



01 SEPTEMBER 2019  
12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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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 alife 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.

**\*We would like to draw your attention to an important housekeeping note:** Should your phone ring during rehearsals or worship, you will be asked to lead the fall stewardship campaign.

GATHERING

PRELUDE Martha Davis

WELCOME Rev. Rob Smith

CALL TO WORSHIP Becky Brandt

One: God who welcomes, you call us to hospitality; to share of ourselves as generously to others as you have given to us.

All: For there are angels among us.

One: Loving God, you call us to give with thanksgiving in the compassion we show to one another.

All: To love without judgment, of ourselves and of others.

One: We enter this morning as many coming together as one body, seeking to walk in the way you have set for us.

All: We gather as one Body, to worship the one who is Love, and to depart sharing this love.

One: Let us worship God.

OPENING HYMN “He Came Down” (#137)

TIME WITH CHILDREN Nikki Harves

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION Becky Brandt

One: Reconciling God, One who shows us again and again how far you will go to mend and restore relationship, why do we continue to make this so hard. Help us turn away from fear, from our self-serving ways, and turn towards you as we pray together.

All: For the times we are afraid of the stranger, for the times we refuse the stranger, because we think our resources are just too meager, Lord, forgive us.

One: For the times we stereotype the stranger as enemy, as dangerous, as inferior somehow, Lord, forgive us.

All: For the times we are too busy trying to impress our guests—the times we think we are being hospitable, but instead serve only our own needs—Lord, forgive us.

One: For the times we miss the gift of the stranger, for the times we close our door in fear, for the times we miss seeing your face in the other, Lord, have mercy. Forgive us.

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GRACE Rev. Rob Smith

PASSING OF THE PEACE Rev. Rob Smith

RESPONSE HYMN “God of Freedom, God of Justice” (#342, v 1 & 3)

ANTHEM

HEARING

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION Becky Brandt

SCRIPTURE Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16 Becky Brandt

SERMON “Entertaining Angels” Rev. Rob Smith

RESPONDING

SERMON RESPONSE HYMN “The Summons” (#726)

CALL TO OFFERING Becky Brandt

OFFERTORY

PRAYER OF DEDICATION “Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow” #606

WELCOME TO THE TABLE Rev. Rob Smith

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING/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.

SHARING THE ELEMENTS (Served intinction)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING FORTH IN GOD’S NAME

CLOSING HYMN “I Come With Joy” (#515)

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Rev. Rob Smith

POSTLUDE Martha Davis

Volunteers for today, September 1, 2019,

Lay Leader: Becky Brandt

Audio Visual: Eric Scott

Children’s sermon: Nikki Harves

Ushers/Greeters: Denise Lewis, Joseph Cornormia, Josephine, Odosa and Ognomuen Amadasun

Communion: Denise Lewis, Duane Sweep, Rosellen Fairall, Alvine Ekame

Volunteers for next Sunday, September 8, 2019,  
Sunday School kick-off:

Lay Leader: Holly Bueno

Audio Visual: Alfred Hicks

Children’s sermon: Rachel Elliott

Ushers/Greeters: Denise Lewis, Becky Brandt, and Walt Ullrich

SEPTEMBER 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

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

Pianist: Martha Davis

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.

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 note: Pastor Rob’s office hours will move to Mondays, 10am-12noon, beginning September 9th.**

**Cookie hostesses needed!** We need cookie hostesses for worship in October. Please contact Rosellen Fairall (rlfairall@gmail.com) or Loretta Hunt (huntgeo@msn.com) to sign up. Thank you!

Ready to learn more about **membership at Spirit of Life**? Pastor Rob and Lisa are hosting a New Member Class Kick-Off BBQ on Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 6-8pm. This meet and greet class is for those exploring new membership and visitors who may like to connect more. It will be a great opportunity to begin talking with Pastor Rob about what it means to be a member at *Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church*. Please RSVP to Pastor Rob for the BBQ by emailing [pastorrob@spiritoflifeav.org](mailto:pastorrob@spiritoflifeav.org).

The **Session** would like to announce an education initiative related to the complexities of immigration. This past February, the Session and Deacons heard an informative presentation by an immigration attorney, and we have embarked on a process of discerning how we as a congregation are being called to serve. We have concluded that our first step, as a congregation, should be in educating ourselves as much as possible, in the complexities of this issue. We are proposing to spend one Sunday a month for the program year, following worship, to explore various facets of this issue. Look for a brief questionnaire insert in your bulletins, in the coming weeks, asking for your input on what these sessions should include. If you would like to be part of a small planning group, or if you have specific ideas for topics to be covered, please contact either Pastor Rob Smith, or Clerk of Session Denise Lewis.

It's that time of year again, time to start thinking about ordering poinsettias and greens for the holiday season. Advent begins December 1st, that is the day we will decorate the sanctuary. We will be taking your holiday orders September 15th through October 6th. Gertens actually grows the plants to fulfill each specific order, which is why they need to be ordered so early. You are welcome to order plants to take home and/or leave at Spirit of Life as holiday décor. Order forms will be available starting September 15th.

The Worship and Music Committee is looking for a youth who might be interested in music and also be willing to be part of the committee. The group meets every other month (next meeting is September 10). Feel free to talk with any of the committee members to learn more.

**CALLING FOR CHILI MAKERS!!** On September 22, beginning after worship, Community Service will sponsor a **chili cook off as a fundraiser for the South of the River CROP Hunger Walk**. We've had some great chili provided by church members in the past, and it has been a lot of fun to taste lots of different varieties of chili. To add to the fun, this year in honor of the 50th anniversary of CROP Hunger Walks nation wide, we are inviting chili makers from other SotR CROP Walk participating churches, so we may have a little competition for the best chili! Let Denise Lewis know by September 15 if you will be providing chili. Cornbread and desserts will be provided by the Community Service committee.

**Community Forum on our Changing Climate and Hunger,**  
presented by the South of the River CROP Walk  
Monday evening, September 16, 6:00-7:30 pm, Burnhaven Library Community  
Room, 1101 W County Road 42, Burnsville MN  
Presenting Climate Realities and Solutions for Food and Water Sustainability

Featuring speakers:  
Veda Kanitz  
Citizens' Climate Lobby Presenter  
of the River CROP Walk  
Science Educator, Rosemount High School

The Rev. Dr. Paula Nordhem  
AND Co-Coordinator of the South

We will explore the current realities of our changing climate and how the climate affects the global food supply. Then, we will present the ways Church World Service has, for over seventy years, worked in challenging environments after a human made or natural disaster, finding solutions and adaptations. With collaborative partners on the ground around the world, they put that learning into creating adaptive programs. The climate is changing rapidly especially in our most vulnerable ecosystems and there are solutions already in place and working for sustainability and to alleviate hunger.

Plan to join us **Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, for our fall program kick-off.** We'll meet the Sunday school teachers in worship!! Following worship we'll enjoy a cookout, games and a bouncy house.

Mark your calendar: **Meet in the Middle (M+M) begins September 11!** We do many of the same things we did at summer kids camp. Kids can be dropped off at 4:30pm on Wednesdays. From 4:30-6pm, kids will be playing games, making arts and crafts, eating snacks, singing, Bible lessons and more! Parents join the kids for dinner at 6pm (provided by the church but free will offering received). Please contact Nikki at [nikkiharves@gmail.com](mailto:nikkiharves@gmail.com) to register or with questions. We **also need people to sign up to provide desserts**. There's a sign up in the kitchen (on the refrigerator).

**Today we welcome Our new Music Director: Martha Davis**

Martha has been Music Director and Contemporary Music Director at Hamline UMC, Bethlehem Lutheran, Cross View Lutheran, and Advent UMC. For the last 6 years, she has substituted for many churches (including Spirit of Life). In addition she teaches private piano, voice, and guitar to 70 students and has many award winning students. During the day she is the Department Coordinator for the German & Russian Studies Department at Macalester College. Mother to 3 grown children, grandmother to 6 with a 7th due in November, life is full and often crazy. She is looking forward to having lots of music ensembles this year!

**Message from Martha:**

Hi Everyone!

Choir Rehearsals have already begun!

I have lots of great music planned this fall and we are going to get going right away. Choir will sing Kick-Off Sunday on Sun, Sept 8.

This week I am finalizing the rehearsal schedule for the entire rest of the year through December but have given the 1st few weeks schedule in this email.

Please make a note we have 2 Wednesday rehearsals coming up but plan to rehearse primarily on Sunday mornings.

Rehearsal Schedule: (more details soon)

Sept 4 (Wed) 7-8pm choir / 8-9pm women rehearse

Sept 8 (Sun) 8:45-9:40am choir

I want to invite all women to the Women's Choir which will be a wonderful addition to our music ensembles - 1st rehearsal is Wed the 28th.

If you can't make it but would like to sing, let me know and I will get you music.

We will also have a Praise Team which starts Sept 11 and Bells will start later in September.

Invite a friend to come along!

Thanks, Martha

**Building Use this week:**

Sun, Sept 1	10:00am Worship	sanctuary/kitchen
	12 noon Scouts Court of Honor	sanctuary
Tues, Sept 3	1:00 pm staff meeting	conf rm
	6:30 pm Boy Scouts Troop 292	sanctuary
	6:30 pm Personnel mtg	Dove rm
Wed, Sept 4	7:00 pm choir	sanctuary
	8:00 pm women's choir	sanctuary
Sat, Sept 7	8:30pm NA	sanctuary/kitchen

**2019 Per Capita is \$35.70.**

September 1, 2019

**“Entertaining Angels”**

Rev. Rob Smith



**Spirit of Life  
Presbyterian Church**

14401 Pilot Knob Road

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