

*"Everybody who hears these words of mine  
and puts them into practice  
is like a wise builder who built a house on bedrock."*

*Matthew 7:24*



# First Presbyterian Church of South St. Paul

## FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT/COMMUNION

March 6, 2016

10:00 a.m.

*\*please stand in body or in spirit*

GATHERING MUSIC      “Festive Prelude on Built On A Rock”      *Lindeman*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS      Katie Estes

CENTERING SILENCE

INTROIT      “My God Is a Rock”      *Spiritual*

Festival Choir

*My God is a rock in a weary land,  
shelter in a time of storm.*

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Let all the faithful offer prayers to God!

In times of distress, trouble and fear shall not overtake us.

**You are a hiding place for us, O God.**

**You preserve us and show us your way.**

You who are righteous, rejoice in the Lord and be glad!

All you whose hearts are right, sing out in joy!

**You instruct us and teach us the way we should go;**

**faithful love surrounds all those who trust in the Lord.**

\*HYMN      “O Christ, the Great Foundation”      *Hymnal # 361*

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)      Tom Watson

**Hear your children, Holy God, as we confess to you our sin. You offer us the security of your love, but we seek other comforts. You encourage us to care deeply, but we flinch from the challenge. You enable us to build on a strong foundation, but we chase after the new and the now. You seek our complete obedience, but we stray again and again from your rule. Forgive us God, we humbly pray. Write your law on our hearts and fill us with your Holy Spirit, that we might live in righteousness and glorify you in all we do, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**\*WORDS OF ASSURANCE** (responsive)

We are assured that God forgives the guilt of our sin.

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

**We receive this gift from God who is faithful,  
in covenant with us and with all people.**

Open yourselves to the continued guidance of the Holy One,  
for God's steadfast love is better than life.

**God's mercy is abundant; God's provision for us is extravagant.  
Thanks be to God!**

**\*RESPONSE**

"God, How Can We Forgive"  
(v. 3 only)

*Hymnal # 445*

**A TIME WITH CHILDREN**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION** (unison)

Charlotte Hubbard

**Great God our Refuge and Provider, grant us now the ears to hear your message, the eyes to see others from your point of view, and the lips to speak your word of reconciliation and love. Meet us in our jealousy, false pride and anger, that we may rejoice with you in welcoming everyone among us. Amen.**

**EPISTLE**

2 Corinthians 5: 16-21

*N.T. p. 181*

**ANTHEM**

"On Christ I Stand"

*Harlan*

with August Lee, trumpet

*My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.*

*On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand,  
A higher plane than I have found, on Christ, the solid Rock, I stand.*

*When darkness seems to hide His face, I rest on His unchanging grace;  
In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.*

*When He shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in Him be found!  
Dressed in His righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.*

**GOSPEL**

Matthew 7: 24-27

*N.T. p. 7*

**SERMON**

**Putting Them Into Practice**

Katie Estes

**RECEPTION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS**

**INVITATION TO SHARE**

**OFFERTORY DUET**

"Pleading Savior"

*arr. Callahan*

# SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER



## INVITATION

## GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & THE LORD'S PRAYER

## COMMUNION HYMN "Come to the Table of Grace"

*Hymnal # 507*

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## SHARING THE BREAD & CUP

*(All are invited to move to one of the communion stations by way of the center aisle, receive the bread, dip it into the common cup, and return to your seats by the side aisles.*

*If you prefer, signal an usher and the elements will be brought to you.)*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (unison)

**You have given yourself to us, Lord. Now we give ourselves for others.**

**Your love has made us a new people; as a people of love we will serve you with joy. Your glory has filled our hearts; help us to glorify you in all things.**

**Amen.**

## \*HYMN

"I Will Call Upon the Lord"

*Hymnal # 621*

## \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

## \*RESPONSE

"I Will Call Upon the Lord"

*Hymnal # 621*

## \*POSTLUDE

"March"

*Callein*



## SERVING US TODAY

**Greeters:** Neal Hubbard, Vigness-Pint Family

**Head Usher:** Randy Bourgoin

**Ushers:** Pat Angell, Bill Hickok, Kathy & Tobey Kaup

**Lector:** Charlotte Hubbard

**Communion Servers:** Paul Brosi, Kathryn Finkle, Rochelle LeTourneau, Connie Prall, Don Robinson, Andy Tourville

**Coffee Servers:** Julie Close & Paul Eger

**The flowers on the chancel this morning** are provided by the Luhrs and Gooder families.

**Music Director:** Linda Kachelmeier

**Organist:** Jen Bierlein

**Pastors:** Katie Estes, Tom Watson

**Youth Coordinator:** Ruth Buller

**Church Administrator:** Eleta Pierce

**Prayer Chain Contact:**

Church Office (651) 451-6223

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# 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, March 6**

*4th Sunday in Lent, Communion*

8:30 a.m. Education for All

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour

11:30 a.m. Youth Tubing

### **Monday, March 7**

7:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

### **Tuesday, March 8**

7:00 p.m. Adult Ministry

### **Wednesday, March 9**

9:00 a.m. Bible Study

6:00 p.m. Prayer & Silent Reflection

6:15 p.m. Bells of Praise

7:00 p.m. Bible Study

7:15 p.m. Festival Choir

### **Thursday, March 10**

8:00 a.m. Men's Study

6:30 p.m. Community Garden

6:30 p.m. Finance

6:30 p.m. Personnel

7:00 p.m. Mission

### **Friday, March 11**

7:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

### **Saturday, March 12**

8:30 a.m. Book Group

9:00 a.m. Presbytery @ Grace-Trinity

2:00 p.m. Betty Lehman Memorial

### **Sunday, March 13**

*5th Sunday in Lent, Communion*

8:30 a.m. Education for All

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour

7:00 p.m. Via Dolorosa with *Lumina*

## Next Sunday, March 13



**Scripture:** 1 Peter 2: 1-10

**Theme:** 5th Sunday in Lent/Communion

**Music:** "There Is a Redeemer" with Festival Choir

**Adult Ed:** "Journeying Toward Wholeness: Labyrinths" with Martha Rockenstein

### Announcements

**Help us "Pack the Ps!"** Hunger is an issue in our community that can't be ignored. During the month of March, we are collecting food and cash donations to give to our local food shelf at Neighbors Inc. as part of Minnesota FoodShare's *March Campaign*. If you'd rather skip the grocery store, write a check for \$10 (or more) and we'll do the shopping for you. Your donation of cash today will show up as food added to the display next week, along with any other food donations brought. Today we are packing the pallet, next Sunday we will be packing a pool.

**Our next date to pack meals at Feed My Starving Children** is Monday, March 14, from 2:30 to 4:30 pm. Sign up at the kiosk in the Commons, or by calling the church office. We would love to see you there, so if this is your first time or you need a ride, check the box on the sign up sheet on the kiosk.

**Remember to check the Card Care station** before you leave and send your well-wishes to members of our church family.

**On Wednesday evenings you are welcome** to come to the Knox Room, between 6:00 and 7:00 p.m., to take a break from your busy day, reflect, meditate and pray in your own way. The sacred space includes candles and music, different mediums for praying, projected artwork, and a Scripture passage to provide a focus for your reflection.

**Remember to turn your clocks ahead one hour!** Next Sunday, March 13, daylight savings time begins.

**We hope that you will join us next Sunday for our *Via Dolorosa* service at 7:00 p.m.** *Lumina* will be performing an encore presentation of last year's acclaimed *Via Dolorosa*, or "Way of Sorrows." Art, readings and music full of beauty and mystery spanning centuries. Featuring Kim Sueoka and Angela Grundstad, sopranos, Linda Kachelmeier, alto, and Ginna Watson, harp and violin.

**Next Sunday's Adult Education forum will gather in Fellowship Hall** to explore the history and mystery of labyrinths in Christian spirituality, Martha Rockenstein concludes her 4 week series on Journeying Toward Wholeness with an opportunity to walk a canvas labyrinth on the floor of Fellowship Hall. Chairs will be available to sit and you are not obligated to walk the labyrinth.

**The Synod School 2016 catalog has been published** and has been posted on the Synod of Lakes and Prairies website. The website also includes all the details and forms necessary to register. Registration opened this week and we encourage all of you to consider going. The synod's annual week-long summer ministry runs July 24-29 at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa. Each year about 600 people participate in the courses, worship, fellowship, fun and relaxation, including Pastor Katie and family, Linda Kachelmeier, and others from our congregation. Details are at "Synod School." <http://www.lakesandprairies.org/SynodSchool>