



United Presbyterian Church
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APRIL 29, 2018

10:00 a.m.

*Please rise in body or in spirit

PRELUDE

Alex Sandor

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

***INTROIT**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The strife is o'er, the battle done;

The victory of life is won;

The song of triumph has begun. Alleluia!

(#236, verse 1)

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

From *1 John 4:7-11*

One: Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God

All: Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

One: God's love was revealed among us in this way:

All: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him.

One: Since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another.

***HYMN**

Now the Green Blade Rises

#247

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

One: A loving God plants seeds of grace and love deep within each human heart. Rooted in God's love, we bear the fruits of compassion, joy and mercy. Too often, though, we think we can flourish on our own. Let us confess our sin.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Holy God, you create us to be your loving children. Yet we draw limits when we consider whom we will love and how we will love them. Prejudices and stereotypes get in our way. Fear keeps us from taking risks. Our own preoccupations and self-centeredness can blind us. Abide in us, that we may live boldly and love fearlessly, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

I John 4: 16, 18-19

One: God is love, and those who abide in love, abide in God and God abides in them. There is no fear in love, but God's perfect love casts out fear. We love because God first loved us.

All: Our sin is forgiven. Our fear is gone. Thanks be to God!

RESPONSE

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Prayer cards may be given to the children or an usher to be brought forward.

TIME WITH CHILDREN Christy Willmore

MUSIC WITH CHILDREN AND YOUTH Led by Jackie Ranco

SCRIPTURE READINGS Duane Aslyn
From the Acts of the Apostles **Acts 8:26-40**
Gospel Reading **John 15:1-8**

ANTHEM *Hope of Glory* Stewart Harris
Sung by the Chancel Choir under the direction of Georgia Raun

SERMON Rev. Charlotte Frantz

***HYMN** *There is a Place of Quiet Rest* #824

OFFERING

MINUTE FOR MISSION

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures, here below,
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.
(#606)

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

One: Let us pray together.

All: We know, O God, that the good news of the resurrection is not to be kept a secret, hidden away as the private promise to a few. Rather, it is to be universal communication of hope and joy to all people; and to that worldwide proclamation we dedicate our gifts today.

TIME FOR PRAYER

PRAYERS TO BE SHARED

SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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 thin is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS ABOUT OUR LIFE TOGETHER

***CLOSING HYMN** *We Are One in the Spirit* #300

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** Alex Sandor

SCRIPTURE READING***Acts 8:26-40***

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.'

The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

GOSPEL READING***John 15:1-8***

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEETING THIS WEEK

Presbyterian Women	Wednesday, May 2	9:30 a.m.
Board of Deacons	Wednesday, May 2	4:00 p.m.
Quilting Group	Thursday, May 3	1:30 p.m.
Men's Breakfast	Saturday, May 5	8:30 a.m.

BOARD OF DEACONS MEETING

During the Deacon's Meeting on Wednesday, May 2, 2018, there will be a training session for taking Communion to persons we visit. We will be using a new order of service for the giving of that Communion.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

The Men's Breakfast will gather at the Superior Family Restaurant on Saturday, May 5, 2018 at 8:30 a.m. All men of the church or friends of the church are welcome.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all the gentlemen who worked on cutting carpet pieces to place in the hymnal holders on the pews to serve as book silencers.

THANK YOU

Kate Lisak would like to thank everyone who came to her Girl Scout Gold Award Celebration on Sunday, April 15, 2018. Also, thank you to everyone who asked questions and were inquisitive about, and have supported her Inclusive Care Project. Thank you to Christy Willmore for continuing the Inclusive Care Project throughout the summer.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Jan Heckman for serving as Prayer Chain Contact for Prayer Chain #1.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL SPRING GATHERING

The annual Spring Gathering of the Presbyterian Women will be happening on Thursday, May 10, 2018 from 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at Lakeside Presbyterian Church in Duluth, MN. See the May UPBeat for more information.


SENIOR CONNECTIONS

Senior Connections will be beginning a new series of workshops entitled **Care Talks** that will be focused on helping people to better communicate with care givers or personal physicians. To register to attend contact LuAnn at 715-394-3611 or for more information go to www.seniorconectionswi.org.

CLEARWATER FOREST

REGISTER ONLINE TODAY! Registration for Summer 2018 at Clearwater Forest is well underway, and camps are filling up quickly! Look online today to discover programs for campers entering 3rd grade through recent graduates. This year's programs are built around our summer theme "Light the Fire – Changing the World with the Light of Christ." Remember to bring a friend and get a \$25 gift certificate to the camp store! For more information please visit www.clearwaterforest.org or call 218-678-2325.

WAYS TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

- ✦ Join us for a cup of coffee in the Fellowship Hall following worship.
- ✦ Pick up a copy of *The UPBeat*, our monthly newsletter, from the table in the narthex.
- ✦ Call the church office at 715-392-4751.
- ✦  Follow us on Facebook.

HELPFUL TO KNOW

- ✦ We have large print bulletins.
- ✦ We have hearing assistance devices.
- ✦ There are children's activity sheets available in the narthex.

PRAYER REQUEST

The Pastor is always glad to share prayer requests during the Prayer Time during each worship service. Prayer Request cards are located in the pew slots in each row and on the table by the main entrance. Cards will be asked for and collected during worship service or may be placed in the offering plate.

The Prayer Chain may be activated by calling
Jan Heckman at 715-392-1072
or
Dean Hecht at 715-398-6532.

PASTOR

Reverend Charlotte Frantz

DEACON OF THE MONTH

The Hicks Family