

# First Presbyterian Church

602 Vermillion St., Hastings, MN 55033  
651.437.9656 ~ fpchastingsmn@gmail.com  
www.fpchastingsmn.org



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



## **The Order of Worship**

**First Sunday in Lent**

**February 18, 2018**

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**WELCOME.** *We are delighted to have you with us this morning!  
Following worship, please join us for fellowship and refreshments.*

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

## **Prelude**

## **Welcome and Announcements**

### **\*Call to Worship**

One: We are gathered to worship our God.

**All: Send your Spirit upon us.**

One: We come from many places, with many burdens.

**All: Send your Spirit upon us.**

One: We turn our hearts to you, O God.

**All: Send your Spirit upon us,  
and make us your beloved family.**

### **\*Hymn #291**      *“Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness”*

### **\*Prayer of Confession:**

One: “The time is ready, the kingdom of God is at hand,  
repent and believe the Gospel.”

**All: O come, let us return unto our God,  
Who will have mercy and abundantly pardon.**

One: Let us pray.

One: Most holy God,  
we admit to you and each other  
that we are so dazzled by the false gods of this age,  
that we find it hard to recognise who we are,  
where we came from, or where we are going.

*(continued...)*

We easily become caught up in selfishness,  
seduced by cynicism,  
waylaid by glittering consumerism,  
and led by the nose along the highways and byways  
created by powerful, vested interests.

Please open our eyes that we may see ourselves more  
clearly, and seek you more diligently.

All: **Most loving God,  
arrest the false god's that have diverted us,  
show us the deceits that have blurred our vision,  
unmask the poverty of our goals and longings,  
expose the cheap values that parade as virtues,  
save us from permitting a rift between Christ and us,  
and deliver us from cheap guilt and trivial remorse.**

**Please bring us  
to an honest repentance,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
and the renewal of our faith and love.  
Through Christ Jesus our Saviour, Amen!**

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

### **\*The Assurance of Pardon**

One: Fellow travellers on the road to Easter,  
always remember that there is much more forgiveness in  
God than we could ever exhaust.

*(continued...)*

Receive from God, through the grace of Christ,  
the blessing of sins forgiven and a right relationship  
restored.

### **\*Celebration of Our Pardon**

Hymn #847 “Our Hope, Our Life”      verse 1

*Our hope, our life, are in the Lord;  
The God we honor and confess.  
Why crave renown or opulence?  
They fade, those things we now possess.*

### **\*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:**      Mark 1:9-15

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon**

“Drenched in the Spirit”

The Rev. Dr. Paula Sanders

**\*Hymn #288**

“*Spirit of the Living God*” Sing 2x

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

- *from the Brief Statement of Faith*

**In a broken and fearful world  
the Spirit gives us courage  
to pray without ceasing,  
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,  
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,  
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,  
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.  
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,  
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks  
and to live holy and joyful lives,  
even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth,  
praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”**

**Reception of Tithes & Offerings**

**Offertory**

**\*Offertory Response**

***Doxology #607***

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore.  
Amen*

## **\*Offertory Prayer**

### **The Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)**

**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.**

**\*Hymn #475**      *“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”*

**\*Charge and Blessing**

**Postlude**

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**Prayer Requests/Prayer Chain:** Prayer requests can be written on the blue cards found on the table at the back of the Fellowship Hall. Pass the card to the pastor during the Passing of the Peace.