

**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
DECEMBER 3, 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. Rob Smith, Mary Brause, Becky Brandt,
Afanwi, Bryce, Bailey, and Briyelle Kube*

Prelude

Call to Worship

Welcome

Advent Candle

***Opening Song** O Come, O Come Emanuel

Prayer of Reconciliation

Assurance of Grace

***Passing of Peace**

***Song** Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus (Hymn #82)

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Jeremiah 33: [10-11] 14-18

Children's sermon

Sermon "The Days are Coming"

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 (Gladys Mbonifor, singer)

Communion: Welcome to the Table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving / 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.

Holy Communion

Communion Prayer

Announcements

***Closing Song** O Little Town of Bethlehem (Hymn #121)

***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 worshipping 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.

SPECIAL NOTICE: We will have a brief **congregational meeting** immediately following worship on Sunday, December 17th, for the sole purpose of electing an elder to fill the open position. The nominating committee presents Patience Mbonifor to consider to serve as ruling elder.

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 1 session to go in the PBS series on the Black Church in our adult class. We will meet after worship on 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).

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!

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.

Little Free Food Pantry: It's cold outside!! Our little free pantry continues to serve many in our neighborhood. However, with our freezing weather we must now discontinue glass jars and canned food. Good options for winter include anything in a box (potatoes, pasta, powdered milk, etc) or bag (cereal, tuna or chicken in foil packets, rice, ramen, etc.) or plastic jar (peanut butter, jelly, spaghetti sauce). Many thanks for your help in feeding hungry neighbors through our pantry.

The Christian Ed committee will be putting together **Christmas treat bags** for the children again this year. If you would like to donate any pre-wrapped candy, treats or small favors for the bags, please bring them to church by December 10th. They may be placed in the basket below the table in front hall. We will be giving them to the children after the Christmas Program on December 17th.

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 our deacon, Chris Sachs at ccsachs123@gmail.com to share a prayer request with our Spirit Care Prayer Team.

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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