



31 MARCH 2019

4TH SUNDAY IN LENT

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:** Hymnals, large print bulletins & children’s activity bags are available at the usher station, or you may ask an usher. 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, you will be  
invited to stand and recite the 23rd Psalm.

GATHERING

**PRELUDE** Martha Davis

**WELCOME** Rev. Bill Smith

**CALL TO WORSHIP** Duane Sweep

**SONG** “Give Me Oil For My Lamp”

One

**SONG** “Give Me Oil For My Lamp”

**OPENING HYMN** “Be Thou My Vision” (#339)

**TIME WITH CHILDREN** Karen Johnson

**PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION** Duane Sweep

One: Light of God, when we have run out of patience and find ourselves unprepared, may you rekindle the light of faith and reorient us towards the ways of the kingdom. That we may find a different rhythm to life that lives in the waiting and anticipation, a waiting shaped by passion and held by generous living.

**All: Light of God, relight the lamp of expectation, of seeing beyond this journey that takes us closer to the cross. See beyond the gathering darkness and relight the hope that the promises will be fulfilled, the vision of life renewed, that death can be overcome with the dawn.**

One: Light of God, hear us as we pray and wait and long for this season

that is heading towards what appears a darkness that no light can overcome. But you remind us again of an enduring promise, that darkness cannot overcome your light. Amen.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**ASSURANCE OF GRACE** Rev. Bill Smith

**PASSING OF THE PEACE** Rev. Bill Smith

**RESPONSE SONG** “Sanctuary” (CCLI #24140)

**ANTHEM** “I Surrender All” by Michael W. Smith Martha Davis

HEARING

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION** Duane Sweep

**SCRIPTURE** Matthew 25: 1-13 Duane Sweep

**SERMON** “Crosswise: Preparedness” Rev. Bill Smith

RESPONDING

**RESPONSE** “I Hear A Sound” by Himmie Gustafson (CCLI #14129)

**CALL TO OFFERING** Duane Sweep

**OFFERTORY** Martha Davis

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** “Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow” #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

**CLOSING SONG** “My Lighthouse” (CLLI #7002032)

**CHARGE & BENEDICTION** Rev. Bill Smith

**POSTLUDE** Martha Davis

Volunteers for today, March 31, 2019:

**Lay Leader:** Duane Sweep

**Audio Visual:** Alfred Hicks

**Children’s Sermon:** Karen Johnson

**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

Volunteers for next Sunday, April 7, 2019:

**Lay Leader:** Denise Lewis

**Audio Visual:** Eric Scott

**Children’s Sermon:** Rachel Elliott

**Ushers / Greeters:** Duane Sweep (Lead), Nicole Fischer and Ed  
Marciniak, Vickie and Bill Fischer, Rosellen Fairall, Matt and Mary Hope,  
Trisa Scott, Sarah Tavaréz, and Walt Ullrich  
**Pianist:** Martha Davis  
**Communion:** Duane Sweep (Lead), Deon Ford, Holly Bueno, Nicole  
Fischer, Denise Lewis

**March Caregiver - Ruth Ewule**  
**April Caregiver - Ruth Shepard**

***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.

**Martha Davis and family-** *Martha’s Father, James Edward Schlaeppi,* passed away the morning of Wednesday, March 13. Prayers for comfort and peace that God is with Martha and the family through this difficult time.

**SPIRIT 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

# 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](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.

**Deacons** will meet tomorrow, April 1st, at 5:30pm, here at the church.

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.

**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).

**Spirit of Life drama club** will meet on **Wednesdays at 5:30 pm.** 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 May and June. Thank you!

The next **Spirit of Life Youth Choir** rehearsal is Saturday, April 13 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 Campaign ran all through the month of March: so far for March, we have delivered 94 pounds of food to the Rosemount Family Resource Center! Today is the last Sunday in the MN FoodShare March Campaign — still time for you to

donate, or write a check (made out to Spirit of Life, with MN FoodShare on the memo line). Let’s see if we can send March out with a bang!

**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&sprefix=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&sprefix=braving+the+wil%2Caps%2C1323&sr=8-1) .

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! Our next collection will be April 14.

**Note from Christian Education Department:** We are looking for donations for our Easter Egg Hunt on Palm Sunday. Please place items in the chalkboard basket by Wednesday, April 10.

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

## Our special services here at *Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church during the Easter Season*

On Palm Sunday, April 14, 2019, at the 10 a.m. service the congregation will celebrate Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem with the distribution of palms. The Adult Choir and the Spirit of Life Youth Choir will perform. The Adult Choir is directed by Marge Lewis, with Martha Davis as pianist accompanist, and the Youth Choir is directed by Alvine Laure Ekame. An Easter Egg Hunt for children will follow the service.

Maundy Thursday, April 18, will feature the retelling of the story of Jesus’ Last Supper with a potluck meal beginning at 6 p.m. Communion will be served as part of the meal. The Spirit of Life Youth Drama Club will act out the Crucifixion. The Drama Club is directed by Gladys Mbonifor.

Finally, on Easter Sunday, April 21, at the 10 a.m. worship service, along with two anthems by the Adult Choir, the Youth Drama Club will act out the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Communion also will be served.

During the Lenten Season the church has held Wednesday evening devotional gatherings, starting with a “kid-friendly” meal at 6 p.m. and devotions commencing about 6:20 p.m. A different church group has been hosting each of the suppers. The final one will be on April 10.

Like us on Facebook ([SpiritofLifePresbyterianChurch](https://www.facebook.com/SpiritofLifePresbyterianChurch))  
AND  
Twitter ([SpiritOfLife@SpiritOfLifeAV](https://twitter.com/SpiritOfLife@SpiritOfLifeAV))

## Crosswise: Preparedness

March 31, 2019  
Rev. Dr. Bill 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)