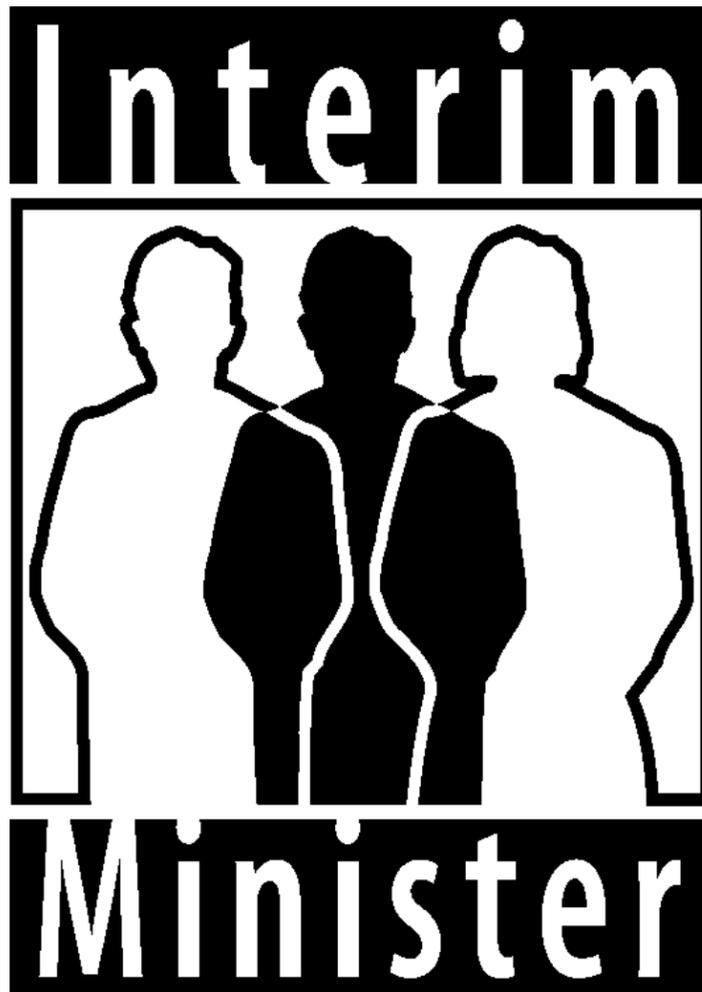


First Presbyterian Church

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www.fpchastingsmn.org



*Celebrating our history,
we look toward our future.*



The Order of Worship

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

August 13, 2017

WELCOME. We are delighted to have you with us this morning!
Following the service, please join us downstairs to meet others
and enjoy light refreshments.

As we enter the sanctuary, let us prepare for worship.

As you make the transition from “getting here”
to “being here,” we invite you to take these moments
to come fully into the presence of God and our faith community.

Listen and hear God speak to you...

Respond quietly to God...

Speak to one another in love...

Large Print Hymnals and Children’s Activity Bags are available from the Usher.

*Please rise as you are able.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

One: Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,
set forth the model of leadership for us to follow.

All: Jesus came not to be served, but to serve.

One: He taught his disciples that

“Whoever would be great among you must be your
servant, and whoever would be first among you must be
slave of all.”

**All: In Christ’s name and by his grace,
we accept our mission of witness and service to all of
God’s people.**

**We rejoice in God, maker of heaven and earth,
and in the covenant of love
which binds us to God and one another.**

One: In that spirit, let us worship God!

***Hymn #298 “Lord, You Give the Great Commission”**

***Prayer of Confession:**

One: We are people created by God of worth and value.
When we honestly acknowledge the shame and guilt of
our lives, there is a possibility of transformation.
Let us pray, putting our trust in the accepting grace of
Christ.

**All: Eternal God, you have called us to be your people,
claimed us as disciples of Jesus Christ,
and sent us to share your love.**

**We confess that we have not always lived up to our
calling.**

**We have been timid and anxious,
forgetting your creative presence
and the power of your Spirit among us.**

Forgive our weak imaginations.

**As you have chosen us,
strengthen us now to pursue your dreams for your
creation.**

**Fill us with your Holy Spirit
so that each of us may know your grace
and fulfill our common calling.**

One: Our prayers continue in silence.... Amen.

***The Assurance of Pardon**

One: God's love is from everlasting to everlasting.

**All: God's promises, known to us in Jesus Christ,
can be trusted.**

One: God's mercy forgives all sins
and empowers us to lives of love and liberation.

All: May the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

***Celebration of Our Pardon**

Hymn #213 "*In the Cross of Christ I Glory*" (verse 4)

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,

By the cross are sanctified;

Peace is there that knows no measure,

Joys that through all time abide.

***The Peace**

One: Since God has forgiven us in Jesus Christ,

All: Let us forgive one another.

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us share the signs of peace with one another.

*You are invited to greet those around you
with words and signs of God's reconciling peace.*

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: I Thessalonians 2:1-8

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon *“Sharing the Gospel and Sharing Ourselves”*

***Hymn #69** *“I, the Lord of Sea and Sky”*

***Covenant of Interim Ministry**

One: In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, the great head of the church, we are gathered here to affirm a covenant which we, the people of this congregation, have with our God, with the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area, and with one another. We are also here to constitute a new covenant relationship with our transitional pastor, Rev. Steve Robertson.

All: We, the members of First Presbyterian Church of Hastings, through the voice of our Session, have called Steve to serve among us, and to provide spiritual leadership, pastoral care, and administrative oversight to our congregation during this transitional period. He has been blessed with a call from Christ and with particular skills, training, and experience that have prepared him for service among us.

Denise: As a representative of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area, I am pleased to confirm that Steve is a member in good standing of this presbytery, and that we have found him prepared and ready to serve with you as your transitional pastor. Therefore, we affirm your selection of him and encourage you to covenant with him.

All: In calling Steve to be our transitional pastor, we also commit ourselves to undertake the special responsibilities of this in-between time. We agree to listen for Christ's direction for the future of our congregation and to examine who we are and what is our particular mission in this community.

Denise: A covenant is a promise of faith and practice sealed by the grace of God. Steve, before God and in the presence of these witnesses, do you commit yourself to this new trust and responsibility as the transitional pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Hayfield?

Steve: I do, with God's help.

Denise: Will you serve the people of Hayfield with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

Steve: I will, with God's help.

One: Do we the members of this congregation acknowledge and affirm Steve as our transitional pastor and do we promise to receive his spiritual care and leadership?

All: We do.

One: And do we promise to undertake the special tasks of interim ministry during this in-between time?

All: We do.

Steve: May God bless and guide us as we work and journey together on the tasks which God has set before us.

Denise: May God's love and mercy uphold Steve and you, the members of this congregation, in your living and working together. And Steve, when your tasks here are complete, may you hear the words of our God, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Reception of Tithes & Offerings

***Offertory Response**

Hymn #710 "We Lift Our Voices"

*We lift our voices; we lift our hands;
We lift our lives up to you; we are an offering.
Lord use our voices; Lord use our hands;
Lord use our lives; they are yours; we are an offering.
All that we have, all that we are,
All that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voices; we lift our hands;
We lift our lives up to you; we are an offering.*

***Offertory Prayer**

The Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (Ecumenical)

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins,

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

***Hymn #761 "Called as Partners in Christ's Service"**

***Charge and Blessing**

Postlude

THIS SERVICE is broadcast each Sunday on station KDWA 1460 AM/97.7 FM, and is lived streamed on www.kdwa.com

This morning we **welcome the Rev. Denise Dunbar-Perkins** to our worship service to represent the Presbytery in the Covenant of Interim Ministry. Denise is a chaplain at Abbott Northwestern Hospital. She is also the representative from the Presbytery's Called Positions Sub-Committee of the Committee on Ministry working with our congregation through our time of pastoral transition.

Volunteers This Morning:

Greeter: Carlotta Mullins

Usher: Mary Crawmer

Lay leader: Marcia Caneff

Prayer Requests/Prayer Chain: Prayer requests can be written on the blue cards found in the pew racks. If you would like the confidential prayer chain of FPCH to continue in prayer for your request, write that on the card. Pass the card to the pastor during the Passing of the Peace. You may contact the prayer chain at any time by contacting the Deacon listed on the kiosk in the Fellowship Hall.

Volunteers Next Sunday August 20th:

Greeter: Kristin Blevins

Ushers: Dennis & Margaret Brown

Lay leader: Marcia Rash

Ministers: Every member of the congregation

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Steve Robertson

Lead Musician: Pat Dymacek, **Pianist:** Karen Altpeter

Session: Karen Altpeter, Dennis Brown, Mary Crawmer, David Hume, Brenda Reiter, Grant Tiefenbruck (Clerk of Session)

Deacons: Carolyn Blumeyer, Margaret Brown, Sonia Christian, Helen Ott, Shannon Stenzel, Becky Tiefenbruck

Our Mission:

Following Christ, we strive to love and serve the world so that all may grow in faith and experience true joy.

Announcements

Today is the last day to collect **school supplies for HFS**. Lists of needed items are on the table in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you to all who have contributed to this collection.

Looking Ahead...

Mark your calendars now for our annual **Worship in the Park** service. It will be August 27th at Schaar's Bluff in Spring Lake Park. Of course, there will be potluck!