

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday March 27, 2016

Easter Sunday/Communion Service

Please stand at items marked * if you are able.

Passages in **Bold Print** are to be spoken in Unison

Organ Prelude – Hymn and Quiet Reflection

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Susan Mattinson

Pianist – Min Yeong Sin Music Director- Kendall House

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

* Entry of the Bible

Introit

Call to Worship – Lynae Grace

(See Insert)

* Hymn: *“Jesus Christ has risen today”*

#243

Opening Prayer:

Powerful and life-giving God, maker of all things visible and invisible: on the first day you spoke. Out of chaos came creation and out of darkness came light. On the first day Christ was resurrected and out of death came life. Praise and honour and blessing be to you this day and always! You raised Jesus from the grave and shattered the powers of sin and death. Yet, we confess that we still remain captive to fear. We are bound to ways of being that lead to narrow living. We hide in tombs of indifference and seek comfort rather than justice. We cling to hurt, resentment, and disappointment and refuse the freedom that comes with forgiveness. Forgive us, O God, and restore us to joy and wholeness. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Choir Anthem: *“He Is Risen”*

* Children's Hymn: *“At the dawning of salvation”*

#248

(last verse to be sung after Children's Time)

Children's Time

**"Be Still and Know that
I am God" (Ps. 46: 10)**

**Please take the time before
the service as an opportunity
to quietly prepare your heart
and mind for worship.**

Upcoming Events at First

Wed. Mar. 30 - Choir Practice	- 7:00pm
Thurs. Mar. 31 - Bible Study	-10:00am
Sun. Apr. 3 – Worship Service	-11:00am
Tues. April 5 – More than Mission	-1:00pm
Wed. April 6 – Communion at First Church	-1:00pm
Thurs. April 7 – Session Meeting	-7:00pm

Rev. Susan will be away Apr.1-3 for a Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu competition in Minnesota. Pulpit supply on Sunday April 3 will be provided by Kerry McLaughlin. If any pastoral emergencies should arise, please contact your elder.

You are welcomed to join us on Wednesday, Apr. 6 at 1pm for a simple communion service and fellowship at the church. This is a great opportunity for those who are not able to regularly attend church, or those who have missed communion recently, to celebrate the Lord's Supper and visit with one another. If transportation is required, please contact Rev. Susan (628-8302) or Bill Burn (577-5839) and it will be arranged.

Summer will soon be here and that means Pres-B-Camp!

The Presbytery of Superior Summer Camp program will be offering two week-long overnight camps: Junior Camp (July 17-23rd) for children entering grades 3-8 this fall and Senior Camp (August 14-20th) for youth entering grades 9-12 this fall. If you bring a first time camper with you to camp both you and they receive 50% off camp! Interested in volunteering? We have applications for that as well! Those wanting to be junior staff (counsellors-in-training, first time volunteers, junior counsellors, etc.) must at least be entering grade 10 in the fall. Camper registrations and staff applications are now available at the church. Hope to see you this summer!

Thank you this week to:

Greeters: Betty Irwin and Betty Irving

Lay Reader: Lynae Grace

Fellowship Time: Beth and Robert Workman

Elevator Operator: Colin Rackham

Offering Counting: Sandra Allan, Mickey Kennedy, Leila Pettigrew

Offering Collection: R. Brown, J. Nystrom, J. Taylor, B. Seabrook

Visiting/Phoning: Judy Hardy



Next week's volunteers: Apr. 3rd

Greeters: Betty Irwin and Betty Irving

Lay Reader: Colin Rackham

Fellowship Time: Evelyn Kinsman and Vikki and Ian Kinsman

Elevator Operator: Laird Morrison

Offering Counting: Maybelle Gair, Debbie Linkletter, Maureen Verdone

Offering Collection: R. Brown, J. Nystrom, J. Taylor, B. Seabrook

Visiting/Phoning: Beth Workman

On **Sunday April 10th**, we will be having an intergenerational **Holy Humour Sunday** service! No greater joy has ever been experienced in history than the joy which entered the world following Jesus' resurrection. God has a sense of humor. God has the last laugh and the last word. That word is Resurrection in Jesus Christ! He is Risen! The joke is on the powers of darkness in this world. Rejoice and be glad!

How to prepare for the service:

Practice smiling a lot (try looking in the mirror).

Get those jokes and stories ready to tell.

Begin rejoicing in God now (no need to wait).

Try on a few good belly laughs.

Invite someone who likes to laugh.

Invite someone who needs to laugh.

More Than Mission raised \$322 at their soup lunch last week. Thank you to everyone who supported our fundraiser. We have raised \$506 towards our goal of \$870.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Hymn of Preparation:

Lord, listen to your children praying;

Lord, send your Spirit in this place.

Lord, listen to your children praying;

send us love, send us power, send us grace!

#449

Bible Readings:

Luke 24:1-12

P. 90

N.T.

Psalms 118:15-24

P. 565-566

O.T.

Colossians 3:12-17

P. 201

N.T.

Gloria Patri:

#594

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Sermon: "Guilt, Grace, Gratitude"

WE RESPOND TO GOD

Tithes and Offerings

*** Offertory Response:**

#661 v.1

We give thee but thine own,

what e'er the gift may be;

all that we have is thine alone,

a trust, O Lord, from thee.

Prayer of Dedication:

God of all Ages, you have emptied the tomb and set us free from our burdens. Hope has overshadowed fear. Comfort has replaced neglect. Faith has gained victory over doubt. The bounds of everyday living, often overwhelming our souls and weakening our spirits, are liberated by Jesus Christ. Today, we recommit to offering comfort, hope, and faith as your generous disciples to others who are driven by fear, neglect, and doubt. We offer these gifts in honor of your Easter promise. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation

*** Hymn: "I danced in the morning/Lord of the dance"**

#250

Affirmation of Faith – The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Remembering the Meal with Jesus

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Eucharist is thanksgiving to God.

We pray for the world

and with deep gratitude offer our lives to God.

We celebrate Jesus' victory over death

and anticipate the joyous feast we shall have in his coming kingdom.

Holy God, Creator of heaven and earth, with joy we give you thanks and praise. Through the words of your prophets you gave your people hope by promising them the Redeemer. And now we rejoice that in your Son, Jesus Christ, the Saviour has come and will come again in power and glory making all things new.

Those who belong to Christ come gladly to his table to make a memorial of his life and death, to celebrate his presence, and together as his church offer him thanks.

We thank you for sending your only Son Jesus to live among us, full of grace and truth. Sharing our joy and sorrow, he healed the sick and was a friend of sinners.

Obeying you he took up his cross and died that we might live.

**Christ has died;
Christ is risen;
Christ will come again**

We come to this, His Table, in simple trust, seeking the transforming power of your Spirit: on this assembly of your people, on these words and actions, on this bread and wine, in order that, by the miracle of your grace, we may be united to Christ and to one another – one in body, one in spirit, one in faith.

Be with us now through your Holy Spirit as we celebrate with great joy the resurrection of our Lord, his presence with us in this feast, and his promise of a new creation. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour, who lives in unity with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, to all eternity. Amen.

Sharing the Meal**Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer (debtsdebtors)****WE GO OUT TO SERVE**

* Hymn: ***"Now thank we all our God"***

#457

Blessing**Response:**

**Praise the Lord from whom all blessings flow.
He has washed and made me white as snow.
I'm redeemed from all my sin and shame.
Now and forever, praise his holy name.
Praise his holy name. Praise his holy name.
To God be the glory now and forever.
Praise his holy name!**