

Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church

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August 29, 2021 ~ Indoor Worship

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Just a few notes to keep in mind:

- ♦ It is mandatory that ALL wear a mask, per recent decision from Session. Please see a Session member with questions.
- ♦ For the immediate future we will not have congregational singing indoors.

Welcome: (Rev. Rob Smith)

Call to Worship: (Ryan Currens)

One: What guides our feet on the road we walk?

All: God walks ahead of us showing us the way

One: Yet how easily we justify following the ways of other gods. The gods of self interest and self advantage.

All: May our delight be in following the ways of the Lord focused on this day and night.

One: Like trees planted by streams of water, yielding fruit. Let us worship God.

Opening Song: There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit #408

Prayer of Reconciliation: (Ryan Currens)

One: Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; But oh, this way can be so seductive – And if we have learned anything that last couple of years, we can justify just about anything. It may feel good, absolve us from our responsibilities, distract us from what is hard and right, and obstruct our capacity to love. But we seek to tear down the obstructions, we reject the advice of the wicked. We will follow the way of Jesus. And where we have not, we confess. In our complicity to sin, we repent and renew our focus. Hear our prayers, O God. Lead us to be planted by streams of water.

All: God of mercy, grace, reconciliation, and love, We are sorry for the ways we follow our own way and not yours, Know our hearts. Help relive our burdens, Renew us that we live in the joy of your salvation. Amen

Assurance of Grace: (Rev. Rob Smith)

Prayer of Illumination (Ryan Currens)

Scripture: Psalm 1 (Ryan Currens)

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night. They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither.

In all that they do, they prosper. The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgement, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

Sermon: Life Giving (Rev. Rob Smith)

Call To Offering (Ryan Currens)

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.

Closing Song: Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly

Charge and Benediction: (Rev. Rob Smith)

Announcements

From the Session: Due to the increase in case counts related to the delta variant of COVID and per CDC guidelines, for now, the Session is requiring that masks be worn for all indoor church activities (worship, M in M, Sunday School, etc) regardless of vaccination status; unvaccinated individuals continue to be required to wear masks indoors. This became effective as of August 15, and the decision will be re-evaluated as the transmission rates of the delta variant of COVID change. Thank you for your cooperation, and for your care for our community, as we continue to deal with this pandemic

News from Christian Education Committee:

Sunday School classes will begin September 19th. Please note the time changes to 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. The parents can enjoy coffee and visiting before church while the children are in class. We will bring the children back to the sanctuary for the Children's sermon at 10:15 and then the children can sit with their parents during the rest of the service. There will be a PreK - 2nd grade class and a 3rd-5th grade class

M&M will begin on October 6 from 4:30 to 6 p.m. A meal will be served at 6 p.m. We are looking into the possibility of having part of the program on zoom for those kids who cannot attend.

Volunteers Needed:

...We need one person each Sunday to serve as a Greeter and one person each Sunday to serve as an Usher for Sunday worship. Please let Becky Brandt know what dates you are available to help and she will build a calendar. Call/text Becky at (218)779-0427 or email her at thebrandtfam@gmail.com.

School Supplies Drive for Highland Elementary school

Today is the last day to leave the items you are donating. Those who would like to donate money instead, please make out checks to Spirit of Life and write School supplies in the memo line. If you have any questions, contact Karen Johnson 612-210-8600.

GriefShare: Many of us have suffered the loss of a loved one, someone dear to our hearts who has been an important part in our lives. The grief that we encounter can be overwhelming at times and causes us to reach out for help.

Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church is initiating a 13 session Christ centered program produced by a network of thousands of grief recovery groups meeting around the world. The group will meet weekly on Thursday evenings at 6:16. With GriefShare you will learn how to walk the journey of grief and be supported on the way. It is a place where grieving people find healing and hope.

We will begin the series on Thursday evening September 9 at 6:16 to 8:16 pm in person in the Sanctuary of Spirit of Life Church. We will skip the week of Thanksgiving and then restart the weekly Thursday series on December 2.

This will be the second series that we have offered with past participants recommending that the program be repeated. Please contact Bob Shepard at shepardspairie@gmail.com or Jaqui Hicks at jahutchinson23@gmail.com or the church office if you have questions or if you or someone you know would like to participate.

After our 2020 **South of the River CROP Hunger Walk** was modified due to pandemic restrictions, we are LIVE again this year for our 9th annual walk, and it will be hosted by Spirit of Life! The date is October 10, registration starting at 1:30, and the Walk starting at 2:00 pm. We will walk down Pilot Knob Road to Farquar Park, and back again, for a distance of about 3 miles. Masks will be required as you sign in and gather, but once the walk gets started, and people space out, masks will be optional. CROP Hunger walks are locally organized events under the sponsorship of Church World Service for the purposes of raising awareness about hunger globally and locally, and to raise money to step towards ending hunger sustainably and permanently. Seventy-five percent of funds raised go to support CWS in their global and US based efforts for hunger relief, disaster assistance, and development. Twenty-five percent of the funds we raise will go to support Second Harvest Heartland, a food bank that supplies all of our local food shelves. Even though we had a “virtual” walk last year, our CROP Walk raised enough funds to make it into the top 100 Walks in the country — and the ONLY Minnesota walk to do that! So, we are doing good work and you can be a part of it! (1) Follow the link below to join the Spirit of Life team, or donate to the team; (2) contact Denise Lewis if you would like to volunteer to assist on Walk day; (3) bring non-perishable food items to the Walk that will be delivered to the Rosemount Family Resource Center food shelf — choose the option that works best for you!

<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/team/spirit-of-life-presbyterian-church>