



First Presbyterian Church  
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## **Order of Worship September 29, 2024**

PRELUDE

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Darin

CALL TO WORSHIP

Based on Psalm 95:1-5

Pastor Darin

1 Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;  
let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

**2 Let us come before him with thanksgiving  
and extol him with music and song.**

3 For the Lord is the great God,  
the great King above all gods.

**4 In his hand are the depths of the earth,  
and the mountain peaks belong to him.**

5 The sea is his, for he made it,  
and his hands formed the dry land.

**6 Come, let us bow down in worship,  
let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

OPENING PRAYER

Pastor Darin

\*HYMN

*We Lift Our Voices*

No. 710

CALL TO CONFESSION

Shauna Seaman

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Shauna Seaman

**Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our failure to be what you created us to be. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light and abide in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

*(Silence for individual confession)*

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Shauna Seaman

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.  
**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

\*RESPONSE

*Halle, Halle, Hallelujah*

No. 591

\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Pastor Darin

The grace and peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Shauna Seaman

OLD TESTAMENT

Esther 7:1-10

Shauna Seaman

<sup>1</sup> So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. <sup>2</sup> On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, “What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled.” <sup>3</sup> Then Queen Esther answered, “If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me—that is my petition—and the lives of my people—that is my request. <sup>4</sup> For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace, but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king.” <sup>5</sup> Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, “Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?” <sup>6</sup> Esther said, “A foe and an enemy, this wicked Haman!” Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen. <sup>7</sup> The king rose from the feast in wrath and went into the palace garden, but Haman stayed to beg his life from Queen Esther, for he saw that the king had determined to destroy him. <sup>8</sup> When the king returned from the palace garden to the banquet hall, Haman had thrown himself on the couch where Esther was reclining, and the king said, “Will he even violate the queen in my presence, in my own house?” As the words left the mouth of the king, they covered Haman’s face. <sup>9</sup> Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, “Look, the very pole that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman’s house, fifty cubits high.” And the king said, “Hang him on that.” <sup>10</sup> So they hung Haman on the pole that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Pastor Darin

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

James 3:13-4:3

Pastor Darin

<sup>13</sup> Who is wise and knowledgeable among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. <sup>14</sup> But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be arrogant and lie about the truth. <sup>15</sup> This is not wisdom that comes down from above but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. <sup>16</sup> For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. <sup>17</sup> But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. <sup>18</sup> And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

<sup>4</sup> <sup>1</sup> Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? <sup>2</sup> You want something and do not have it, so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it, so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup> You ask and do not receive because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“James: A Good Life”

Pastor Darin

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Brief Statement of Faith, adapted

Pastor Darin

**In life and in death we belong to God.  
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,  
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,  
whom alone we worship and serve.**

\*HYMN

*Christ Be Beside Me*

No. 702

WE GIVE OUR OFFERINGS

Invitation to Give

Prayer of Dedication

Shauna Seaman

Shauna Seaman

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Pastor Darin

\*HYMN

*I Need Thee Every Hour*

No. 735

\*BLESSING

Pastor Darin

\*POSTLUDE

\*Indicates to stand in body or spirit.

# First Presbyterian Church Happenings

## Serving Us Today (Sept. 29)

Shauna Seaman (Worship Leader), Mike and Kim Tollefson (Ushers), Don and Jan Watkins (Greeters), Leah Jacobs Sara Rebeck (Nursery), Al Jergensen, Mara Jahnke, Jullian Euteneuer (Musicians), Jay Espelien, John Scott, Patty Scott (Audio), Ryne Pentz (Equal Exchange).

## Mother Hubbard's Cupboard (all of October)

We can help the hungry in our community by donating non-perishable food and self-care items to this October's **Mother Hubbard's Cupboard**. Tables will be setup in the hallway by the pastor's wall photos, where you can leave your donations. Examples of items needed are: soup, canned vegetables, canned fruit, pasta, dry cereal, boxed dinners, dish soap, shampoo, paper towels, etc. Please be careful to check that expiration dates have not passed, as we do not donate food that may no longer be good. Also, please donate only new, never been opened items. If you prefer to make a donation of money, please mark on your check that the money is for Mother Hubbard's Cupboard. Thank you for helping us feed our neighbors in central Minnesota.

## First Friday Concert (Oct 4)

Robin and Linda Williams (robinandlinda.com) will be performing. Tickets are \$25 online at granitecityfolk.org, or \$30 at the show.

## Breaking Bread Community Meal (Oct. 16)

Join us Wednesday, Night at 5:00 pm for Dinner. We will be having enjoying soup. Watch for the signup in the main entrance. A free will offering will be taken, and college students eat for free.

## Children, Youth & Ministry Family (CYFM)

Our CYFM is looking for volunteers to help in teaching Sunday School for the 2024-25 year. We specifically need someone(s) to fill in 6 times for our Oldest students and also people willing to be substitutes for the Youngest and Middle groups. If you want more information or want to volunteer, please contact one of the CYFM committee members - Stephanie Randolph, Tomoko Rebeck, Jeannie Chu, Lori Smith, Lynn Rae Olson or Carrie Raiche.

## Prison Ministry Fellowship

We are seeking volunteers to serve weekly on Thursday mornings from 8:00 to 9:30 a.m. in the St. Cloud Correctional Facility Prison Chapel. Please pray for our team and those affected by crime and incarceration. Please contact Richard Lawrence at 320-260-9639 or email richlawrence66@gmail.com to volunteer.

## LowerTown Schedule

Note the upcoming Lowertown Schedule for October. At Salem Lutheran Church Oct. 6 (10:30 am), at our church (FPC) on Oct. 13 (10:00 am)

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Calendar	
<b>Mon., September 30</b> 7:00 pm - Focus on Recovery Group	<b>Thur., October 3</b> 2:00 pm - Men's "Closer Walk" Rehearsal
<b>Tues., October 1</b> 9:00 am - Men's Bible Study 5:30 pm - LowerTown Rehearsal	<b>Fri., October 4</b> 7:00 am - Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm - First Friday - Robin & Linda Williams
<b>Wed., October 2</b> 9:15 am - Women's Book Study 2:00 pm - Online Prayer Group 4:30 pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm - Crusade Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm - Ring! Bell Choir	<b>Sun., October 6</b> 9:00 am - Youth Sunday School 10:00 am - Worship