

*So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.*

Psalm 63:3

First Presbyterian Church of South St. Paul

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 26, 2015

10:00 a.m.

**please stand in body or in spirit*

GATHERING MUSIC

“Morning Songs”

arr. Tate

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Linda Kachelmeier

CENTERING SILENCE

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Let us worship God,
who has done great things.

We rejoice in God,

who has made a way out of no way in this world.

Let us worship God,
who has caused streams of mercy to flow in the wasteland.

We praise God for the grace

that has led us down the paths of peacefulness.

Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

We are the people God had formed through Christ;

and we rejoice simply being in God’s presence.

Alleluia! Let us worship God.

***HYMN**

“God Is Here!”

(vs. 1, 2 and 4)

Hymnal # 409

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (unison)

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past we cannot change, give us confidence to walk an unknown path towards a future in which we can be changed; grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image through Jesus Christ, the Light and Hope of the world. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS** (responsive)

Through Christ, life has been given to us as a new gift this day.

Let us bring free and joyful hearts before God.

Friends, by the grace of God, know that we are forgiven and be at peace.

***RESPONSE**

“Spirit of the Living God”

Hymnal # 288

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Holy God, author of all wisdom, we come to your Word with gratitude and humility. Grant us openness of mind to listen with new understanding. Grant us sensitivity of heart to receive what we hear. Grant us willingness of spirit to live our response daily. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

PSALTER

Psalm 63: 1-8

O.T. p. 527

ANTHEM

“He Leadeth Me”

arr. Callahan

Jen Bierlein and Linda Kachelmeier, organ and piano duet

GOSPEL

Luke 13: 1-9

N.T. p. 76

SERMON

Obstacles on the Path

Denise Dunbar-Perkins

***HYMN**

“Hear the Good News of Salvation”

Hymnal # 441

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

RECEPTION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

INVITATION TO SHARE

OFFERTORY

“All Glory Be to God On High”

Armsdorf

***RESPONSE**

“For the Life That You Have Given”

Hymnal # 717

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (unison)

All that we present to you now, O God, we have received from your hand. We give so the hungry may eat and the thirsty may receive clean water. We share to send the good news of your Word to those who have not yet heard. We invest in just causes, that your mercy may be known among all people. Most of all, we give because passing on your gifts in generous response is necessary to life, in Christ’s name. Amen.

***HYMN**

“I’ve Got Peace Like A River”

Hymnal # 623

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***RESPONSE**

“I’ve Got Peace Like A River”
(repeat v. 1)

Hymnal # 623

***POSTLUDE**

“Trumpet Voluntary”

Young



SERVING US TODAY

Greeters: Sandy & Wayne Otto

Ushers: Becky Finkle, Jodelle Ista,
Chris & Katie Ross

Guest Pastor: Denise Dunbar-Perkins

Lector: Linda Kachelmeier

Coffee Servers: Sue & Dave Hanson

Cover photo: Bethany Bourgoin, text arr.
Eleta Pierce

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

First Presbyterian Church of South St. Paul

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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, July 26 *Project Home*

- 8:30 a.m. Adult Education
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:00 a.m. Fellowship

Monday, July 27 *Project Home*

- 4:00 p.m. CPM
- 7:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, July 28 *Project Home*

- 7:00 p.m. Deacons

Wednesday, July 29 *Project Home*

- 9:00 a.m. Bible Study
- 7:00 p.m. Bible Study

Thursday, July 30 *Project Home*

- 8:30 a.m. Men's Study Group

Friday, July 31

- 7:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

Sunday, August 2

- 8:30 a.m. Adult Education
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:00 a.m. Fellowship
- 11:00 p.m. New Member Inquiry Class

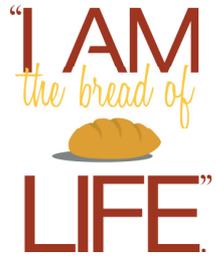
Next Sunday, August 2

Scripture: John 6: 24-35

Theme: We Are One

Music: Connie Prall and Linda Kachelmeier, duet

Adult Ed: The Book of Confessions, continued, with Pastor Katie



Announcements

This morning we welcome Rev. Denise Dunbar-Perkins, Moderator of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area, to the pulpit. Denise's full time ministry is at Abbott-Northwestern Hospital in Minneapolis serving as a Board Certified Staff Chaplain in the Cardiovascular Unit, an adjunct teacher in the Clinical Pastoral Education Program and a member of the newly formed Allina Healthcare Equity Senior Stakeholder Group.

Don't forget to pick up your Scrip! Orders that were made last week are available in the Commons after worship. Any cards on hand can also be purchased today. The next Scrip ordering date at church is August 23, but you can order online at any time with a pre-registration account. Visit Shopwithscrip.com for more information and to register.

Our farmer's market will be open following worship this morning in the Commons. Stop by and shop the selection of fresh vegetables from our Community Garden. Our charge is a free-will offering to help support the garden.

You don't have to wait for the Offering Ourselves insert to sign up for the Sunday volunteer positions needed each week. We are always in need of ushers, greeters, coffee servers and people to dedicate chancel flowers for a Sunday. Stop by the bulletin board outside of the Library any time to sign up for these volunteer opportunities.

New Members Class & Lunch, August 2: Have you been waiting for an opportunity to become a member of this fabulous congregation? Feeling guilty for enjoying the spectacular worship services and even better donuts on Sunday mornings without being able to check the member box when the welcome pad comes by? Well now is your chance! On Sunday, August 2, following the worship service, you are invited to come to the Knox Room for lunch and to learn more about our congregation and active membership in the Presbyterian Church (USA). Attendance does not obligate you to join, but will hopefully help you in making that decision. Please be in contact with either Pastors Tom or Katie, or the church office, if you are interested.

So far in 2015, our Mission Committee scheduled trips for Feed My Starving Children have made it possible for 300 children to receive a year's worth of nutritional food in places like Haiti, Nicaragua and Guatemala. Each time we go, it is thrilling that so much can be accomplished with so little effort on our part. Even if you can't be there physically, there is always a way to help by supporting the purchase of the food we pack. The next scheduled trip to Eagan is **August 10 in the evening, from 8:00 to 9:30 p.m.** Sign up on the kiosk to join us, indicate if you need a ride or if it's your first time.