

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WILLMAR, MN
May 30, 2021 - Trinity Sunday**



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

PRELUDE

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

PREPARING OUR HEARTS

***Opening Words**

Let us praise God the Creator,
who is filled with glory and power—with holiness and splendour;
Let us worship God the Saviour,
who is filled with love and compassion—with justice and peace;
Let us experience God the Spirit,
who fills us with faith and joy—with love and eternal life.

***Opening Hymn**
“Holy Spirit”

Words and Music by Bryan Torwalt and Katie Torwalt
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There's nothing worth more that will ever come close.
No thing can compare; You're our living hope. Your presence.
I've tasted and seen of the sweetest of loves,
where my heart becomes free and my shame is undone, in your presence, Lord.

Holy Spirit, you are welcome here;
Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere;
Your glory, God, is what our hearts long for,
to be overcome by your presence, Lord.

There's nothing worth more that will ever come close.
No thing can compare; You're our living hope. Your presence.
I've tasted and seen of the sweetest of loves,
where my heart becomes free and my shame is undone, in your presence, Lord.

Holy Spirit, you are welcome here;
Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere;
Your glory, God, is what our hearts long for,
to be overcome by your presence, Lord.

Holy Spirit, you are welcome here;
Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere;
Your glory, God, is what our hearts long for,
to be overcome by your presence, Lord.
Your presence, Lord. Your presence, oh God,
how we love your presence, Lord.

Let us become more aware of your presence;
Let us experience the glory of your goodness.
Let us become more aware of your presence;
Let us experience the glory of your goodness, Lord.

Holy Spirit, you are welcome here;
Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere;
Your glory, God, is what our hearts long for,
to be overcome by your presence, Lord.

Prayer of Confession

Why do we settle, O God, for only being born once, or even twice,
as if the world never changes,
as if everything is just fine the way it is
and we have no need for new life,
new encounters with you,
new promptings of your Spirit,
and new awakenings in our souls?

Why do we turn your invitation into a mark of our own achievement,
as if your life is anything other than an extravagant gift,
as if the glimpses of your reign that we receive
are earned,
or deserved,
or make us somehow 'better' than others?

We praise you for the shocking miraculous truth, God,
that we can always be - that we need to always be
born again;
that daily you welcome us into a surprising new life,
the wonderful, creative, unpredictable world of your Spirit;
and that all we can do is allow ourselves to be pushed -
birthed, by your grace,
into new experiences of your reign.

Here we are, O God;
Let us be, once more,
in this moment, in this place,
Born yet again.

Amen.

Hymn #288 (GG)

"Breathe"

Words and Music by Marie Barnett
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This is the air I breathe, this is the air I breathe: your holy presence living in me.
This is my daily bread, this is my daily bread: your very Word spoken to me.
And I, I'm desp'rate for you. And I, I'm lost without you.

This is the air I breathe, this is the air I breathe: your holy presence living in me.
This is my daily bread, this is my daily bread: your very Word spoken to me.

And I, I'm desp'rate for you. And I, I'm lost without you.
And I, I'm desp'rate for you. And I, I'm lost without you.
I'm lost without you. I'm lost without you.
This is the air I breathe, this is the air I breathe.

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Children's Message

Prayer Response #701 (GG)

"Sanctuary"

Words & Music by John W. Thompson and Randy Skruggs
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Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.
(repeat)

Scripture Lesson

John 3:1-21

Message

"Drawn to the Light"
Rev. Leanne B. Thompson

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

Hymn of Affirmation

"I Saw the Light"

Words and Music by Hank Williams, Sr.
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I wandered so aimless life filled with sin
I wouldn't let my dear Savior in
Then Jesus came like a stranger in the night
Praise the Lord I saw the light

I saw the light I saw the light
No more in darkness no more in night
(And) now I'm so happy no sorrow in sight
Praise the Lord I saw the light

Just like a blind man I wandered along
Worries and fears I claimed for my own

Then like the blind man that God gave back his sight
Praise the Lord I saw the light

I saw the light I saw the light
No more in darkness no more in night
(And) now I'm so happy no sorrow in sight
Praise the Lord I saw the light

I was a fool to wander and stray
Straight is the gate and narrow the way
Now I have traded the wrong for the right
Praise the Lord I saw the light

I saw the light I saw the light
No more in darkness no more in night
(And) now I'm so happy no sorrow in sight
Praise the Lord I saw the light

Prayers of Intercession

We are a world that is desperate for you, God.

When powers struggle for dominance,
and war, oppression and abuse result;
When groups of people oppose one another
because of ideology, religion or culture;
We need a God who is bigger than ourselves,
and our personal interests.

(Prayer may be offered for specific areas of conflict in the world.)

When our men and women pay the ultimate price,
giving their lives to defend the weak and to preserve our freedom;
when they return home wounded in body, mind, and spirit;
We need a God who can heal the wounds of war
and heal the grief of families who have lost loved ones.

(Prayer may be offered for Memorial Day)

When people are disregarded and devalued
because of poverty, geography or disease;
When compassion and justice is withheld to some
because of sexuality, race or gender;
We need a Saviour who is more compassionate than we are

who includes even those we would exclude.

*(Prayer may be offered for specific people and places
of suffering in the world.)*

When resources are mismanaged and abused,
and the world and its creatures are destroyed;
When motivation is scarce and creativity is in short supply
to address the challenges that we face;
We need a Spirit who is more powerful and more creative
than we could ever be.

*(Prayer may be offered for specific challenges and issues
that we struggle with in the world.)*

When your people struggle with illness, loneliness and grief;
When the burdens of life feel too heavy to bear;
When there are unanswered questions and an uncertain future;
We need a Spirit who moves in our midst
providing healing, comfort, and direction,
with more power and wisdom than we possess on our own.

(Prayers may be offered for specific needs of the faith community.)

Lord God, Loving Saviour, Empowering Spirit,
we offer you these prayers
because we need you so desperately.
Captivate us, call us and fill us,
that we may be carriers of your eternal life
to this world that you love so dearly. Amen.

With confidence in your loving care for us,
we pray together the prayer Jesus taught us, singing:
Our Father, in heaven, holy is your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today, our daily bread;
forgive our sins and turn us from temptation.
The kingdom and the power and the glory are yours forever.
Amen, amen, amen.

Invitation to the Offering

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that all who love him may have life eternally.
With loving hearts, we present our offerings to God.

Offering Prayer

Holy God, your love overflows in the gift of your Spirit.
Bless these gifts that we offer
that they may spread your blessing in a world of hurt and need;
in Christ's name. Amen.

WE LEAVE TO SERVE

Closing Hymn

“Every Move I Make”

Text and Music by Davis Ruis

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Every move I make, I make in you. You make me move, Jesus.
Every breath I take I breathe in you.
Every step I take I take in you. You are my way, Jesus.
Every breath I take I breathe in you.

La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la; La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la.
La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la; La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la.

Waves of mercy waves of grace. Everywhere I look, I see your face.
Your love has captured me. Oh my God, this love, how can it be?

La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la; La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la.
La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la; La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la.

Waves of mercy waves of grace. Everywhere I look, I see your face.
Your love has captured me. Oh my God, this love, how can it be?

Charge

Just as God's Word was sent into the world
to heal and redeem,
so God sends you into the world this day
to be light and love, healing and hope.
Go now to be light for the world!
And may the grace and peace of God the Creator,
the Redeemer, and the Sustainer
come upon you this day
and remain with you always. Amen.

Benediction
“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 to 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 to shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.

POSTLUDE