

**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
MAY 4, 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, Deon Ford, Tracey Schnell*

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

(based on Acts 6-7 and the call to courageous witness)

One: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen, indeed!

One: In a world where the poor are overlooked and the vulnerable are silenced, Christ calls us to be witnesses of justice.

All: Alleluia! Christ stands with the brokenhearted and lifts up the forgotten.

One: Even when the world resists and the road is hard, the Spirit gives us courage to speak, to serve, to love.

All: Come, beloved community—let us listen for the Spirit's voice, and follow where Christ leads.

One: Let us worship with boldness, with tenderness, and with hope that will not be silenced.

Opening Prayer

***Opening Song** Christ is Alive, Let Christians Sing (Hymn #246)

Prayer of Reconciliation

Assurance of Grace

***Passing of Peace**

***Song** Open Our Eyes, Lord (CCLI #1572)

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Acts 6: 8-13; 7: 44-60

Children's sermon

Sermon

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 Broken Prayers (by Ben Glover, Emily Weisband, Josh Kerr, Riley Clemmons & Tedd Tjornhom) (CCLI#7102569) (Clara Amadasun, singer)

Communion Instructions

We welcome you to an open table where all are welcome. To share this welcome, the bread served is gluten free, and for the cup we share both grape juice (white) and wine (red). As you are able, come to the front to receive communion and bring it back to your seat where we will all receive the bread and cup together as one. If needed, remain in your seat and we will bring communion to you.

Welcome to the Table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving / Prayers of the People

Response: God of Justice, hear our prayer.

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 Song

Communion Prayer

Announcements

***Closing Song** I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

***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.

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.)

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. The first Tuesday of the month, April 1st, is in person only at CRACKER BARREL, 17189 Kenyon Ave, Lakeville, 55044. The following week we return to meeting 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. *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*! 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

May 4: (VOLUNTEER NEEDED)
May 11: (VOLUNTEER NEEDED)
May 18: (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)

Usher/Greeter

May 4: (VOLUNTEER NEEDED)
May 11: (VOLUNTEER NEEDED)
May 18: (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)

Our LITTLE FREE PANTRY is being used often and in need of frequent restocking. For **Replenish the Little Free Pantry Sunday** today, leave your donations on or in the cabinet in the entryway. Suggestions Include: Pasta Products, Pasta Sauce, White Rice, Peanut Butter, Jelly/Jam, Boxed Potatoes, Cereal / Oatmeal, Canned Fruit and Vegetables, Canned Meats, ANY Nonperishable Items. THANK YOU FOR HELPING US FEED OUR NEIGHBORS!

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 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, 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/#>

NOTE: The **Sacred Sites Tour** for June 1 is fully booked up!

There is one more scheduled tour in October, if you want to consider going on your own. Detailed information about these tours is available on the Info/Connect table at the back of the sanctuary, or at this website (scroll down towards the lower half of the page): <https://mnchurches.org/what-we-do/healing-minnesota-stories>

Scout Troop 292 Equipment Fundraiser: As most of you know, Spirit of Life has sponsored Scout Troop 292 for many years. A few weeks back 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. Donations can be made online or send check and designate Scout Fundraiser. Please contact Duane Brause if you have any questions. Email: braushaus@charter.net or 612 816-5337.

From Peggy Roeske: We are planning a **Celebration of Life for Don Roeske** on Friday, May 16 at 10am, with gathering starting at 9:30. It will be held in the chapel at Cerenity Car Center, where Don lived for the past 6 years - 1900 Webber Street, White Bear Lake, MN. If you wish to send condolences to Peggy: White Pine Senior Living, 1235 Gun Club Rd, White Bear Lake, MN 55110.

2025 Per Capita is \$40.00

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)
Nursery Director: Trista Hansen
Tech Director: Joe Cornormia

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