

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WILLMAR, MN
September 19, 2021**



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

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION

PREPARING OUR HEARTS

***Opening Words**

“The Calling of the Creatures” by Ian W. Riddell

Come hoof and trunk and tail and horn
and paw and wing and claw;
Come bird and reptile, mammal born
all full of nature’s law.
Bring bark and crow and ribbit, too
and silent stare and hiss;
Bring purr and trill and warble, too
and voice no ear can miss.
We gather here each life and all
to celebrate and sing
to honor creature large and small
'Tis holiness we bring.

***Opening Hymn**

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

Words by Francis of Assisi (1225)

Music by *Geistliche Kirchengesang* (1623), Harmony by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1906)

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**All creatures of our God and King lift up your voice and with us sing
Oh praise him, Oh praise him**

**Thou burning sun with golden beams, though silver moon with softer gleam
Oh praise him, Oh praise him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

**Thou rushing wind that art so strong, ye clouds that sail in heav'n along
Oh praise him! Alleluia!**

**Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice, ye lights of evening find a voice!
Oh praise him, Oh praise him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

**And all ye men of tender heart, forgiving others, take your part,
Oh sing ye! Alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear, praise God and on him cast your care!
Oh praise him, Oh praise him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

**Let all things their Creator bless, and worship Him in humbleness,
Oh praise him! Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, Three in One!
Oh praise him, Oh praise him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

Prayer of Confession

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sins against God and our neighbors.

Creative, passionate God,
you delight to shape the world in beauty and harmony.
You create all things, every living creature, good.
You invite us to participate in the balance of creation.
We grow in wisdom as our experience unfolds;
we take good learning out of difficult situations yet also
find our well-meant endeavors leading to unintended consequences.
Too often we give in to temptation
that disrupts the joyous, chaotic order of the universe.
We cannot undo all our mistakes,
but we can turn once more to the living presence of Jesus
and find new ways to live and love each other, and the earth,
and creatures great and small.
Do not let our hearts be fearful,
but let us in silence acknowledge our sin
and seek the forgiveness that restores your peace.

Silence for Reflection

Even as Adam and Eve faced the consequences of their sin,
our God prepared a way for them still to be connected to the earth
and to the living presence of God.
So it is with all of us:

in Christ's life, ministry, death and resurrection,
we are made able to persist, upright and strong,
for our sins are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!

Hymn

“The Ninety and Nine”

By Gabe Scott and Andrew Peterson
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**There were ninety and nine that safely lay in the shelter of the fold
But one was out on the hills away far off from the gates of gold
Away on the mountains wild and bare away from the tender shepherd's care
Away from the tender shepherd's care**

**Lord Thou hast here Thy ninety and nine are they not enough for Thee
But the Shepherd made answer this of Mine has wandered away from Me
And though the road be rough and steep I go to the desert to find My sheep
I go to the desert to find My sheep**

**But none of the ransomed ever knew how deep were the waters crossed
Nor how dark was the night that the Lord passed through
Ere He found His sheep that was lost
Out in the desert He heard its cry sick and helpless and ready to die
Sick and helpless and ready to die**

**But all through the mountains thunder riven and up from the rocky steep
There rose a glad cry at the gates of heaven rejoice I have found My sheep
And the angels echoed around the throne rejoice for the Lord brings back His own
Rejoice for the Lord brings back His own**

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Celebration of Baptism

Brooks Wayne Reich

June 29, 2021

Parents: Kyle & Nicole Reich

Brother: Ryland Reich



Obeying the word of our Lord Jesus,
and confident of his promises,
we baptize those whom God has called.

In baptism God claims us, and seals us
to show that we belong to God.
God frees us from sin and death,
uniting us with Jesus Christ
in his death and resurrection.

By water and Holy Spirit,
we are made members of the church,
the body of Christ,
and joined to Christ's ministry
of love, peace, and justice.

Let us remember with joy our own baptism,
as we celebrate this sacrament.



On behalf of the session,
I present Brooks Wayne Reich,
child of Nicole & Kyle Reich,
to receive the Sacrament of Baptism



Relying on God's grace,
do you promise to live the Christian faith,
and to teach that faith to Eila?

I do.

Sponsors

Will you, by your prayer and witness,
Help Brooks to grow in faith?

I will.

Congregation

Do you, the members of the church of Jesus Christ,
promise to guide and nurture Brooks by word and deed,
with love and prayer?

We do.

Will you encourage him to know and follow Christ
and to be a faithful member of his church?

We will.

Children

Today we celebrate that Brooks is becoming part of our church family.

We are all God's children.

These questions are for the children of the church.

Each time we say *we will* we make a promise to God and to Eila.

Will you help Brooks remember that God loves him and that we love him?

We will.

Will you share the stories of Jesus with Brooks?

We will.

On behalf of the children
I give this book of Bible stories to Brooks and to his family.
May it guide them as they grow in faith.



Through the Sacrament of Baptism
we enter the covenant God established in Jesus Christ.

Within this covenant God gives us new life,
strengthens us to resist evil, and nurtures us in love.

Through this covenant, we choose whom we will serve,
by turning from evil and turning to Jesus Christ.

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and
its power in the world?

I do.

Who is your Lord and Savior?
Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple,
obeying his word and showing his love?
I will with God's help.



The water is poured into the font.

We give you thanks, Eternal God,
for you nourish and sustain all living things by the gift of water.
Send your Spirit to move over this water
that it may be a fountain of deliverance and rebirth.
Wash away the sin of all who are cleansed by it.
Raise them to new life, and graft them to the body of Christ.
Pour out your Holy Spirit upon Brooks,
that he may have power to do your will,
and continue forever in the risen life of Christ.

To you be all praise, honor, and glory;
through Jesus Christ our Savior, who, with you and the Holy Spirit,
lives and reigns forever. Amen.



Brooks Wayne Reich, I baptize you
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.



O Lord, uphold Brooks by your Holy Spirit.
Give him the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord,
the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.

Oil

Brooks Wayne Reick,, child of God,
you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism
and marked as Christ's own forever. Amen.



Brooks, you have been received into Christ's family through Baptism.

By the power of the Holy Spirit,
you have become a member of the household of God,
to share with us in the ministry of Christ
and the priesthood of all believers.

With joy and thanksgiving
we welcome you into the body of Christ.
Alleluia! Amen!

Prayer Response #188 (GG)

"Jesus Loves Me"

Words by Anna Bartlett Warner, 1859 & David Rutherford McGuire, 1971
Music by William Batchelder Bradbury, 1862
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**Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong. They are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**

**Jesus loves me! This I know, as he loved so long ago,
taking children on his knee, saying, "Let them come to me."
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!**

Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Scripture Lesson

Psalm 95:1-7

Message

“Raise the Roof with Our Gratitude and Praise”

Rev. Leanne B. Thompson

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

Hymn of Affirmation

“I Could Sing of Your Love Forever”

Words and Music by Martin Smith

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**Over the mountains and the sea, your river runs with love for me,
and I will open up my heart and let the healer set me free.
I'm happy to be in the truth, and I will daily lift my hands,
for I will always sing of when your love came down, yeah.**

**I could sing of your love forever. I could sing of your love forever.
I could sing of your love forever. I could sing of your love forever.**

Prayer of Intercession

Congregational Response:

O God, how wonderful are the works of your hands.

God created us and placed us on the earth
to be stewards of all living things,
therefore let us proclaim the glory of our Creator, saying:

O God, how wonderful are the works of your hands.

Blessed are you, O Lord of the Universe; you create the animals
and give us the ability to train them to help us in our work.

O God, how wonderful are the works of your hands.

Blessed are you, O Lord of the Universe;
you give us food from animals to replenish our energies.

O God, how wonderful are the works of your hands.

Blessed are you, O Lord of the Universe; for the sake of our comfort
you give us domestic animals as companions.

O God, how wonderful are the works of your hands.

Blessed are you, O Lord of the Universe; you care for us

even as you care for the birds of the air.

O God, how wonderful are the works of your hands.

Blessed are you, O Lord of the Universe;
you offered your Son to us as the passover lamb
and in him willed that we should be called your children.

O God, how wonderful are the works of your hands.

God, we ask your blessing on all your beloved creatures. We especially remember today our furry, flying and scaled friends. We thank you for the ways they bless our lives.

But we also remember today our human friends, the ones in need of healing, peace and comfort, so we take a moment to name them before you in the silence of our hearts...

The Lord's Prayer

With confidence in God's loving care, we pray the prayer which Jesus taught us:
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.

Blessing of the Animals

May the blessings of almighty and everlasting God, Creator of all things and giver of all life, be upon all these animals. May our relationships with them mirror God's love, and our care for them be an example of God's bountiful mercy.
Grant the animals health and peace. Strengthen us to love and care for them as we strive to imitate the love of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The minister/ worship leader circulates through the congregation, asks the name of the animal, places his/her hand on the animal's head (if appropriate) and then blesses the animal:

[insert name], you were created by God, and you are loved by God. May you and your human family experience joy and companionship together, and continue to be a blessing to each other.

WE LEAVE TO SERVE

Closing Hymn #772 (GG)

"Forever"

Words and Music by Chris Tomlin

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**Give thanks to the Lord our God and King, His love endures forever
For He is good He is above all things, His love endures forever
Sing praise sing praise**

**With a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, His love endures forever
For the life that's been reborn, His love endures forever
Sing praise sing praise
Sing praise sing praise**

**Forever God is faithful, forever God is strong
Forever God is with us, forever, forever**

**From the rising to the setting sun, His love endures forever
And by the grace of God we will carry on, His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise; Sing praise, sing praise**

**Forever God is faithful, forever God is strong
Forever God is with us, forever, forever**

Charge & Benediction

Go out into God's world.
Live in peace with one another and with all God's creatures.
May gratitude and praise be always on your lips.
Amen.

“The Blessing”

words and music by Chris Brown, Cody Carnes, Kari Jobe, and Steven Furtick
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**The Lord bless you and keep you,
Make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.
(repeat)**

Amen, amen, amen. Amen, amen, amen.

**The Lord bless you and keep you.
Make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.**