

**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.

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**ORDER OF WORSHIP  
APRIL 27, 2025**

*\* 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: Pastor Rob Smith, Denise  
Lewis, Steve Raatz*

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship**

One: Christ is risen!

**All: Christ is risen, indeed!**

One: On the road of sorrow, Jesus meets us—walking beside us in mystery and grace.

**All: Alleluia! Our eyes are opening, our hearts are burning!**

One: In broken bread and shared stories, the living Christ is revealed.

**All: Love walks with us still, even when we do not yet see!**

One: Come, beloved community—let us welcome the stranger, make room at the table, and listen for the Spirit's voice.

**All: The risen Christ is in our midst. Let us worship with wonder, with hope, and with open hearts!**

**\*Opening Song** Celebrate, Jesus Celebrate (CCLI #16859)

**Prayer of Reconciliation**

**Assurance of Grace**

**\*Passing of Peace**

**\*Song** Open the Eyes of My Heart (Hymn #452) & (CCLI #2298355)

**Prayer of Illumination**

**Scripture** Luke 24: 13-35

**Children's sermon**

**Sermon** "Bread for the Journey"

**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** Grace to Grace (by Joel Houston & Chris Davenport) (CCLI #7057218) (Oghomwen Amadasun, singer)

**Doxology**

**Prayers of the People**

**All (Response): All: Alleluia! Stay with us, for the day is far spent.**

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** Lord Dismiss Us With Your Blessing (Hymn #546)

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**Postlude**

Please join us for coffee and refreshments after worship.

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## **Announcements**

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**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:**

- **Children's Sunday School class** starts at 9:30am and goes until 10:15, then the kids will join adults in sanctuary for the Children's sermon. (No Children's class today, Resurrection Sunday.)
- The "First Light" adult class will have the final class on Sunday, April 27th.

### **Weekday Events:**

- **(Tuesday) COFFEE and CONVERSATION with Pastor Rob meets Tuesdays, 9:00-10:00 am.** Plan to join us Tuesday and come as you are. This week we meet at Spirit of Life in person, or online. It is open for you to pop in and out any time so feel free to drop in and say hello. 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*! 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).
- **Youth group** meets Wednesdays, 6-8pm.

**It takes all of us to be the church.** Leadership has worked diligently to organize the opportunities and share many of these through the following Sign-Up Genius links. Would you please take a few minutes and make a commitment to help pick up a part? Please click on the link and select a date you could serve:

#### Fellowship Time

April 27: (VOLUNTEER NEEDED)

May 4: (VOLUNTEER NEEDED)

May 11: (VOLUNTEER NEEDED)

Please use this link to sign up to prepare and serve coffee and treats for the fellowship time: Spirit of Life Congregation: Spirit of Life Sunday Fellowship—Coffee/Treats ([signupgenius.com](https://signupgenius.com))

#### Usher/Greeter

April 27: (VOLUNTEERS NEEDED)

May 4: (VOLUNTEER NEEDED)

May 11: (VOLUNTEER NEEDED)

Please use this link to sign up to serve as an Usher/Greeter—Spirit of Life Congregation Members: Spirit of Life Usher/Greeter/Offering ([signupgenius.com](https://signupgenius.com))

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** Our Men's Bible study group will meet the 2nd and 4th Thursday and our next meeting is Thursday, May 8th, 6-8 PM at Andy Zumbach's home. Address is 15602 Early Bird Circle, Apple Valley. We are studying the gospel of Luke. Just bring your Bible and a friend! And please, RSVP to Andy at [andrew.zumbach@gmail.com](mailto:andrew.zumbach@gmail.com) to help him plan for food and space.

Notice: for any family interested in our **music lessons** ministry! We will be wrapping up our winter/spring schedule of music lessons, and making plans to have a 6-7 week schedule of lessons over the summer, so if you haven't had a chance to participate yet, or needed to take a break, you can get involved now! The schedule will be starting from scratch, with days and times determined by the schedules of those interested. As a reminder, the lessons can be in guitar,

piano, or voice. They are 30 minutes long, and are offered at no cost. If you would like to participate, or if you have questions, please talk to Denise Lewis directly, or email her at [dlewis9476@comcast.net](mailto:dlewis9476@comcast.net), by May 14.

### **SoL Call**

#### **Defending Refuge**

Affirm the biblical call to welcome the stranger, and stand against policies that harm refugees and immigrants.

Read the Church World Service Ash Wednesday Ecumenical Declaration:

<https://cwsconnect.org/pdf-ecumenical-declaration/>

Sign the Declaration:

<https://cwsconnect.org/ecumenical-declaration/#>

**Notice from Justice Works Committee:** Sacred Sites Tours scheduled for 2025. These tours are part of Minnesota Council of Churches Healing Minnesota Stories initiative. Tours are led by Jim Bear Jacobs (Mohican) and Kelly Sherman Conroy (Oglala Lakota). The tours offer an opportunity to learn about Minnesota history from a Native perspective through story-telling and experiencing the sites in silence / meditation / reflection. Sacred Sites: We visit sites located around confluence of the Mississippi and Minnesota rivers, what the Dakota refer to as Bdote, or "meeting place of rivers," including: Fort Snelling State Park; Dakota Internment Camp following the The Dakota-U.S. War; Pilot Knob Hill, a traditional burial ground.

Some of our church members have registered for the June 1 tour; a State Parks pass or payment of daily admission fee will be needed. Please pick up detailed information from the table in the sanctuary, or click here (also where you can register):

<https://mnchurches.org/what-we-do/healing-minnesota-stories>

If you register, please sign up on the clipboard on the info table, so we can facilitate car-pooling for the tour.

**Scout Troop 292 Equipment Fundraiser:** As most of you know that Spirit of Life has sponsored Scout Troop 292 for many years. Two weeks ago they had the misfortune of having their equipment trailer stolen. The trailer has been recovered, however a lot of the gear inside was taken. Approximate value of \$5,600.00, which included 15 new tents. We are looking to do a fundraiser to help the Scouts replenish their equipment. There will be more information available next week on how you can donate. Please contact Duane Brause if you have any questions. Email: [braushaus@charter.net](mailto:braushaus@charter.net) or 612 816-5337.

2025 Per Capita is \$40.00

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**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](mailto:pastorrob@spiritoflifeav.org))  
Music Director: Martha Davis ([davis.martha@live.com](mailto:davis.martha@live.com))  
Office Administrator: Shari Shaw ([spirit@spiritoflifeav.org](mailto:spirit@spiritoflifeav.org))  
Nursery Director: Trista Hansen  
Tech Director: Joe Cornormia

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