



24 MARCH 2019

3ND SUNDAY IN LENT

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W E L C O M E 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. Rob Smith

CALL TO WORSHIP Steve Lewis

SONG “Wait for the Lord”

One: Whatever we are wearing, whatever is on the outside, let us put on an attitude of openness to God’s will for our lives.

All: We enter into this time of worship clothing ourselves in the garments of love and commitment to God’s way.

One: Let us journey into worship praising the one who wore and now offers the robes of righteousness.

All: Living Lord, may we receive all that you offer here, accepting the invitation to serve.

SONG “Wait for the Lord”

OPENING SONG “Lord, Listen To Your Children” (CCLI #22829)

TIME WITH CHILDREN Merry Close

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION Steve Lewis

One: God, Let us make our excuses. Excuses listing the ways we convince ourselves to turn from your loving ways. The excuse of a late night, of our busy lives, of family problems, of my humanness. God, Let us make our

excuses as to why we travel so lightly with you. We do not reject your invitation, we just add it to our pile intending to pick it up one day and there it will wait. God, Let us make our excuses as to why we are not preparing for the feast but finding something else we make more important.

All: And in every excuse, may we hear your compassion, may we recognize your grace, ever calling, inviting, waiting, longing, for us to enjoy the gifts at the table you have set for us. In this journey through lent, may we refine our excuses from “No!” to “Yes!” and meet you in the place where you make no excuses but simply give yourself in the name of love. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

ASSURANCE OF GRACE Rev. Rob Smith

PASSING OF THE PEACE Rev. Rob Smith

RESPONSE SONG “Gather Us In” (Marty Haugen, v 1 & 2)

ANTHEM “Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley” by Victor C. Johnson Choir

HEARING

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION Steve Lewis

SCRIPTURE Matthew 22: 1-14 Steve Lewis

SERMON “Crosswise: Hospitality” Rev. Rob Smith

RESPONDING

RESPONSE “The Family of God” (CCLI #17023)

CALL TO OFFERING Steve Lewis

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 “Reckless Love” (CLLI #7089641)

CHARGE & BENEDICTION Rev. Rob Smith

POSTLUDE Martha Davis

Volunteers for today, March 24, 2019:

Lay Leader: Steve Lewis

Audio Visual: Eric Scott

Children’s Sermon: Merry Close

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, 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

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.

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.

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.

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. 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.

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, March 30 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.

From Community Service: The MN FoodShare Campaign runs all through the month of March: so far for March, we have delivered 94 pounds of food to the Rosemount Family Resource Center! There are only

2 Sundays left in the MN FoodShare March Campaign — still time for you to bring in a bag of food, paper products, or cleaning supplies 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&srefix=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.

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

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

Crosswise: Hospitality

March 24, 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