

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP THIS WEEK

Preacher: Rev. Leanne Thompson
Liturgist: Rev. Scott Thompson
Organist: Beci Eliason
Projectionist: Abigail Thompson
Sound Tech: Terry Woitaszewski
Nursery Supervisor: Erica Boeyink
Valet Parking: Doug Bakker
Ushers & Greeters: Chuck and Karen Stern
Counters: Doug and Sharon Bakker
Coffee Fellowship: Clearwater Forest Box Lunch Fundraiser



Welcome to worship! We are glad you are here to worship God and spend time with your family of faith. As we worship together this morning, here are some things to know:

- **Children are welcome in worship!** We appreciate their curiosity, their wonder, and even their noise. We want children to know that they are welcome in God's house and in God's family. As a ministry to parents, **a nursery is provided for children birth-1st grade.** Children are invited to stay in worship through the Children's Blessing before going to the nursery. Activity pages and play bags are available for children during worship.
- **Copies of the sermon are available** in manuscript form at the back of the sanctuary each week. If you have difficulty hearing the sermon, you are welcome to pick up a copy of the manuscript to follow along during worship.

**First Presbyterian Church
Willmar, MN
April 29, 2018**



WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

**Please rise as you are able.
Please join in speaking **bolded** text.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 148)**

One: Come, praise the eternal God! All you in the heavens, angels above
All: **praise God!**
One: Sun, moon, and stars in the sky
All: **praise God!**
One: Dolphins and whales, fish in the sea
All: **praise God!**
One: Lightning and thunder, snow and rain
All: **praise God!**
One: Mountains and hills, desert and prairie
All: **praise God!**
One: Fruit trees and cedars, flowers and weeds
All: **praise God!**
One: Kings and presidents, prime ministers and judges
All: **praise God!**

One: Men and women, young and old

All: praise God!

One: Let them all praise the name of God!

**All: For God's name stands alone, above all others;
God's glory shines over earth and heaven.**

One: Let's worship God together!

***HYMN #455 (PH)**

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Almighty God, You have set before us the path but we have wandered on our own to try to find our way. Sometimes we are like toddlers and we hear Your call and come back. Other times, we are children testing boundaries, ignoring Your call until fear finally makes us look back. And still other times we are full of youthful rebellion, demanding to be cut loose and set free, not knowing how much we still need to seek Your wisdom and guidance. But most of all, too often we think we are adults and have figured it all out and know our own way, only to stumble and stray so far.

All: Remind us, parental God, that we are always Your children, that we are never fully grown up in Your sight, that we always have much to learn. Help us to seek You every day, to acknowledge that we need Your wisdom and guidance, and help us to return to the path and walk with You. In the name of Christ, who is our companion on this journey of faith, we pray. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

***RESPONSE OF THANKS #579 (PH)**

"Glory Be to the Father"

***THE PEACE**

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

HYMN #333 (PH)

"Seek Ye First"

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 17:16-28a

One: This is the word of our Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

"Created to Be Known"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from "A Brief Statement of Faith)**

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

PRESENTING OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY #592 (PH)**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures here below.

Praise God above, ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

WE LEAVE TO SERVE

***HYMN #377 (PH)**

"Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore"