshiped here today and want you to know that your presence is always welcome! **NOTE:** Large print bulletins & Children's activity bags are available at the usher station. We also offer nursery upstairs during worship and Sunday school.

**\*Thank you for silencing/turning off your electronic devices** during rehearsals and worship. This helps everyone stay focused.

## GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Rev. Rob Smith

CALL TO WORSHIP (From Psalm 84)

Alvine Laure Ekame

One: Wherever you are, O Lord Almighty, beauty surrounds you. My soul yearns, even feels faint when I sense the presence of the Lord.

**All: Our hearts, our very being cry out for the presence of the Living Lord.**

One: Even the birds of the air have found their home in you O Lord, a source of comfort and safety where the young may be raised in confidence.

**All: Blessed are those who dwell in your presence, O Lord, for they are ever praising you.**

One: Blessed are those whose strength is in the Lord and whose hearts journey with the Lord, for even when they pass through the dark times in life, the presence of the Lord will make it a place and source of life.

**All: Hear our prayers, O Lord God Almighty, and be our comfort and safety. Let your Holy Spirit watch over us and guide us to always walk in your presence.**

One: Better is one day in your presence than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than live in comfort in the tents of the wicked.

**All: For the Lord our God is the light of the world and our protection. The Lord bestows favor and honor for those who walk in the presence of the Lord.**

**Blessed, O Lord, are those who trust in you.**

OPENING SONG "Here in This Place" (v 1, 3, 4)

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Carol Osweiler

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

Alvine Laure Ekame

One: Triune God, in your love you welcome us as your children, through your care you have shaped the universe, with your mercy you hear our prayers. Hear us, your children, as we come before you in worship. Let us pray together:

All: Jesus, risen one, in our weakness, you call us, in our confusion, you teach us, in our troubles, you offer us peace. Meet us, your friends, as we come to hear your word. Spirit, living one, in the beginning, you breathed life, in chaos and darkness, you brought hope, in all languages, you spread good news. Transform us, your people, as we open our minds and hearts to you. God, Loving Parent, Son and Spirit, we come with open hearts and best intentions. Yet we also come with doubts and fears. We know we come presenting outwardly confidence, but inwardly with questions. We know our words don't fulfill our actions falling short in our care for your creation and your people, in many ways. Trusting in your love, we turn again to you. As we open our hearts to your mercy and forgiveness, grant us your peace.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Rev. Rob Smith

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Rob Smith

RESPONSE HYMN

"Holy, Holy, Holy" (#138, v 1)

ANTHEM

"Facing a Task Unfinished" by Keith Getty

## HEARING

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Alvine Laure Ekame

SCRIPTURE

Acts 6: 1-7:2a, 44-60

Alvine Laure Ekame

SERMON

"Dwelling Places"

Rev. Rob Smith

## RESPONDING

SERMON RESPONSE

"Holy, Holy, Holy" (#138, v 3-4)

CALL TO OFFERING

Alvine Laure Ekame

PRAYER OF DEDICATION #591 "Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow" Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One: (Prayer)

**All: 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.**

## SENDING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

CLOSING HYMN "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" (#356, v 1-3)

CHARGE: SEND US OUT TO SERVE

Pat Buchholz

BENEDICTION

Rev. Rob Smith

### Volunteers for today, April 30, 2017:

**Lay Leader:** Alvine Laure Ekame

**Audio Visual:** Eric Scott

**Children's Sermon:** Carol Osweiler

**Ushers:** Austin Ambe, Gladys and Patience Mbonifor, Carol Osweiler

**Greeters:** Austin Ambe, Gladys and Patience Mbonifor, Carol Osweiler

### Volunteers for next Sunday, May 7, 2017:

**Children's Sermon:** Chris Sachs

**Ushers:** Alfred, Jacqui, Ethan & Erin Hicks

**Greeters:** Mary & Duane Brause

**Communion:** Chris Sachs (Lead), Peggy Roeske

**APRIL CAREGIVER - Chris Sachs**

**MAY CAREGIVER - Patience Mbonifor**

**SpiritCare Prayer Team: 1.507.263.5975** or 952.423.2212-Office

*"First, I tell you to pray for all people, asking God for what they need and being thankful to Him. This is good, and it pleases God our Savior."  
1 Timothy 2:1, 3*

### OUR SYMPATHY AND LOVE TO...

**Family and friends of George Mutch** - *George Mutch* passed away April 24. The funeral will be here on Tuesday, May 2. Visitation @ 9:30am, funeral @ 11am, followed by luncheon here at Spirit of Life. May *George's* family feel God's comfort and strength as they being their journey through grief and healing. - Submitted by *Pastor Rob* 04/25/2017

### PLEASE REMEMBER THESE PEOPLE THIS WEEK...

**Bella** - **Bella** is a granddaughter of *Camille Burin's* neighbor. **Bella** had heart surgery the 1st of April. Things did not go well and she is still in the hospital. She is only 6 mos old. Prayers that God will work through her medical team and bring her healing. - Submitted by *Camille Burin* 04/24/17

**Jon and Matt** - Jon and Matt are two young nephews of *Bob and Ruth's* niece and her husband. *Bob and Ruth* got to see and visit both **Jon and Matt** while at a family event in Del. on April 8th. They are doing well, considering the extent of their injuries. **Jon** is in a wheel chair and faces one more surgery in a few months. **Matt** is still having some issues from his major brain injuries. Both travel 2hrs. each way 3-4 days a week for intensive therapy. The doctors tell them it will be close to a year before each will be able to go back to work. We ask for continued prayers for the needed strength as they both continue therapy and healing. **Jon, Matt, and their family** wish to let all of our faith family know how very much they appreciate all our past and continued prayers for them. - Submitted by *Bob and Ruth Shepard* 04/19/17

## Announcements ...

Please submit Sunday worship announcements to the church office each week. Announcements not received by Wednesday noon will be shared in the worship bulletin the following Sunday. Send a quick email to [spirit@spiritoflifeav.org](mailto:spirit@spiritoflifeav.org). Thank you!

**Confirmation class** meets the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month following worship, 11:15am—12:30pm. If your youth has not been confirmed, is in 6<sup>th</sup> grade or older (we will have many senior high this time), and you plan on having them in confirmation this year, please see Pastor Rob. Note: See Pastor Rob regarding the Tuesday evening "make-up" classes he's doing for those who missed the regular class!!

Our **nursery** (located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor) is open during worship for children ages 1-6 years. Following worship, we offer **Sunday school** for children, youth and adults. Preschool, children grades 1-5 and senior high classes meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Middle schoolers meet in the Dove Room (main level) and adults meet in the conference room (main level).

Pastor Rob has set a scheduled time to be available for anyone who might wish to connect with him. **Rob will have regular open “office hours” at the Dunn Bros., 15265 Galaxie Ave, Apple Valley, each week on Tuesdays, 10am-12noon.** If you need to talk regarding life issues, church, or other things, please feel free to drop by or set up an appointment to meet with him.

We’re beginning a new weekly study on Wednesdays, 10-11:30am (starts May 3 for 18 weeks), with Pastor Rob leading. **Join us as together we better define our understanding of being ‘saved by grace’ through digging into the life changing book of Romans.** All are welcome! We’ll meet in the conference room at *Spirit of Life*. Books are available in the church office. Suggested donation of \$10 to the church. If you would like to attend a weekly Bible study but this time doesn’t work for you, please let us hear from you. Email the church office ([spirit@spiritoflifeav.org](mailto:spirit@spiritoflifeav.org)) or call 952.423.2212, with a time that would work.

**Community Garden Plots** are available! We have 8’ x 8’ raised beds here on our grounds. Rental from May 1—October 31 is \$35, with a \$20 refund at season end if plot is maintained and cleared after freeze. Water is available from the church outside faucet. Sign up forms available at the back. Complete and submit with payment in the church office or drop in the offering.

We need volunteers to sign up and be **cookie hostesses** (providing & serving cookies following worship). The schedule is open starting in May. Please see the clip board on the back table and sign up for a Sunday or two. Thanks!

We need **cookies and bars** for George Mutch’s funeral on Tuesday, May 2. Visitation @ 9:30am. Funeral @ 11am, followed by luncheon here at Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church.

The **Prayer Shawl Ministry** is a blend of compassion & the love of knitting/crocheting combined into a prayerful ministry & spiritual practice which reaches out to those in need of comfort & solace, as well as in celebration & joy. Many blessings are prayed into every stitch. Our next meeting is Tuesday, May 9. Questions, call Carol (952.237.5894). This ministry might make the prayer shawls but the crafters also receive the unconditional embrace of a sheltering, mothering God. This ministry is open to both men and women!

The next **women’s book club** meeting is Thursday, May 11, at 7pm at Lisa Smith’s home. Our new book is “Present Over Perfect” by Shauna Niequist. The link to order the book is [https://www.amazon.com/Present-Over-Perfect-Leaving-Frantic/dp/0310342996/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1490321913&sr=8-1&keywords=present+over+perfect](https://www.amazon.com/Present-Over-Perfect-Leaving-Frantic/dp/0310342996/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1490321913&sr=8-1&keywords=present+over+perfect). On the 27th, we’ll be discussing part 1-2. We will complete this book and then take a break until after the summer.

*Spirit of Life* made a commitment to give money toward two of the Matsiko Choir members for each month of 2017. Correspondence we have received from them is posted on the bulletin board in the hallway. Please help us fulfill our commitment by giving your **Matsiko Choir support offering** today and each month.

Sanya Pirani, the Prior Lake sixth grader who came to speak with us last year about her passion for eliminating hunger, is hosting a **Feed My Starving Children packing event on Saturday, May 13 from 11:30 - 1:30**, at the Eagan location. She is looking for 90 volunteers. The link is: <https://m.signupgenius.com/#/showRSVP/SignUp/5080f4daca62ca2fb6-turn>. In her message to me, she said to

write in the comments if you can volunteer. If you would like to volunteer, and the link doesn’t work, please talk to either Denise Lewis, or Pastor Rob, and we can get in touch with Sanya. This Saturday is also the scheduled clean-up day at Spirit of Life with the Scouts, so a couple of opportunities to serve!

**FROM COMMUNITY SERVICE:** If you didn’t get a chance to check out the Breaking Free Food Drive Tree in the sanctuary on Sunday, please drop by and help a bird to fly away (and bring back food). **Spirit of Life is doing a food drive for the next 3 or 4 weeks for the food pantry at Breaking Free.** This is a St. Paul based organization that helps women leave a life of prostitution. One of the many barriers that keep women trapped in that life is food insecurity, so Breaking Free offers a food pantry open to any woman who is participating in their programming. They are small, so they don’t qualify for food donations from Second Harvest Heartland, and other such food distribution sources. They rely on churches to keep their pantry stocked, and currently they don’t have a consistent church sponsor. Rosemount Family Resource Center seems to be well stocked these days, so stocking the Breaking Free Panty is an opportunity for us to make a real difference. Our goal is to fill 5 Cub food boxes; take a bird tag off the tree and bring back the item(s) listed on the tag. The program director will come to speak to us about the work they do, later in May (date TBD). Thank you for your generosity! For questions, talk to Denise Lewis.

**SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, May 13, is the annual Spirit of Life grounds clean-up with the Scouts.** This is our chance to work side-by-side with our Scouts and their leaders and parents, and we always get a lot done when we have a good turn-out of Spirit of Life members, so please plan to attend. For questions, talk to Duane Brause.

This morning, in the back, we have a **card to sign for Rev. John Lee and his family** upon the death of his father. Many remember Rev. Lee as one of our interim pastors before Pastor Rob came to serve our church.

*Per Capita* for 2017 is \$33.75.

Like us on Facebook ([SpiritofLifePresbyterianChurch](https://www.facebook.com/SpiritofLifePresbyterianChurch))

AND

Twitter ([SpiritOfLife@SpiritOfLifeAV](https://twitter.com/SpiritOfLife@SpiritOfLifeAV))

### May birthdays

05/02	Aliyah Ullom	05/20	Yawo Kpelevi
05/08	Ruth Bierbaum	05/23	Irene Jacobson
05/10	Eric Scott	05/25	Kokoe Kpelevi
05/12	Ed Marciniak		Jesse Lowinske
05/13	Walt Ullrich		Khoi Nguyen
05/17	Luke Smith	05/31	Shannon Schott
05/19	Linda Gulbrandson		

### SPIRIT OF LIFE STAFF

**Pastor: Rev. Rob Smith** Email: [pastorrob@spiritoflifeav.org](mailto:pastorrob@spiritoflifeav.org)

Clerk of Session: Denise Lewis

Music Director: Kyle Frost

Accompanist: Kate Frost

Nursery Caregiver: Trista Hansen

Office Administrator: Shari Shaw

### OFFICE

10:00 AM—3:00 PM MON-THURS

FOR PASTORAL EMERGENCIES PLEASE CALL ROB @ 952.807.4413

# Dwelling Places...



April 30, 2017

Rev. Rob Smith

**Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church**

14401 Pilot Knob Road

Apple Valley, MN 55124

952.423.2212

[www.spiritoflifeav.org](http://www.spiritoflifeav.org)

[spirit@spiritoflifeav.org](mailto:spirit@spiritoflifeav.org)