

WELCOME TO SPIRIT OF LIFE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

14401 Pilot Knob Road / Apple Valley, MN 55124
www.spiritoflifeav.org / spirit@spiritoflifeav.org / 952.423.2212

Thank you for joining us!

We hope you experience the joy of God's love in our diverse, inclusive, and compassionate community. Come as you are; all are welcome!

- ◇ Worship is at 10:00 am Sunday mornings, and can be live-streamed or watched later on YouTube or Facebook.
 - ◇ Restrooms are in the first hallway to the left on exiting the sanctuary.
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ORDER OF WORSHIP APRIL 12, 2026

**All who are able are invited to stand. Regular attenders, visitors, & members, please complete & return Connect/Prayer cards in offering plate or to the Welcome Table at the back of the sanctuary.*

Today's worship leaders: Rev. Dr. Bryan Demeritte, Patrick Keohane, Steve Raatz

Prelude

Opening Song Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna! (Hymn #248)

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Passing of the Peace

Song Peace Perfect Peace (CCLI #631904)

Scripture John 20: 19-31

Children's sermon

Sermon "From Locked Doors to Future Possibilities"

Call To Offering

-Ushers will circulate offering plates for those who wish to give in this way. Online giving is also available on our website.

Offertory Help Us See Christ (by Bob Kauflin & Matthew Carpenter CCLI #7240446) (Odosa Amadasun, singer)

Prayers of the People

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.

Announcements

Closing Song Thuma Mina (Send Me, Jesus) - traditional South African

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

Please join us for coffee and refreshments after worship.

Announcements

Visitors: Welcome to Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church! Thank you for worshiping with us. Visitors, regular attenders and members, please complete the Connect/Prayer card and indicate if you wish to receive our weekly emails. If you don't have a card, please pick one up from our Information Table at the back of the sanctuary. Please return completed Connect/Prayer card in offering plate or in box labeled accordingly at the back. If you have any questions, please ask at the Information Table.

Welcoming Our Neighbors: Dakota Unitarian Universalist Church

Beginning April 12, we are grateful to welcome Dakota Unitarian Universalist Church (DUUC) as they begin sharing space with us here at Spirit of Life. DUUC has been seeking a new worship home following the closing of their Eagan location. As they connected with us, it quickly became clear that we share many common values—including a deep commitment to feeding our neighbors and serving the wider community. DUUC will gather for worship at 12:30 PM on Sundays, meeting weekly from April 12 through May 17. Summer gatherings are scheduled for June 14, July 12, and August 9. On April 12, we are also honored to welcome their pastor, Rev. Dr. Bryan Demeritte, who will be preaching at Spirit of Life while Pastor Rob is on vacation. Throughout the summer, our communities will continue to build relationships and discern what shared ministry and partnership might look like beginning this fall. We invite you to join in offering a warm Spirit of Life welcome—extending hospitality, kindness, and openness as we share this space together.

Sunday Event:

- **Children's Sunday School** class starts at 9:30am and goes until 10:15, then the kids will join adults in sanctuary for the Children's sermon.

Weekday Events:

- **(Tuesday) COFFEE and CONVERSATION with Pastor Rob meets Tuesdays, 9:00-10:00 am.** This week we meet at *Spirit of Life* where it is open for you to pop in and out any time, in person or online. Feel free to drop in and say hello. *Note, same time and same login, recurring meeting each week. Join Zoom Meeting at <https://zoom.us/j/286584190>.
- **Meet in the Middle meets Wednesdays, 4:30-6pm.** It's another exciting year of Meet in the Middle at *Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church*! From 4:30-6pm, kids will be playing games, making arts and crafts, eating snacks, singing, Bible lessons and more! Parents join the kids for 6pm dinner. (A free will offering will be taken for dinner). *We have 3 more weeks of M&M: 4/15, 4/22, and 4/29. On the 15th we are going to visit Apple Valley Villas at 5 pm and share music with the residents. Please join us for this fun field trip and watch for a separate email with additional info.
- **Youth group** meets Wednesdays, 6-8pm.

SoL Kids' Corner:

- **Save the Date – SoL Kids' Camp: Aug 10–14**, for children entering **K–6** and middle/high school helpers. More details coming this spring. Questions? Christine: **952-210-6412** or christine@christinesfloraltouch.com

Cabaret Fundraiser – Get your tickets today!

Join us on Saturday, May 2, from 6:00–9:00 PM for our annual Cabaret—an evening of dinner, entertainment, and a silent auction. Suggested ticket price is \$30, which includes the meal and festivities. You are invited to give as you are able—pay what you can, or more if you're able—to help make this a welcoming evening for all. This special event supports our youth as they prepare for their trip to Montreat. Tickets will be available for purchase starting this Sunday after worship. We hope you'll join us!

SoL Call: Protect the VOTE

Support or join groups that work to make our elections free, fair, and accessible, like the League of Women Voters: <https://www.lwvmn.org/>

Pastor Rob is offering a **New Member Class**. For the informational meeting on Sunday, April 12th, see Bob Shepard. Additional tentative meetings dates are April 19, 26 & May 3. New Member Sunday would be May 31st. If questions or complications with these dates, please talk to Pastor Rob!

Merry Old SoLs will be at Jerry and Karen Johnson's on Wednesday, April 15th, 9:30am. Mark your calendars! Please RSVP to Steve or Marge Braden.

NOTICE: The landscaping at the driveway entrance is going to be re-done, and virtually all of the current plant material will be torn out and replaced. If you would like to have any sedum Autumn Joy, Stella D'Oro daylilies, tall orange naturalizing daylilies, or early blooming purple low-growing iris, please contact Denise Lewis, dlewis9476@comcast.net, so you can be notified when the plant material is available for pick-up.

MN FoodShare: Thank you for your generous support of our MN FoodShare 2026 March Campaign! We delivered a total of 189 pounds of

food to Rosemount Resource Center, and they will receive a check for \$1,325 to use to purchase MORE food! Thanks, again!

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY meets 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at the church! at 6PM!

Prayer requests to share with our Spirit Care Prayer Team may be emailed to Barb at bostlund@charter.net. Word it as you wish it to be submitted, and we will post it for our prayer team.

2026 Per Capita is \$43.75

It takes all of us to be the church. Leadership has worked diligently to organize the opportunities and share many of these through the following Sign-Up Genius links. Would you please take a few minutes and help make a commitment to help pick up a part. Please click on the link and select a date you could serve:

Fellowship Time

April 12: Karen Johnson
April 19: Loretta Hunt & Patrick Keohane
April 26: (VOLUNTEER NEEDED)

Please use this link to sign up to prepare and serve coffee and treats for the fellowship time: Spirit of Life Congregation: Spirit of Life Sunday Fellowship - Refreshments/Treats

Usher/Greeter

April 12: (VOLUNTEER NEEDED)
April 19: (VOLUNTEER NEEDED)
April 26: (VOLUNTEER NEEDED)

Please use this link to sign up to serve as an Usher/
Greeter—<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4CAFA92FAAFCC34-50066232-spirit>
Thank You, Pastor Rob



Usual Church Office Hours: Monday & Thursday 10-3. Call ahead to make sure as we work remotely some days.

Staff: Pastor: Rev. Robert (Rob) Smith (pastorrob@spiritoflifeav.org)
Music Director: Martha Davis (davis.martha@live.com)
Office Administrator: Shari Shaw (spirit@spiritoflifeav.org)
Nursery Director: Trista Hansen
Tech Director: Joe Cornormia
AV Intern: Emma Meyer
Children's Director: Christine Kolb
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