

**WELCOME TO
SPIRIT OF LIFE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

14401 Pilot Knob Road / Apple Valley, MN 55124
www.spiritoflifeav.org / spirit@spiritoflifeav.org
952.423.2212

Thank you for joining us!

We hope you experience the joy of God's love in our diverse, inclusive, and compassionate community. Come as you are; all are welcome!

- ◇ Worship is at 10:00 am Sunday mornings, and can be live-streamed or watched later on YouTube or Facebook.
- ◇ Restrooms are in the first hallway to the left on exiting the sanctuary.

**ORDER OF WORSHIP
November 19, 2023**

** All who are able are invited to stand.
Hymnals are available on the cart by the sound booth.
Regular attenders, visitors, & members, please complete &
return Connect/Prayer cards in offering plate
or to the Welcome Table at the back of the sanctuary.
Today's worship leaders: Rev. Rory Swenson and Deon Ford*

Prelude

Welcome

***Song** Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord!

Call to Worship

One: Lord, you are our dwelling place;

All: we come today to rest in you.

One: You are the voice that guides us;

All: we come today to listen.

One: You are the host who feeds us;

All: we come today to be filled.

One: You are the one that shows us a better way, a way of hope and love;

All: we come today to sing your praise!

One: Let us pray.

***Opening Song** 10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord) (CCLI #6016351)

Prayer of Reconciliation

Assurance of Grace

***Passing of Peace**

***Song** Praise the Name of Jesus (CCLI #12712)

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Psalm 100

Children's sermon

Sermon A Thanksgiving Story

Call To Offering

Ushers will circulate offering plates for those who wish to give in this way. Online giving is also available on our website.

Offertory

Doxology

Prayers of the People

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.

Announcements

***Closing Song** Reckless Love (CCLI #7089641)

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

Please join us for coffee and refreshments after worship.

Announcements

Visitors: Welcome to Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church! Thank you for worshiping with us. Visitors, regular attenders and members, please complete the Connect/Prayer card and indicate if you wish to receive our weekly emails. If you don't have a card, please pick one up from our Information Table at the back of the sanctuary. Please return completed Connect/Prayer card in offering plate or in box labeled accordingly at the back. If you have any questions, please ask at the Information Table or Pastor Rob.

Sunday Events:

- **The children's Sunday school class starts at 9:30am** and goes until 10:15 (meeting upstairs), then the kids will join adults in sanctuary for

the Children's sermon. Our curriculum this fall is called Living the Word which will follow the same Bible verses as our sermons.

- **Adult Class** - The Black Church: Last spring we viewed the first 4 sessions and we have 3 sessions to go in the PBS series on the Black Church in our adult class. We will meet after worship on Nov 12, Nov 19 and Dec 3. All are welcome.

Weekday Events:

- **(Monday) Coffee & Conversation meets Mondays, 9:30-10:30 am.** Plan to join us the Monday and come as you are. This is a gathering online and in person. It is open for you to pop in and out any time so feel free to drop in and say hello. *Note, same time and same login, recurring meeting each week. Join Zoom Meeting at <https://zoom.us/j/286584190>.
- **Meet in the Middle meets Wednesdays, 4:30-6pm.** It's another exciting year of Meet in the Middle at *Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church!* We do many of the same things we did at summer kids camp. 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 6pm dinner. (A free will offering will be taken for dinner).

Hanging of the Greens We're looking for volunteers who like to decorate to stay after church on Sunday, November 26 to help decorate the sanctuary for the Advent season. We will begin immediately after coffee and treats and stay until we are finished.

The **Senior Fellowship Group** November meeting has been rescheduled to Thursday, Nov. 30, 9:30-11:30, at Chris & Frank Sachs' home. Coffee, tea, and light refreshments will be served - no need to bring anything. But please RSVP to Chris if you plan to attend, so she has an idea of the number. We hope to see you!

Worship committee is looking for some help. We would love to have cookies and cocoa after the children's program on December 17. Thanks to your generosity, we have cookies! If you are willing to donate cocoa toppings, please email Becky Brandt. Ideally, we would like a variety of toppings for the cocoa. We would also like 3 people to sign up to clean up afterwards. Email: thebrandtfam@gmail.com. Thanks!

The **South of the River CROP Walk** was a success again this year, with a total of 54 walkers; the food drive provided 1,549 pounds of non-perishable items for the CAP Agency of Scott County; total funds raised for our Walk -- \$15,096.88. Spirit of Life had a total of 13 walkers, and some additional volunteers; our total of the fundraising was \$2,444.80. MANY, MANY, thanks to all who participated in this year's Walk — from buying pies or other baked goods, providing baked goods for sale, donating items

to the food drive, walking, fundraising, participating in the Papa Murphy's fundraiser, and the many prayers offered in support! In all of those ways, you helped to make the CROP Walk a success again this year, and 25% of what we raised will support the mission of Second Harvest Heartland to end hunger locally.

-From our own backyard, our food shelf donation garden was severely impacted by the drought this year; we were able to donate only 571 pounds, which was below our average of 700-800 pounds, and way below our donation of over 1100 pounds last year. Hopefully, we will have better rain next year.

Many thanks to all who donated to our "Arms Full of Love" program for those in need in Dakota County. Many families will be grateful for the assistance this Christmas. We were able to deliver \$125 in gift cards and a check for \$665. 360 Communities will be able to purchase many more gift cards with your cash donations. Thank you!

-Next up is our **Giving Tree project** for Spirit of Life Families needing assistance during the holidays. Again we will be collecting gift cards in \$25 increments (\$25, \$50 or \$75) for grocery stores (Cub, Aldi), gas stations (Holiday, Speedway, Quik Trip) or Walmart/Target. A box will be provided in the back of the sanctuary soon. Those donations will be collected until December 10. Thank you for helping us provide a Merry Christmas for ALL.

Dare to Date ... Your Spouse! Clearwater Couples Retreat March 1-3, 2024 at Clearwater Forest Camp & Retreat Center. See details at https://spiritoflife-my.sharepoint.com/:i:/g/personal/spirit_spiritoflifeav_org/EekTcE5k9p5AibZ0Pe5T6aIB2xm8k8GbGA2FywK9V09wCg?e=8ejO5q.

Prayer Ministry at Spirit of Life Please use the connect card and turn in at the offering time if you have a prayer request to share today. During the week, please email the church office at spirit@spiritoflifeav.org to share a prayer request with our Spirit Care Prayer Team.

Little Free Food Pantry: Our church provides small free food pantry for the neighborhood. The community service team has designated the first Sunday of every month as Little Free Pantry Sunday. Our LITTLE FREE PANTRY is being used frequently! We are asking for canned items and other non-perishables, especially PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY, boxed potatoes, pasta, canned vegetables, cereal, spaghetti sauce.

Usual Church Office Hours: Monday & Thursday 10-3. Call ahead to make sure as we work remotely some days.

Staff: Pastor: Rev. Robert (Rob) Smith (pastorrob@spiritoflifeav.org)
Music Director: Martha Davis (davis.martha@live.com)
Office Administrator: Shari Shaw (spirit@spiritoflifeav.org)

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