



20 JANUARY 2019 AD

2ND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

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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 be fully present.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Rev. Rob Smith

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bob Shepard

One: From the busy, bustling world to this quiet centre,

All: God, gather us.

One: From the noises all around to this silent sacred space,

All: God, gather us.

One: From the constant back and forth to a stillness and a calm.

All: God, gather us.

One: Gather us, we pray, in this time to peace, in this place of praise.

OPENING SONG

"Gather Us In" (v 1-4)

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Karen Johnson

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

Bob Shepard

One: Forgive us, God, for leading ourselves astray, of following our temptations that lead us into the wilderness, and then pretending somehow we are the victims and not the culprits.

All: Forgive us for appealing to our frailty as if, somehow, just by saying so we need face no charge for our own culpability.

One: Forgive us for hungering for what we do not need, and thirsting for what will not satisfy, when the feast is already offered to us: the bread of life and living water.

All: Forgive the rootedness we welcome in traditions that bind us when faith spells liberation.

One: Forgive us for kissing the cheek of power instead of the hand of righteousness, when the world cries out for justice.

All: May we know your forgiveness in our hearts, and be transformed and cleansed, a new beginning from the temptations we have known. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Rev. Rob Smith

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Rob Smith

RESPONSE HYMN

"Jesu, Jesu" (#367, ref, v 1-3)

ANTHEM

"Hello My Name Is" (by Matthew West)

Small Group

HEARING

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Bob Shepard

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 4: 1-17

Bob Shepard

SERMON

"Braving the Wilderness"

Rev. Rob Smith

RESPONDING

SERMON RESPONSE SONG

"Help Us Accept Each Other" (v 1-4)

CALL TO OFFERING

Bob Shepard

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

"Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow" #591

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

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 SONG

"Hakuna Mungu"

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

Rev. Rob Smith

Volunteers for today, January 20, 2019:

Lay Leader: Bob Shepard

Children's Sermon: Karen Johnson

Ushers / Greeters: Steve Lewis (Lead), Suzanne Plaszcz family, Gladys Mbonifor, Jerry & Karen Johnson, Marge Lewis, Chris Sachs, Eric Scott family, Claudette Robert

Pianist: Chris Wolf

Volunteers for next Sunday, January 27, 2019:

Annual Business Meeting Sunday

Lay Leader: Denise Lewis

Audio Visual: Alfred Hicks

Children's Sermon: Holly Bueno

Ushers / Greeters: Steve Lewis (Lead), Suzanne Plaszcz family, Gladys Mbonifor, Jerry & Karen Johnson, Marge Lewis, Chris Sachs, Eric Scott family, Claudette Robert

Pianist: Martha Davis

JANUARY CAREGIVER - Chris Sachs

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...

Smith family - Pastor Rob's Dad, Chuck, passed away Monday, December 10. Prayers for comfort, peace and understanding that God is with them through this difficult time.

Family of Gladys Maberry- Sayra Maberry's Mother, Gladys, passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, December 23. Prayers for comfort, peace and understanding that God is with Sayra Maberry and Jeff Mortimer and their family through this difficult time.

Like us on Facebook (SpiritofLifePresbyterianChurch)

AND

Twitter (SpiritOfLife@SpiritOfLifeAV)

Per Capita for 2019 is \$35.70

SPIRIT OF LIFE STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Rob Smith Email: pastorrob@spiritoflifeav.org

Parish Lay Pastor: Loretta Hunt

Clerk of Session: Denise Lewis

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

Announcements ...

Please be sure to submit your announcement to the church office so we may include them in the printed bulletin. All announcements received at spirit@spiritoflifeav.org by noon Wednesday will be included in the Sunday bulletin. Those received later than, will be included the following Sunday. ~Thank you.

Our nursery (2nd floor) is open during worship for children ages 1-6 years.

Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church **Annual meeting, Sunday January 27**, immediately following worship. Annual reports are available for review today, January 20.

Pastor Rob has set a scheduled time to be available for anyone who might wish to connect with him. **Regular "office hours" are at the Dunn Bros., 15265 Galaxie Ave, Apple Valley, 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.

Please sign up to be Cookie hostess for Sunday fellowship. Go to www.signupgenius.com/go/508044cadab2da5ff2-spirit . We need cookie hostesses for February. Thank you!

We also need people to sign up and provide desserts for M&M. There is a sign up sheet on the back table.

Everyone is welcome to join us for the weekly study on Wednesdays, 10-11:30am, with Pastor Rob leading. Our current study is covering the book of Genesis. Anyone can join at any time. Class meets at the new Orchard Path Presbyterian Homes located just down the road at 5400 157th St. W., Apple Valley (South on Pilot Knob and turn left onto 157th St W. Orchard Path to the right after the traffic circle.)

Meet In The Middle is in full swing! Kids can be dropped off at 4:30pm. At 6pm, parents can then join their kids for dinner provided by the church. From 4:30-6, kids will be: playing games, making arts and crafts, eating snacks, singing to the residents of Orchard Path Presbyterian Homes, Bible lessons and more!! No need to register ahead. Please contact Nikki Harves with any questions at nikkiharves@gmail.com.

Spirit of Life drama club will meet on **Wednesdays at 5:30 pm**. We will be acting the Crucifixion on Maundy Thursday and the Resurrection on Easter Sunday morning. All are welcome. Together we will make it in Jesus's Name. If you have questions, please reach out to Gladys Mbonifor at (505) 204-5166 or gmbonifor3@yahoo.com.

Choir rehearsals are Sundays at 8:45am, beginning January 20. All welcome.

Troop 292 Celebrates 25-years of Service: *Spirit of Life's* Boy Scout Troop 292 will be celebrating their 25th anniversary 7:00pm on Tuesday, January 29, 2019 at the church. The program will kick off with a state of the Troop presentation, recognize the accomplishments of existing scouts, and we will recognize each of past Scoutmasters. All are welcome! Please

RSVP here: <https://bit.ly/2LZAys4> or e-mail Troop Committee Chair Ray Hagen (hagen.ray@gmail.com). Refreshments and fellowship will follow the program.

It's that time of year! This years Valentine **Cabaret will be held Feb 9, 2019**. Tickets on sale now, check with youth or stop by the missions trip table. We also need your help with the Valentine Cabaret. Sign up's will be posted weekly at the "ALL THINGS MISSION" table in the church lobby. Stop by and see how you can help to make this year a success. If you are a youth or parent of a youth going on missions trip, please continue to watch for alerts and messages on TEAM SANP. Contact Jacqui if you have any questions. **Thank you** to all who donated to the Beard Bauble fundraiser! We raised \$350...if you missed it check out pictures on our web page.

Throughout the month, we collect our change and then we bring it, on the second Sunday of the month, to give in the **"Change for change" bucket offering**. Some are familiar with this, others may have questions. With the help of our children, we continue collecting change in our metal buckets on a monthly basis. This is a great teaching tool to help us show each other and the younger generation how fun it is to give when we hear the change drop in the buckets! The next Sunday we will collect the bucket offering is February 10.

Clearwater Forest Chrysalis 2019 winter women's retreat is Fri, Feb 22 to Sun, Feb 24. Theme is Leaning into Shalom, Keynote speaker is Rev. Mary Koon. Fees include 2 nights housing, all meals, speaker presentations, workshops, nature hikes. Also available drop in crafts, Zumba, massage for extra fees. Cost is \$210 but first time scholarships of \$75 are available. Please contact Karen Johnson if you are interested. We can carpool. Full brochure and online registration are at www.Clearwaterforest.org/retreats/adult-retreats/clearwater-chrysalis/

Spirit of Life Youth Choir meets every other Sunday. Next rehearsal is Sunday, February 2, 2019 from 11:10 am to 12:00pm. All Middle and High School Youths are welcome to join us any time. For more information, Please contact Alvine Laure Ekame at alvinelaure_cm@yahoo.fr.

If the government shutdown is affecting food assistance or any other essential support for your family, please call Pastor Rob.

Braving the Wilderness

January 20, 2019
Rev. Rob Smith

**Spirit of Life
Presbyterian Church**

14401 Pilot Knob Road
Apple Valley, MN 55124
952.423.2212

www.spiritoflifeav.org
spirit@spiritoflifeav.org