

LENT 2017

C O N T E M P L A T E



**“COME TO ME ALL YOU WHO ARE WEARY AND BURDENED,
AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST.” MATTHEW 11:28**

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FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

March 5, 2017

9:30 a.m.

Gathering Time

Celebrating the Children's Musical with Our Partner, Farnsworth Aerospace School

Consider Yourself, OLIVER! Cast

Greeting

Please complete the connect card and place it in the offering plate.

*Opening Hymn 219

I Will Sing the Wondrous Story

*Opening Prayer

Introducing our Nursery Coordinator

Emily Caro

Scripture Reading

Psalm 32, Ysabel Deleon

Matthew 3:1-6, 11-17, Don Pelto

*Song

Hope Will Rise

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.

Entering the Season of Lent

Giving and Living Out of Our Abundance

Louise Wilson

Choral Offertory

In You We Are One (J. Althouse)

Waking Up

Remembering Through the Holy Sacraments

We invite all who follow Jesus as Lord to receive and celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion with us.

Affirmation of Faith

We Believe

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

*Closing Song

Beautiful Things

*Sending Words

Matthew 11:28

Postlude

TODAY

Welcome to Worship at First Covenant Church! *Wherever you find yourself on your journey of faith, we are glad you are here. The connect card in your bulletin provides a way to give or receive information, or to ask for prayer. Many are already part of our e-mail communication. If you would like to receive periodic church updates electronically, please indicate this on your connect card. Place your completed connect card in the offering plate.*

A Warm Welcome to Emily Caro, our new part-time Nursery Coordinator! Emily and her husband James have two boys, ages 1 and 2-1/2.

What is Covenant World Relief?

Covenant World Relief (CWR), is the humanitarian aid ministry of the Evangelical Covenant Church. As a denomination, we actively contribute funds to God's mission to transform the world in areas of disaster, relief and community development for the most needy and vulnerable people in the world. The CWR mission is to "join God in loving, serving, and working together with the poor, the powerless, and the marginalized peoples of the world. First Covenant's fund raising for CWR begins today, and continues through Lent. Contributions will be collected on Easter Sunday, April 16. Info: www.covchurch.org/cwr.

9:30am

Worship

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

Children's Church, children pre-k - 2nd grade are dismissed with leaders during Worship and will return with leaders before Communion, Room 104.

Resource Table for children and youth, please check out this table as you enter Worship, where you will find worship bulletins, crayons and Bibles for children, and worship notes for Confirmation students.

10:30am

Fellowship Time, *Upper Fellowship Hall*

Sankofa Trip Informational Meeting, (current 8th graders-adults), *Graffiti Room*

11:00am

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

Sunday School, (Pre-K - K), *Room 106*

Oliver! Cast, Parents and Crew Party, *Lower Fellowship Hall*

Confirmation, *Game Room*

Youth Sunday School, *Graffiti Room*

Adult Spiritual Growth Hour, *Upper Fellowship Hall*

Join us as we kick off our Lenten theme of "Contemplate". Joe Mann is presenting a Bible study titled, "Selah, a Study in Psalms". The focus is on Psalms as a book of prayer. This study will encompass the first forty minutes of the hour. The last twenty minutes, Executive Pastor Tom Cameron, will highlight for us the spiritual practice of Lectio Divina, a way of reading the Scriptures that encourages us to seek our own contemplative experiences with God.

12:15-1:45pm

Talking Circle: Following Christ in Our Sexually Diverse Community, *Lower Fellowship Hall*

The Gender and Sexuality Resource Team invites you to continue the conversation begun during the recent Spiritual Growth series. We will have a light lunch.

WEATHER ADVISORY INFORMATION

It's the season of ice, snow, and cold! In case Wednesday activities or Sunday Worship needs to be cancelled due to weather, alerts will be posted on the FCC website, the office voicemail, FCC Facebook, TV Channel 4, and TV Channel 9. Cancellations will be made by 3:00pm for Wednesday activities and by 6:00am for Sunday Worship.

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Stay connected: Stop by the Welcome Center to order a CD of any worship service. Weekly worship bulletins and podcasts can be found on the church website under the Worship and Arts tab.

Resource Table in Upper Fellowship Hall: There you will find our Lent 2017 Guidebook, information about Covenant World Relief, as well as other resources for Lent. Thank you to Kate Makosky for creating the guidebook, and to Janet Cameron for our Lent 2017 "CONTEMPLATE" visual.

First Covenant and Welcoming the Stranger: It seems every day our news sources are reporting on issues related to immigration and refugee concerns facing our nation and world. What is our response as Christ followers? as a church? Click on the "Welcoming the Stranger" slide on our website (www.first-covenant.org) to read responses from key leaders within our denomination and our partners.

Oliver! We are so grateful to all those who helped in any way with last weekend's performances of *Oliver!* A huge thank you to DD Peterson and Robyn Adams for using their photography skills and putting together the *Oliver!* slide show for this morning.

Oliver! t-shirts can be ordered (last day to order is today), \$10 each.

Oliver! DVD's can be ordered, \$10 each.

Please sign up at the Welcome Center for both of these *Oliver!* fundraising mementos.

THIS WEEK

Gospel Choir Rehearsal, Thursday, March 9, 6:00-7:30pm, Choir Room

All are welcome to join us as we prepare to sing in worship on Sunday, March 12.

Please see Steve Pittman with any questions.

Parental Guidance Suggested: The Birds, The Bees and HPV

Saturday, March 11 from 9:30-11:30am, Upper Fellowship Hall

Talking with your kids about sex and their bodies is one of the most important, and often most difficult conversations to have - and one that you can never start too early.

Join us as we talk through the hard stuff, so that you can have courageous conversations with your kids and teens. Questions? Contact Kate or Donovan.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Remember! Next Sunday, March 12 is Daylight Saving Time. Do not forget to set your clocks one hour ahead before you go to bed on Saturday night.

Youth Group Music Lessons will begin again on Sunday, March 12, 10:40-11:00am
Graffiti Room

See Richard Voth if you have questions.

Talking Circle: Following Christ in Our Sexually Diverse Community

Tuesday, March 14, 7:00-8:30pm, Upper Fellowship Hall

The Gender and Sexuality Resource Team invites you to continue the conversation begun during the recent Spiritual Growth series. Please sign up at the Welcome Center. Childcare is available. Questions? Contact D.D. Peterson, 651-776-7117 or ddpeterson07@comcast.net.

Summer Preview Night, Wednesday, March 15, 5:45-7:30pm

Upper Fellowship Hall

Join us at 5:45pm for dinner, with summer 2017 program information for children and youth beginning at 6:15pm. Get registered for Covenant Pines Bible Camp and learn about other available opportunities this summer! Questions? See Kate or Donovan.

Womens Ministries Northwest Conference Renewal Conference 2017 SHINE!

From 5:30 pm March 17 to 4pm March 18 New London Covenant, New London, MN

Sign up by today and send in your registration to qualify for a \$25 scholarship available from FCC Women's Fund. Visit www.wmnwc.org or east hall bulletin board. Questions? Contact Lynn Gilmore at 651-770-1536 or gilmork@msn.com.

Nursery Adult Leaders Meeting, Saturday, March 18, 2:00-3:30pm

Room 104

If you are a nursery volunteer, plan to join us for a time to get to know Emily, our new nursery coordinator, and one another. We will also do some training and planning. Questions? See Donovan.