



*“Where were you when I laid  
the earth’s foundations?  
Tell me if you know.”*

*Job 38: 4*

# First Presbyterian Church of South St. Paul

## TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

October 18, 2015

10:00 a.m.

*\*please stand in body or in spirit*

### GATHERING MUSIC

“Hymn to Joy”

Schwarz

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tom Watson

### CENTERING SILENCE

### INTROIT

“God is Here Today”

*Galeano*

Festival Choir

*God is here today; as certain as the air I breathe;  
as certain as the morning sun that rises,  
as certain when I sing you'll hear my song.*

### CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Gather in awe before God, who laid the foundations of the earth.  
Open your hearts to the steadfast love God offers.

**The deeds of God are beyond our knowing.**

**Yet we catch glimpses of God's mercy and care.**

God does not forsake us when we are dismayed and fearful.  
Our Creator is with us in all times and places.

**God is a stronghold for the oppressed and troubled.**

**The needy and the poor are not forgotten by God.**

God is ready to listen to us in these moments together.

See, now is the acceptable time, the day of our salvation.

**Surely God will meet us here in our community of faith!**

**How good it is when we sense our unity in Christ!**

### \*HYMN

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

*Hymnal # 12*

### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Katie Estes

**Alert us now, Eternal Spirit, to your presence among us in this place.**

**Together we confess that we have been busy with so many things that we have often forgotten you. We have made little gods out of buildings and furnishings and programs and schedules. Sometimes our pet beliefs and interpretations have been all-consuming as we do battle to correct those around us and presume to defend you. We have forgotten that your love is stronger than any force on this earth, that your welcome is wider than any door we hold shut, and your care provides for us no matter how far we flee.**

**Forgive our mistrust and our misplaced trust, and draw us back into the company of disciples who are learning and growing in your love. In Christ we ask it. Amen.**

**\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS** (responsive)

God is merciful and gracious, full of forgiveness,  
abounding in love and overflowing with blessing.

**Let us receive the gift of forgiveness  
and live this day with new hope and the strength to love.**

**\*RESPONSE**

“Spirit of the Living God”

*Hymnal # 288*

**A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION** (unison)

Becky Finkle

**Send your Spirit among us, O God, that we may be restored by your breath of life, filled with your love, and sent out in your power. Help us to listen, to know and to understand your will for our lives. Amen.**

**NEW TESTAMENT**

Hebrews 5: 1-10

*N.T. p. 220*

**ANTHEM**

“Baruch Ata Adonai”

*J. David Moore*

*Praise to you, O Lord,  
who draws the shelter of peace around us,  
and over all the earth, and over Jerusalem.*

**HEBREW SCRIPTURES**

Job 38: 1-7, 34-41

*O.T. p. 484*

**SERMON**

**Being God**

Tom Watson

**\*HYMN**

“God, You Spin the Whirling Planets”

*Hymnal # 23*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**RECEPTION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS**

**INVITATION TO SHARE**

**OFFERTORY**

“Spirit of God Descend Upon My Heart”

*arr. Hustad*

**\*RESPONSE**

“God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”  
(v. 3 only)

*Hymnal # 716*

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (unison)

**May our offerings be an expression of genuine love that reflects your love for us, O God. Direct our use of the resources you entrust to us that we may devote our lives to the building of a peaceable kingdom where all are valued. Amen.**

**\*HYMN**

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”  
(vs. 1-3)

*Hymnal # 611*

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*RESPONSE**

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”  
(vs. 4-5)

*Hymnal # 611*

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**



**SERVING US TODAY**

**Greeters:** Grace & DeShawn Estes Collins

**Ushers:** Tara Bray, Julie Close, Laura Doty,  
Paul Eger

**Lector:** Becky Finkle

**Coffee Servers:** Barb & Mel Hunt

**The flowers on the chancel this morning**  
are provided by Ken Krefting, in memory  
of Ellen.

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permission. Cover text arr. by Eleta Pierce

**Guest Choir Director:** Chris Ross

**Organist:** Jen Bierlein

**Pastors:** Katie Estes, Tom Watson

**Youth Coordinator:** Ruth Buller

**Church Administrator:** Eleta Pierce

**Prayer Chain Contact:**  
Church Office (651) 451-6223

# First Presbyterian Church of South St. Paul

535 20th Avenue North, South St. Paul, MN 55075

651-451-6223 · [www.fpcssp.org](http://www.fpcssp.org)

**Welcome** to First Presbyterian Church of South St. Paul. We are delighted that you have joined us to worship the Living God. **If you are a first time worship guest**, we extend a special welcome to you. Know that as our guest, you are invited to participate in any of the programs offered and we do not expect you to contribute when the offering is received. Today, your presence with us is your offering to God.

**Photos and/or video may be taken during this worship service.** FPC-SSP reserves the right to use said photos or video in church publications, including, but not limited to, bulletins, newsletters, the church website, and social media sites. If you prefer not to appear in these photos or video, please talk to one of the ushers.

**If you have a prayer request**, please use the yellow request cards in the pews. Give the card to an usher before worship or during the first hymn so it can be included in our prayers of the people today and passed on to the prayer chain as well.

**Children of all ages are welcome in our worship service.** We also have professional childcare available for infants and children up to 5 years. The nursery is located at the top of the stairs in the upper level of the Education wing and is always available on those days your child may be restless. If you have an infant who begins to cry during the service, feel free to go into the library with your child and continue to hear the service on the speaker.

**Please join us after the worship service for a time of fellowship in the Commons.** Coffee, juice and treats are available for a minimal charge for members and at no cost for guests. Come and connect with old and new friends as we enjoy fellowship together.

## On The Calendar

### **Today, Sunday, October 18**

- 8:30 a.m. Education for All
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:00 a.m. Congregational Meeting
- 11:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour

### **Monday, October 19**

- 6:00 p.m. Feed My Starving Children
- 7:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

### **Tuesday, October 20**

- 7:00 p.m. Come As You Are

### **Wednesday, October 21**

- 9:00 a.m. Bible Study
- 5:30 p.m. Jubilation Ringers
- 6:15 p.m. Bells of Praise
- 6:30 p.m. Drumming Circle
- 7:00 p.m. Bible Study
- 7:15 p.m. Festival Choir

### **Thursday, October 22**

- 8:00 a.m. Men's Study Group
- 6:00 p.m. Budget Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Session

### **Friday, October 23**

- 7:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

### **Saturday, October 24**

- 9:30 a.m. Presbytery Mission Celebration @ Westminster

### **Sunday, October 25**

#### *Reformation Sunday*

- 8:30 a.m. Education for All
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour
- 11:30 a.m. Kids Club @ Apple Junction
- 1:15 p.m. Timber Hills Worship

## Next Sunday, October 25

**Scripture:** Mark 10: 46-52

**Theme:** Reformation/Heritage Sunday

**Music:** Jimmy Sherman, bagpiper, and Festival Choir

**Adult Education:** "Founding Father John Knox" with Katie Ross



### Announcements

**Please be seated after the benediction this morning.** We will have a brief congregational meeting for the purpose of increasing the loan amount to replace the flat roof. All members of the congregation are encouraged to stay for this meeting.

**Third Quarter Giving Statements:** Please stop by the table in the commons to pick up your third quarter giving statement this morning. You will receive your normal year-end statement in January 2016 but now is the time to catch any errors or corrections. Please read your statement carefully and let Lois know if any changes need to be made.

**Today is Scrip Sunday!** Your purchase of these cards at face-value for your everyday shopping, dining and gifts helps earn a percentage for the church. Not sure what the buzz is all about? Stop by the table in the Commons after worship.

**We need your FPC-SSP historical items!** Next Sunday, October 25 is Reformation Sunday and we will celebrate the history of our church. Do you have old photos, bulletins, or any memorabilia from the past 122 years of this church? Bring them to the church office over the next two weeks and we will use them in a display. All items will be returned.

**Were you part of Feed My Starving Children's Woodbury event?** The goal was to pack 4 million meals in 4 days. The challenge was met with about 66,000 more than planned! Our next date is tomorrow, Monday, October 19, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Eagan site. Sign up at the kiosk if you need a ride or we'll see you there!

**Presbytery Mission Celebration 2015: Come and See What God Is Doing!** Come and see the creative ways that the churches in our Presbytery are using their resources to spread God's love! Over 50 presenters, including our church, will come together to present facets of their ministries in the surrounding community and the world. Saturday, October 24, 9:30 a.m.—2:00 p.m., at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Minneapolis. There is no charge for the Celebration, but to enable planning for food and space, organizers are seeking e-mails of intent to attend to [mission@ptcaweb.org](mailto:mission@ptcaweb.org). If you do not have access to email, let Eleta in the office know and she can register you.

**Kids Club Event:** Join us next Sunday, October 25, for a fun afternoon at McDougall's Apple Junction in Hastings. We will caravan to this small mom & pop orchard after worship, have lunch, ride a hay wagon and pick our own pumpkins. Sign up on the kiosk in the Commons.

**Caring About Alzheimer's:** To help address the many questions and concerns caregivers of those with Alzheimer's may have, The Board of Deacons is sponsoring a two-part series on Alzheimer's. The first is on Thursday, October 29, Marsha Berry from the MN Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association will join us at 7:00 p.m. to present a program on Alzheimer's, particularly with respect to caregivers.