



10 MARCH 2019

1ST SUNDAY IN LENT

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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. Should your phone still ring, it will extend  
Pastor Rob’s sermon by 15 minutes this week.

GATHERING

<u>PRELUDE</u>	Martha Davis
<u>WELCOME</u>	Rev. Rob Smith
<u>CALL TO WORSHIP</u> (Based on Psalm 32)	Bob Shepard
<i>(Sing) Bless the Lord my soul, and bless God’s holy name. Bless the Lord my soul. Who leads me into life.</i>	
One: Oh, what joy for those whose disobedience is forgiven, whose sin is put out of sight!	
<i>(Sing) Bless the Lord my soul, and bless God’s holy name. Bless the Lord my soul. Who leads me into life.</i>	
One: Yes, what joy for those whose record the Lord has cleared of sin, whose lives are lived in complete honesty!	
<i>(Sing) Bless the Lord my soul, and bless God’s holy name. Bless the Lord my soul. Who leads me into life.</i>	
<u>OPENING HYMN</u>	<i>“Jesus Walked That Lonesome Valley”</i> (#80, v 1-3)
<u>TIME WITH CHILDREN</u>	Vickie Fischer
(Change for Change bucket offering)	

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION Bob Shepard  
One: Loving, forgiving God, your love and forgiveness knows no bounds. Your compassion never runs out. To the moon and back is how much you love us. To the depths of the ocean is how far you remove our sin from us.

God, we know that in our heads. Today, may we feel it in our hearts and then witness to it in our lives. Because of your love for us and the high regard in which you hold us, you entrust to us the capacity to extend that love and forgiveness to others.  
**All: God, forgive us when we fail to do that. Free us from all that holds us back. Convict us with our own forgiveness so that we can go and forgive others. Where we struggle with the burden of guilt, free us from the weight we insist on carrying and help us, in our freedom, to convince others to lay down their burden, too. In our worship, may we know ourselves freed from all that holds us back and renewed in our call to go to love and forgive others in the name of God who loves, forgives and frees: the God of love and light, in our midst today. Amen.**

<u>MOMENT OF SILENCE</u>	
<u>ASSURANCE OF GRACE</u>	Rev. Rob Smith
<u>PASSING OF THE PEACE</u>	Rev. Rob Smith
<u>RESPONSE HYMN</u>	<i>“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”</i> (# 298)
<u>ANTHEM</u>	<i>“Yes, My Jesus Loves Me”</i> (by Mary McDonald) Choir

HEARING

<u>PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION</u>		Bob Shepard
<u>SCRIPTURE</u>	Matthew 18: 15-35	Bob Shepard
<u>SERMON</u>	“Crosswise: Forgiveness”	Rev. Rob Smith

RESPONDING

<u>SERMON RESPONSE HYMN</u>	<i>“Help Us Accept Each Other”</i> (# 358, v 1, 2, 4)
<u>CALL TO OFFERING</u>	Bob Shepard
<u>OFFERTORY</u>	Martha Davis
<u>PRAYER OF DEDICATION</u>	<i>“Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow”</i> #591

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

<u>CLOSING SONG</u>	<i>“Amazing Love”</i> (CCLI # 2456623)
<u>CHARGE &amp; BENEDICTION</u>	Rev. Rob Smith
<u>POSTLUDE</u>	Martha Davis

Volunteers for today, March 10, 2019:

**Lay Leader:** Bob Shepard  
**Children’s Sermon:** Vickie Fischer  
**Audio Visual:** Alfred Hicks & Josh Ullom  
**Ushers / Greeters:** Steve Lewis (Lead), Ruth Ewule, Matthew and Jeannine Zahn, Osasuyi and Josephine Amadasun & family, Ray and Alice Gracek, Kevin and Beth Fenske, Brian and Sara Gracek, Chris Sachs, Leslie Hohmann  
**Piano:** Martha Davis

Volunteers for next Sunday, March 17, 2019:

**Lay Leader:** Duane Sweep  
**Audio Visual:** Alfred Hicks  
**Children’s Sermon:** Rachel Elliott  
**Ushers / Greeters:** Steve Lewis (Lead), Ruth Ewule, Matthew and Jeannine Zahn, Osasuyi and Josephine Amadasun & family, Ray and Alice Gracek, Kevin and Beth Fenske, Brian and Sara Gracek, Chris Sachs, Leslie Hohmann  
**Pianist:** Martha Davis

March Caregiver - Ruth Ewule

*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...

**Mike and Rachel Elliott and family-** *Rachel Elliott’s Father* passed away unexpectedly on Wednesday, March 6. Prayers for comfort, peace and understanding that God is with Rachel and Mike and their family through this difficult time.

**Joanne Boyd and family-** *Joanne’s Brother, Henry Kober,* passed away unexpectedly on Thursday, March 7, after having been diagnosed a week ago with acute Leukemia. Prayers for comfort, peace and understanding that God is with Joanne and the family through this difficult time.

# A n n o u n c e m e n t s   . . .

**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](mailto: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.

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!

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.

**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.)

On **Wednesdays during Lent** we will share a family meal at 6pm and family devotions at 6:30pm. Plan to join us for this special season.

**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](mailto:nikkiharves@gmail.com). Note: No M&M on March 27th due to Spring Break.

**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](mailto:gmbonifor3@yahoo.com).

**Choir rehearsals** are Sundays at 8:45am. All welcome.

Please sign up to be Cookie hostess for Sunday fellowship. Go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508044cadab2da5ff2-spirit> . We need cookie hostesses for April and beyond. Thank you!

**Spirit of Life Youth Choir** meets every other Saturday. Next rehearsal is Saturday, March 16 from 10 am to 12pm. 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](mailto:alvinelaure_cm@yahoo.fr).

**From Community Service:** The MN FoodShare March Campaign is kicking off, and you have the opportunity to participate in this annual event, in support of the Rosemount Family Resource Center! There are 5 Sundays in March, and you can challenge yourself to bring in a bag with at least one item from each of the “frequently needed” items list every Sunday (the lists are available in a basket on our food shelf by the front door). OR, you can write out a check, made out to Spirit of Life with “MN FoodShare” on the memo line — RFRC can purchase more with your dollars than you can! We will provide the total financial contribution to RFRC when the March Campaign is concluded. Contact Denise Lewis if you have any questions: [dlewis9476@comcast.net](mailto:dlewis9476@comcast.net), or 651-686-9476.

**Women’s Book Club:** For the month of March, we are reading the book “Braving the Wilderness” by Brene Brown. We will meet on Thursday, **April 4, 2019 at 7:00 pm at the home of Lisa Smith** for book discussion. Books may be purchased at [https://www.amazon.com/Braving-Wilderness-Quest-Belonging-Courage/dp/0812995848/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?crid=JWBJ0FOWRFUN&keywords=braving+the+wilderness+brene+brown&qid=1551840909&s=gateway&prefix=braving+the+wil%2Caps%2C1323&sr=8-1](https://www.amazon.com/Braving-Wilderness-Quest-Belonging-Courage/dp/0812995848/ref=sr_1_1?crid=JWBJ0FOWRFUN&keywords=braving+the+wilderness+brene+brown&qid=1551840909&s=gateway&prefix=braving+the+wil%2Caps%2C1323&sr=8-1) .

**Please mark your calendars:** KIDS CAMP will be August 19-23!

Like us on Facebook (SpiritofLifePresbyterianChurch)  
AND  
Twitter (SpiritOfLife@SpiritOfLifeAV)

*Per Capita* for 2019 is \$35.70

## SPRIT OF LIFE STAFF

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

# Crosswise: Forgiveness

March 10, 2019

Rev. Rob Smith

## Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church

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