

LENT 2018



Sabbath: Making Space for Encountering God

first covenant church of saint paul ~ 1280 arcade street ~ saint paul, mn 55106
(651)774-0344 ~ www.first-covenant.org
office@first-covenant.org

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

March 18, 2018

9:30 a.m.

Gathering Time

Passing of the Peace

Invitation to Worship

*If you are a visitor, have a prayer request or have a change of address,
please note this on a Connect Card found in the pew pockets. Place it in the offering plate.*

*Opening Hymn 449

I Need Thee Every Hour

*Opening Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading

Amos 8:4-8, Matthew 6:24, Josh Holm

Ministry Highlight

Every Kid To Camp, Ben Stromberg

*Songs

*Cornerstone
Cry of My Heart*

Sabbath Practice

Finding Your Joy, Pastor Anne Vining

Prayer of the People

Giving and Living Out of Our Abundance

Choral Offertory

*Be Thou My Vision (Alice Parker)
Marcy Turnquist, harp*

*Children in grades pre-k through 2nd grade are invited to continue worshipping in
Children's Church. After the offertory, please meet the teachers in the back of the Sanctuary.*

Message

Observing Sabbath - A Crisis of Meaning
Tom Cameron, Executive Pastor

*Closing Hymn 346

O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

*Sending Words

Postlude

Beneath the Cross of Jesus (arr. David Chewin)

Prayer Time for health and wholeness is offered in the Prayer Chapel following Worship.

*If you temporarily leave the sanctuary during a Worship service,
please return to your seats using the rear sanctuary doors.
This will minimize disruptions. Thank you for understanding.*

TODAY

Welcome to Worship at First Covenant Church! Wherever you find yourself on your journey of faith, we are glad you are here! Please join us for a cup of coffee and a treat during the Fellowship Time.

9:30am

Worship

Nursery Care, (birth through age 3), *Rooms 105 & 106*

Children's Church, children pre-k through 2nd grade are dismissed with leaders during Worship and will return with leaders during the last song, *Room 104*.

Resource Table for children and youth: Stop by this table as you enter Worship for bulletins, crayons & Bibles for children, and Confirmation worship notes.

10:30-11:00am

Fellowship Time, *Upper Fellowship Hall*

10:40-11:00am

Youth Group Music Lessons, *Graffiti Room*

11:00am-12:00pm

Nursery Care (birth through age 3), *Room 105*

Children's Sunday School, *(all start in Room 104 together)*

Please pick up your children at 12:00pm in the following rooms:

Pre-K - K, *Room 106*

Grades 3-4, *Room 104B*

Grades 1-2, *Room 104A*

Grades 5-6, *Room 201 (upstairs)*

Youth (7-12th grades), *Graffiti Room*

Confirmation, *Game Room*

Adult Spiritual Growth Hour, 11:00am, (this is the last Sunday of this series)

2 options:

1. Adult Lent Discussion Groups: Join us as we discuss Walter Brueggemann's "Sabbath as Resistance: Saying No to the Culture of Now" in small group discussions. Existing Life Groups which have met at church on Sundays will serve as discussion groups for our Lenten study.

2. Adults not participating in a Lent Discussion Group are invited to join Joe and Paige Mann in Upper Fellowship Hall. All groups will cover the same material.

Next Sunday, March 25 is Palm Sunday, 9:30am Worship

We are approaching Holy Week, and next Sunday is Palm Sunday. Everyone is invited to join in our Palm Sunday Parade. At 9:30am we will enter the west doors of the Sanctuary together, waving our palm branches. Please plan to arrive a little early to get your palm branch and bulletin so you are ready when the Parade begins. We extend a warm welcome to our brothers and sisters from Haitian Christian Fellowship who will be worshipping with us.

Sunday, April 1 is Easter Sunday, 10:30am Worship

Join us as we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ in worship with the Easter and Handbell Choirs, and Chamber and Brass Ensembles. Invite your friends and family!

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Beauty and the Beast DVD's: sign up at the Welcome Center to order a DVD of Beauty and the Beast. Each DVD costs \$10, which will help support future musicals. Please pay with cash or a check written out to First Covenant Church. Thanks for your support!

Stay connected: Weekly worship bulletins and podcasts of each week's message can be found on the church website under the Worship and Arts tab. Stop by the Welcome Center to order a CD of any Worship Service. The current Adult Spiritual Growth Hour series is not being recorded due to the format of the discussion groups.

Why are there hoses around the building? Yes, we still have roof leaks. Pastor Tom has been working with our insurance company, an independent claims adjuster, and a contractor to compile information and repair costs. The fans and hoses will need to stay for a while longer to prevent further water damage to the leaking area. Thanks for your understanding.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE AND SUPPORT

Alateen Training Session, Saturday, March 24, 1:00-3:00pm

Uptown House, 1344 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105

Alateen is a program for teens whose lives have been affected by someone else's drinking. Alateen is working to start a meeting at First Covenant Church. If you would like to learn more about Alateen, or if you are interested in being an adult who presides at Alateen meetings, you are welcome to attend this training. If you have further questions, please contact Mike O'Neal at mjloneil@gmail.com, or 651-698-0375.

Casting Our Nets; Saving Our Community Breakfast, Thursday, April 26, 7:00am

Saint Paul Federal Credit Union (1330 Conway Street).

Our partner, Family Values for Life is hosting their annual fundraising breakfast with guest speaker, Melvin Carter, Mayor of Saint Paul. All are invited - there is no cost. Please RSVP by April 20 to Rhonda Graham at (651) 774-6663 or Rhonda.fvfl@gmail.com.

SUPPORTING OUR YOUTH GOING TO CHIC

26 senior high students will be attending CHIC the week of July 14-20, 2018.

CHIC is the Covenant Denomination's triennial youth conference in Knoxville, TN.

Thank you for the ways you have been, and will continue to show your support!

Butter Braid Pastry Pick Up, Wednesday, March 21, 7:30pm, Lower Level Kitchen

CHIC Attendees should be prepared to pick up and bring home their order fulfillment for Butter Braids this coming Wednesday.

Sunday, March 25 at 10:30am - Anyone who purchased their Butter Braid Pastry from the general church sale on March 4 can pick up their Butter Braid Pastry on Palm Sunday.

Thank you for your support of our CHIC attendees!

CHIC Dessert and Auction - Saturday, April 21 at 6:30pm

Save the date for our CHIC Dessert and Auction! Tickets go on sale Sunday, April 1 following worship. Do you have something that is auction-worthy? We are on the lookout for events, services and goods (new or very gently used) that can help support our auction. If you have something that you would like to donation, contact Bill or Janel Haider or fill out the online form here: <https://goo.gl/forms/IBvfW2tWCSFdaXdE2>.

LENT OPPORTUNITIES

Lent is the Christian season of preparation before Easter. Ash Wednesday marks the first day, or the start of the season of Lent, which begins 40 days prior to Easter (not including Sundays). Lent is a time for reflection on Jesus Christ - his suffering and his sacrifice, his life, death, burial and resurrection.

Covenant World Relief: Kenyan Women's Agricultural Development Project

In a rural area of Western Kenya, women are marginalized and have been adversely affected by drought and conflict. A current Covenant World Relief project has provided these strong women with economic support, training and agricultural resources to produce products through farming as a way out of poverty. Once established, they in turn are training others as a means of building their community. *Give to Covenant World Relief on Easter Sunday, April 1.*

Adopt-a-Cop participants: We have the opportunity to send our St. Paul police officers an Easter greeting in March. Please have your note of encouragement in the Adopt-a-Cop mailbox in the church office by TODAY! Thanks for your continued prayers. For more information: Jan Mollet, Coordinator, rjmollet@gmail.com, 651-329-1221.

Easter Memorials gifts are used to purchase flowering plants that beautify our sanctuary for Worship on Easter Sunday. The smaller flowers will be delivered to bless our homebound friends following Easter. If you would like to honor the memory of a loved one, please provide their name(s) along with a financial gift (cash or a check written out to First Covenant Church) in an envelope. Place your envelope in the offering plate or bring to the church office by Sunday, March 25. Envelopes are available at the Welcome Center. All names received by March 25 will be listed in the bulletin on Easter Sunday.

Join the Gospel Choir as we sing on Palm Sunday, March 25, 9:30am Worship

All are invited to rehearse with us on Thursday, March 22 at 6:00pm in the Choir Room. New Gospel Choir schedules are at the Welcome Center. Questions? Contact Steve Pittman, Gospel Choir Director, steve@first-covenant.org.

Palm Sunday Brunch, March 25, 11:00am, Lower Fellowship Hall

From Pastor Lidovick Pierre, Haitian Christian Fellowship:

"We are also so excited about worshiping on Palm Sunday together. In the last 22 years, the Lord rescued us from Haiti as refugees to this land called Minnesota and led us to you as dear loving brothers and sisters of First Covenant Church in Saint Paul. You opened your hearts, you received and welcomed us with compassion and great joy and hospitality. You make us feel home. In the last three years HCF, sensed together to move the church services to the morning. This is the main reason we started raising money to move to a new place. You are all invited to our fundraiser brunch. All the money we receive will go toward that church building. We will receive donations as well. *Merci beaucoup! Thank you very much!*" All are invited! Cost: \$10.00 for adults; \$5.00 for children 5-12 years; free for children 4 and younger. Due to the brunch, we will not be having Spiritual Growth Hour on this day.

Good Friday Concert, Friday, March 30, 7:00pm, FCC Sanctuary

The Ethnic Mass Concert Series will continue with the Misa Criolla, written by Ariel Ramirez, an Argentine composer who used the melodies and rhythms of traditional Hispanic music. As we live in this journey of becoming a multicultural church we continue experiencing the various cultures through their own musical styles. Featured in this free concert will be the Easter Choir, the Vena Family from Argentina, the Handbell Choir and Chamber Ensemble.