



15 DECEMBER 2019

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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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:** 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 shovel snow for the month of December!

GATHERING

PRELUDE "Angels From the Realms of Glory" arr by Cindy Berry
Martha Davis

WELCOME Rev. Rob Smith

CALL TO WORSHIP Scott Harves
"O Come All Ye Faithful" (# 133, v 1)

One: O Come All Ye Faithful. In this new season of old and beloved traditions, the foundations have been laid for rebuilding. Same foundation yet we are awaiting something new.

All: Joyful and Triumphant. Something new that brings life, renews our hearts and mind, leads us forward in hope and love.

One: Come ye o come ye to Bethlehem. We turn to God, the eternal in the present, the gift of the future, a manger is ready and waiting. Let us worship.

"O Come All Ye Faithful" (# 133, v 1—3)

ADVENT CANDLE READING Amadasun family

OPENING HYMN "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (#121)

TIME WITH CHILDREN Karen Johnson
"In Bethlehem A Babe Was Born"
Children sing
Change for change bucket offering

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION Scott Harves
One: May we seek right relationship first before we rebuild for ourselves.
All: May we live for the other first before we live for self.
One: May we seek another's needs before we list our own.
All: May we proclaim your word of justice before we mention your word of salvation.

One: May we balance our priorities.
All: May we give before we take.
One: May we make peace before we seek war.
All: May we find life with others before we seek solace for ourselves.
One: May we walk in another's shoes before we live in our own.
All: May we balance our priorities.

One: And in all our worship this advent, may we find the house of God is a stable. In the beauty of candle lit services, may we find a lonely barn. In the choirs and concerts, may we find an angel message. In the gathering of community, may we find a faithful mother and father traveling and waiting. May we balance our priorities. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GRACE Rev. Rob Smith

PASSING OF THE PEACE Rev. Rob Smith

RESPONSE HYMN "Angels We Have Heard on High" (#113)

ANTHEM "Emmanuel, God With Us" with "Emmanuel" by Nathan & Christy Nockels arr by Lloyd Larson
Advent Choir

Kids (K-5) are dismissed to go to Sunday school

HEARING

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION Scott Harves

SCRIPTURES Ezra 1: 1-4; 3: 1-4, 10-13 Scott Harves

SERMON "ReNew: ReBuild" Rev. Rob Smith

RESPONDING

SERMON RESPONSE HYMN "What Child is This" (#145)

CALL TO OFFERING Scott Harves

OFFERTORY "The First Noel" arr by Cindy Berry Martha Davis

PRAYER OF DEDICATION "Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow (Doxology)" #606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

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 thy 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.

RECOGNITION

PRESENTATION IN COMPLETION OF THE P.R.A.Y. PROGRAM

Unison Prayer: Lord, your Son has called all of us into the adventures of learning and serving. Today we celebrate Charlie and Jimmy, who have answered that call in a special way. We thank you for Charlie and Jimmy, and for this moment of joyous celebration. Continue to challenge all of us to grow in Christian service, that your kingdom may become a reality in and through our lives. Amen.

SENDING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

CLOSING HYMN "Angels We Have Heard on High" (#113)

CHARGE & BEDICTION Rev. Rob Smith

POSTLUDE Martha Davis

Volunteers for today, December 15, 2019,

Lay Leader: Scott Harves
Audio Visual: Eric Scott
Children's sermon: Karen Johnson
Ushers/Greeters: Loretta Hunt

DECEMBER 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*

Next Sunday, December 22, 2019,

Lay Leader: Steve Lewis
Audio Visual: Eric Scott
Children's sermon: Rev. Rob Smith
Ushers/Greeters: Loretta Hunt

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.

Today we'll give in the "Change for change" bucket offering. Throughout the month, we collect change and then bring it to give in the "Change for change" bucket offering. 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!

Christmas Season at Spirit of Life

December 15th, at 6:30pm, the children will be performing their nativity play: *Grandpa's Nativity Story*. There will be cookies, cocoa, and conversation after the performance.

December 18th, 7:00pm, Reflective Christmas

December 22nd, 10:00am, we will enjoy the *Christmas Cantata* as part of our Sunday morning worship.

December 24th, at 5:00pm, we will have our Christmas Eve Service

Pastor Rob has set a scheduled time to be available for anyone who might wish to connect with him. **Pastor Rob's "office hours"** are at the Dunn Bros., 15265 Galaxie Ave, Apple Valley, on **Mondays, 9-11am**. 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 invited to join Pastor Rob for the **midweek Bible study**. The study is on Ephesians, focusing on faith community. We meet **Wednesdays, 10am**, at *Spirit of Life*. See Pastor Rob with questions.

Meet in the Middle (M+M) happens 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 to register or with questions.

Do you have the heart of a cookie hostess? We do have an opportunity for you to pursue hospitality during Sunday fellowship hour. Indeed, hospitality is a vital part of the life of Spirit of Life and fellowship hour is the time when people can socialize, get to know newcomers, catch up with friends. Besides bringing cookies, the hostess should also assist with setup, pouring lemonade and water, and cleanup afterwards. Guidelines for being a cookie host/hostess are on the fridge in the church kitchen. We need cookie hostesses for worship in January. Please contact Rosellen Fairall (rlfairall@gmail.com) or Loretta Hunt (huntgeo@msn.com) to sign up or with questions. Thank you!

From the Music Director:

December rehearsal schedule:

15-Dec Sun 8:30 - 9:40, Choir 11:15 - 11:45 Youth
 15-Dec Sun **Children's Program w Youth 6:30** (youth warm-up at 6)

18-Dec Wed **Reflective Service 7:00pm** Choir warmup at 6:20pm
 21-Dec Sat 9:30 - 11:00, Cantata Dress Rehearsal: Choir, Womens, Youth, Narrators, (Children?)
 22-Dec Sun 8:45, All groups warm up, rehearse trouble spots only
 24-Dec Tues **5:00pm Christmas Eve**(4:15 choir warm up/run through)
 29-Dec Sun OFF
 ~ Thanks, Martha

It's time to start thinking about donations for the *Valentine Cabaret!* We will begin collecting baskets and auction items in January. Please contact Becky Brandt if you have any questions. Becky's cell is 218-779-0427. Becky's email is thebrandtfam@gmail.com.

Next **women's book club** book will be "A Year of Biblical Womanhood: How a Liberated Woman Found Herself Sitting on Her Roof, Covering Her Head, and Calling Her Husband 'Master'" by Rachel Held Evans, at https://www.amazon.com/dp/1595553673/ref=cm_sw_r_em_api_i_c_OS6D6bPB5C3YE. We will be reading the first 6 chapters and discussing it on January 30, 2020 at 7 pm at my house. Will do the last 6 chapters in February. All are welcome! Please join us.

The Outreach team needs you! Want to contribute to ways that we can share SOLPC beyond our church walls? Please consider joining the Outreach team; we need people who like to write, take pictures, update websites and church software, design, make phone calls... you name it! We have a great story to tell, and we want to tell it others. If you have questions or are interested in joining the team, please contact Mary Brause at mabbrause@charter.net, or call/text her at 612-616-0792. No gift is too small to share.

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

2019 Per Capita is \$35.70.

Building use this week:

Sun, Dec 15	8:30am	choir rehearsal	sanctuary
	10:00am	Worship	sanctuary/kitchen
	11:15am	youth music rehearsal	upper classroom
	6:30pm	Sunday school Christmas program	
	7:00pm	Pack 292 leader meeting	conf rm
Mon, Dec 16	6:00pm	Cub Scouts/ Den 3	conf rm
Tues, Dec 17	1:00pm	staff mtg	conf rm
	6:30pm	Boy Scouts Troop 292	sanctuary
	7:00pm	Troop Committee mtg	conf rm
Wed, Dec 18	10:00am	Ephesians Bible study	conf rm
	4:30pm	M&M	sanctuary/conf rm
	6:00pm	family meal	sanctuary/kitchen
	7:00pm	Contemplative Christmas	sanctuary
Sat, Dec 21	9:30am	Cantata dress rehearsal	sanctuary
	8:30pm	NA	sanctuary/kitchen

SPIRIT OF LIFE STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Rob Smith Email: 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

ReNew

Dec 1 **ReDiscover**
 Dec 8 **ReCreate**
 Dec 15 **ReBuild**
 Dec 22 **Reveal**
 Dec 24 **Rejoice**

Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church

Rev. Rob Smith

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 Apple Valley, MN 55124

www.spiritoflifeav.org
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