



07 MAY 2017

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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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)

Bob Shepard

One: Let us love one another, for love is from God.

All: God's steadfast love endures forever.

One: Let us reach out to those in need, for they are our brothers and sisters in Christ.

All: God's love calls us to recognize our family, to see Christ in each other.

One: Let us move beyond the margins and out of our comfort zone, into the world around us.

All: God's perfect love casts out all fear.

One: Come, let us worship God, our dwelling place, who is Love.

All: Come, let us worship in one Spirit as the family of God.

OPENING SONG

"Here I Am Lord" (#525, v 1-3)

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Chris Sachs

CALL OF RECONCILIATION

Bob Shepard

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

All: Holy One, we confess to You that we have fallen short. We don't always love our neighbors. We hold grudges, we judge others, we brush off those who call upon us for help. We do not always see the needs

around us and focus on our own busy lives. Forgive us, O God, for not loving others as You have loved us. Forgive us when we fail to keep Your commandment to love one another. Restore in us the willingness to reach beyond our comfort zone, to seek out those in need, and to let go of grudges and judging, remembering that all of us have sinned. Guide us back to Your ways of love, peace, and reconciliation. In the name of Jesus the Christ, we pray. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Rev. Rob Smith

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Rob Smith

RESPONSE HYMN

"Lord You Give the Great Commision" (#429, v 1)

ANTHEM

"Praise Adonai"

Praise Team

HEARING

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Bob Shepard

SCRIPTURE

Acts 8: 26-39

Bob Shepard

SERMON

"Dwelling Places: Is There Room Enough For Me?"

Rev. Rob Smith

RESPONDING

SERMON RESPONSE

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" (#464, v 1-4)

CALL TO OFFERING

Bob Shepard

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.

COMMUNION

Rev. Rob Smith

WELCOME TO THE TABLE

Rev. Rob Smith

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING/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.

SHARING THE ELEMENTS (Served intinction)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

CLOSING HYMN

"Siyahamba"

CHARGE & BLESSING

Rev. Rob Smith

Volunteers for today, May 7, 2017:

Lay Leader: Bob Shepard

Audio Visual: Larry Buchholz

Children's Sermon: Chris Sachs

Ushers: Alfred, Jacqui, Ethan & Erin Hicks

Greeters: Mary & Duane Brause

Communion: Chris Sachs (Lead), Peggy Roeske

Volunteers for next Sunday, *Mother's Day*, May 14, 2017:

Lay Leader: Joanne Johnson

Audio Visual: Eric Scott

Children's Sermon: Pastor Rob Smith

Ushers: Ruth Ewule, Chris Sachs

Greeter: 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 was Tuesday, May 2. May George's family feel God's comfort and strength as they begin 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. 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 6th 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 2nd 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 2nd floor. Middle schoolers meet in the Dove Room (main level) and adults meet in the conference room (main level).

SPECIAL NOTICE: We have a **special Congregational meeting**, for the purpose of electing new elders and deacons, scheduled for Sunday, May 21 immediately following worship.

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) or call 952.423.2212, with a time that would work.

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

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. We’ll be discussing part 3. 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/#!/showRSVPSignUp/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!

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.

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.

***Terry Forliti, from Breaking Free,** will speak to us Wednesday May 17, from 7-8:30 pm, here at *Spirit of Life*. All are welcome!

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))

SPIRIT OF LIFE STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Rob Smith Email: 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

A blue wooden chair with a simple design, featuring a curved backrest and a seat. The chair is positioned against a light-colored, textured wall. The text "Dwelling Places..." is written in a large, white, cursive font across the top of the image.

Dwelling Places...

May 07, 2017

Rev. Rob Smith

Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church

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