



firstchristian

S A I N T P A U L
disciples of christ



April 3, 2022

Fifth Sunday in Lent

***An inclusive family of God, creating and inspiring
Christian discipleship through fellowship, community
mission and love of Jesus.***

fccsaintpaul.org



SCAN ME

ORDER OF WORSHIP

April 3, 2022

GATHER

Greeting and Announcements

Call to Worship:

One: Praise the ALMIGHTY!

Many: Praise the EXALTED from the heavens; praise God from the heights!

One: Let all people praise the Name of the MIGHTY GOD,

Many: for God commanded, and they were created.

One: Queens and kings of the earth and all peoples, royal seed and rulers of the earth!

Many: Young women and men alike, aged and young together!

One: Let them praise the Name of the ETERNAL,

**Many: for God's name alone is exalted;
and glory is above the earth and the heavens.**

Opening Song: Gather Us In #284 *Chalice Hymnal*

Invocation:

One: God, our Guide, and Guardian synchronize our spirits with yours. Help us to be vigilant and recognize where you are at work in our lives and in the world around us. Help us to love you with all of our being, heart, mind, soul, and strength. Restore us as we recommit ourselves to the work to which we are called, as we make disciples and work to build your beloved community here on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness:

One: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Many: Holy and Just God, We are called to follow you through your Son, Jesus Christ, but we respond half-heartedly. Instead, we turn away you to follow our own desires. We fail to love our neighbors as you command. We fall short in bearing witness of your love and grace through our words, actions and thoughts. We live lives of pride, jealousy and faithlessness. We ask that you forgive us and have mercy on us. May we be empowered as a redeemed and renewed people to serve you and our sisters and brothers to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Silence

One: God's love is continually poured out for us. Drink from the cup of forgiveness and compassion, dear ones. In Jesus' Name, we are forgiven! Amen.

LISTEN

Scripture: Isaiah 51:1-8 and John 12:1-8

Reflection, *Reclaiming Our Future*, Pastor Dennis Sanders

Song of the Day- Canto De Esperanza

PRAY

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

EAT

Communion

Elder's Prayer for the Bread and Cup: *All who believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior welcome to share in this holy meal.*

Words of Institution

Please come forward to receive the communion packet and take it to your seat. When everyone has their bread and grape juice, everyone will partake together.

Communion Music- Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended #210 Chalice Hymnal

GIVE

Offering

Please come forward to place your offering in the offering plate. You can also give online by going to our website, fccsaintpaul.org/give.

Offering Music- When All Is Ended #703 Chalice Hymnal

Offering Prayer

BLESS

One: Gracious God, we thank you that you have poured yourself out for us, and given us your Spirit, that we might pour ourselves out for others, that we might bless them and serve them in your name. Send us into the world, accompanied by Christ, for the sake of the world. Amen.

Closing Song: Marching to Zion #707 Chalice Hymnal

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WELCOME

Greetings!

If this is your first time at First, welcome! We are so glad you came to worship with us. To learn more about our faith community, please go to fccsaintpaul.org.

Meet the Disciples

First Christian-St. Paul is affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), a “movement for wholeness in a fragmented world.” You can find out more about our tradition by going to disciples.org.

Offering

We encourage you to continue your tithes and offering during this time we are apart. Now more than ever, First Christian is called to be a presence in our community and online. You can also support the Ministry of First Christian by giving online: fccsaintpaul.org/give.

If you would like to mail a check, send it the following address:

*First Christian Church of St. Paul
650 Wildwood Road
Mahtomedi, MN 55115*

Prayer

If you have a concern you'd like the church to pray for, please contact the church either by phone (651-340-0950) Or by email at prayer@fccsaintpaul.org.

Taking the Next Step?

Thanks for joining us in worship. If you would like to learn more about First Christian or have questions on faith, please fill out our welcome form on our website fccsaintpaul.org/welcome.

Mask Update

As of March 27, 2022, wearing of masks is now considered optional. Thanks for your cooperation!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayer and Coffee

Join us for a cup of coffee and fellowship after worship today with Prayer and Coffee. We gather in the library and the sanctuary. All are welcome to attend.

Maundy Thursday Worship

Please join us for worship on Maundy Thursday with communion, April 14 at 7:00 PM. We will have a simple sandwich dinner at 6:00 PM where we will collect money to support Ukraine relief.

Midweek Bible Study

Join us online for Bible Study every Wednesday at 6:00 PM. Contact the church at info@fccsaintpaul.org for login information. Please note there will be no Bible Study on April 13 and April 20.

Ukraine Relief

If you want to help Ukrainian refugees as they escape from the war with Russia, you can give to Wee of Compassion. The Disciples of Christ's relief agency is working with partners on the ground to bring relief to Ukrainians. You can write a check to First Christian making sure to write Week of Compassion-Ukraine in the memo line. You can also go to www.weekofcompassion.org/donate.html to give online. Make sure you choose "International Emergency Response."

Giving Online

You have another way to give to First Christian online. On the front page is a QR code. Scan it with your smartphone and that will take you to our giving page where you can make your church offering online.

Mask Policy

As of March 27, 2022, masks are now optional. If you feel the need to wear a mask, you are free to do so. If you are fully vaccinated and not ill, you are free to not wear a mask. Thank you for your cooperation over the last few months!

PASSAGE OF THE DAY

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness,
you that seek the Lord.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn,
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

2 Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.

3 For the Lord will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places,
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the Lord;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

4 Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation;
for a teaching will go out from me,
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

5 I will bring near my deliverance swiftly,

my salvation has gone out
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.

6 Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats;^[a]
but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

7 Listen to me, you who know righteousness,
you people who have my teaching in your
hearts;
do not fear the reproach of others,
and do not be dismayed when they revile
you.

8 For the moth will eat them up like a garment,
and the worm will eat them like wool;
but my deliverance will be forever,
and my salvation to all generations.

John 12:1-8

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. 2 There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. 3 Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them^[a] with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. 4 But Judas Iscariot, one of his

disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, 5 "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii^[b] and the money given to the poor?" 6 (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) 7 Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it^[c] so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. 8 You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

IN OUR PRAYERS

- Prayers for Lily Pederson
- Prayers for relatives of Roman Dziuba who throughtout Ukraine.
- Prayers for the people of Ukraine and Russians speaking out against the current war.
- Prayers for Ake Niemi.
- Prayers for the daughter of Amy Bertschausen, and Amy's new grandchild.
- Prayers for Lake Harriet Christian Church in Minneapolis as they prepare to end their public ministry.
- Prayers for Merete Hamilton, a relative of Carol Hamilton who is dealing with a recurrence of cancer.
- Prayers for Sunrise Park Middle School in White Bear Lake.
- Prayers as we begin to talk with realtors about selling the church building and

moving.

- Prayers for Jan Paulson as she recovers from a low white blood cell count.
- Prayers for our homebound members,
- Charles Moore and John and Jan Paulson.

Do you have a prayer request? You can send it by email to prayer@fccsaintpaul.org, by phone at 651-340-0950 or filling out the prayer request form at fccsaintpaul.org/pray.

STATEMENT OF WELCOME

You Are Welcome Here.

“The First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of St. Paul, Minnesota, is an open and affirming ministry, openly welcoming persons of all gender expressions, sexual orientations, races, ethnicities, creeds, classes, ages, marital status and physical and mental abilities, to join us in following in the footsteps of Jesus Christ our Lord and in a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world.”

-Open and Affirming Statement of First Christian Church of St. Paul

OUR VALUES

First Christian Church is a suburban congregation, united in Christ and grounded in the values of diversity, fellowship and witness.

-First Christian Values Statement

OUR VISION

“Gathered for worship. Scattered for service.”

STAFF, HOURS

Lead Pastor: Dennis Sanders

Cantor/Music Director: Momoko Tanno

Adjunct Pastor: Robert Hamilton

Accompanist: Luke Swanger

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Wednesdays & Fridays: 2:00-5:00 PM



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650 Wildwood Road | Mahtomedi, MN 55115 | 651-340-0950 | fccsaintpaul.org