

**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
JULY 20, 2025**

**All who are able are invited to stand. 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. Steve Braden and Becky Brandt*

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: We gather today in need of hope

All: We turn to God.

One: God's prophets have brought hope.

All: We seek God's hope and God's call.

One: God calls us to lives of justice and joy.

All: We trust in God, our help in ages past.

Light the Candle

Opening Prayer

***Opening Song** Our God, Our Help in Ages Past (Hymn #687)

Prayer of Reconciliation

Assurance of Grace

***Passing of Peace**

***Song** God Welcomes All (Hymn #399)

Prayer of Illumination

Introduction to Scripture

Scripture Jeremiah 29: 1, 4-14

Children's sermon

Sermon Advice to Exiles (Rev. Steve Braden)

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 Rivers of Babylon by James McHaughton, George Reyam, Frank Farian, & Brent Dowe (Becky Brandt, Karen Johnson, Denise Lewis, & Deon Ford, singers)

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.

Blessing and Commissioning

Announcements

***Closing Song** How Can It Be? (text by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, tune Kremser/We Gather Together). Used by author's permission.

***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.

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. *Note, same time and same login, recurring meeting each week. Join Zoom Meeting at <https://zoom.us/j/286584190>. PLEASE NOTE: no Tuesday morning coffee this week. Due to a scheduling conflict, we will not meet July 22nd but gather again on July 29th.
- **MEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP** meets Wednesdays for the summer!! And at the church!! Our Men's Bible study group will meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesday for the summer so our next meeting is Wednesday, July 23rd, at 6:00 PM, at *Spirit of Life*.

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 help make a commitment to help pick up a part. Please click on the link and select a date you could serve:

Fellowship Time

July 20: Marge Braden

July 27: Monique Lander

Aug 3: (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 - Coffees/Treats (signupgenius.com)

Usher/Greeter

July 20: (VOLUNTEER NEEDED)

July 27: (VOLUNTEER NEEDED)

Aug 3: (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).

Thank You, Pastor Rob

Kids Camp - Radical Hope

Join us for Kids' Camp at Spirit of Life August 11-15 where we will dig into Radical Hope in our community. The week will include music, arts and crafts, outdoor and indoor games, puppet shows, Scripture, service projects, and lots of fun! Lunch and snacks are provided. Register online here <https://tinyurl.com/4tjcb28p>. Contact Christine Kolb at 952-210-6412 or christine@christinesfloraltouch.com with any questions.

Each day we will be serving a meal at noon. If you would like to prepare a meal, please sign up on the paper at church or email: lorettahunt5678@gmail.com. There will be approximately 20-25 people for each meal.

Collection Drive for The Drawer: The Drawer is a local non-profit that collects and distributes new socks and underwear for people in need. The founder, Stew Shepard, will be coming to Kid's Camp to share with our youth about their mission. The kids will also get the opportunity to help put bundles together! We would love to gift The Drawer with a collection of NEW socks and underwear. Please bring your donations July 20, 27, or August 3. The current top most needed items are—men's underwear (size S-5XL), women's underwear (size 5-16), boys' underwear (toddler to teen XL), and girls' underwear (teen 8-16). There will be a bin in the entryway for them. Thank you for your help!

Craft Wish List! Do you have any of these items sitting around at home? Please consider donating them to Kids' Camp for us to use in some exciting craft and service projects!

watercolors/brushes

Brightly colored yarn

Wood glue

Ziploc baggies in various sizes

White cardstock

blank note cards

Paint markers

Egg cartons (to use as paint tray)

Newspaper

twine

Small blank canvases (to paint on)

A box to collect these items will be outside the sanctuary beginning Sunday, July 20. Thank you so much for your support!

We are **collecting school supplies** for Highland Elementary all of July. Supply lists are in the church entry. Anything is a help. Place items in the basket under the table or in shopping bags next to the table. Thank you everyone. If you have questions, contact Joanne Boyd.

SOL Call

Protect Civil Liberties

The Supreme Court recently issued several landmark decisions. Let the ACLU bring you up to date: <https://www.aclu.org/>

Prayer requests to share with our Spirit Care Prayer Team may be emailed to Barb at bostlund@charter.net. Word it as you wish it to be submitted, and we will post it for our prayer team.

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
AV Intern: Emma Meyer

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