

First Presbyterian Church of Albert Lea

Eastertide

May 3, 2026

Welcome and Prayer of Adoration

* **Opening Hymn # 4** *How Great Thou Art (1-4)*

Prayer of Confession

All: Sovereign God,
we confess that we often shrink back in fear
when You call us to step forward in faith.

We remain silent when we should speak,
hesitate when we should act,
and choose comfort over obedience.

We forget that You have placed us where we are
for Your purposes.

Forgive us, Lord.
Give us courage to trust You,
and boldness to follow where You lead.
Amen.

Please take a moment to personally confess your sins to God.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader:

Hear the good news:
God does not call us and then abandon us.

In His grace, He forgives our fear,
strengthens our hearts,
and works through us for His good purposes.

In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven—
and called, equipped, and sent.
Amen.

Kids Message

Andrea Riemann

All kids are invited forward to sit on the chancel steps for the Kids Message. Parents are invited to sit with their children if it makes them feel more comfortable.

Offering

As an act of worship, we invite you to give towards God's Kingdom work.

* Doxology and Prayer of Thanksgiving

Scripture Reading Esther 4

Next week's Scripture passage will be from Esther 5.

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Sermon

For Such a Time as This

Steve Piper

Choir Anthem

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostle's Creed

Sacrament of Communion

All who place their hope in Christ are invited forward for communion. Beginning with the back of the room, you can make your way up the center aisle to be served. Gluten-free bread is available at the center table. For those who are unable to come forward, simply raise your hand and a server will serve you in your seat.

* **Hymn # 76** *O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing (1-5)*

* **Benediction and Response**

Go Now In Peace

** Please stand if you are able.*

Today's Scripture Passage: Esther 5

THIS WEEK AND NEXT

MONDAY MAY 4

9:00 am Men's Bible Study (*Hearthside Room*)

7:00pm Women's Bible Study (*Hearthside Room*) **New!**

TUESDAY MAY 5*

10:00 am Women's Craft Group (*Library*)

WEDNESDAY MAY 6

9:00 am Prayer Warriors (*Hearthside Room*)

10:00 am Coed Bible Study (*Multipurpose Room*)

3:00 pm Kidzone (*Westminster Hall*)

5:45 pm Confirmation (*Hearthside*)

6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (*Choir Room*)

6:30 pm Highlife (*Youth Room*)

THURSDAY MAY 7

9:00 am Men's Bible Study (*Main Street Cafe*)

SUNDAY MAY 10

9:00 am Faith Cafe (*Multipurpose Room*)

10:00 am Worship Service (*Sanctuary*)

11:00am Coffee Fellowship (*Westminster Hall*)

MONDAY MAY 11

9:00 am Men's Bible Study (*Hearthside Room*)

TUESDAY MAY 12

10:00 am Women's Craft Group (*Library*)

6:30 pm Session Meeting (*Multipurpose Room*)

WEDNESDAY MAY 13

9:00 am Prayer Warriors (*Hearthside Room*)

10:00 am Coed Bible Study (*Multipurpose Room*)

3:00 pm Kidzone (*Westminster Hall*) **Last Day!**

6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (*Choir Room*)

6:30 pm Highlife (*Youth Room*) **Last Day!**

THURSDAY MAY 14

9:00 am Men's Bible Study (*Main Street Cafe*)

Prayer List - Please pray for: Bryan Cunningham & Family, Robyn Schafer, Goemann family, Dillon Hanson family, Siglinda Kleih and Bill Sievers. **If you have a prayer concern**, fill out a prayer card from your pew-back and put it in the offertory box outside the office.

Summer Events - As we venture deeper into spring, we know summer isn't too far behind - wahoo! That also means it's time to share summer event dates and details here at First Pres. The 2026 summer events calendar is set to release mid May - stay tuned!

Mother's Day - Join us for a special coffee fellowship hour, "Muffins with Mom", after worship service next Sunday, May 10th! We will celebrate all the special moms in our lives! Hosted by the PWSC.

Women's Bible Study - There is still time to join the Bible study! **For all the women of this church (and guests); ages 16+**. The study will meet here at the church every other Monday evening at **7pm in the Hearthside Room until June 15th**. This study is in the book of Ruth and will be a 4 week study series. See you there!

Kidzone & Highlife - The 2025-2026 Kidzone & Highlife season is almost done - **last day is Wednesday May 13th!** BUT, Highlife Unplugged (an evening of teen fellowship & worship) will be starting up on Wednesday evenings; **beginning June 3rd!** Also, stay tuned for summer VBS info!

Senior Sunday - Save the date for Sunday, **May 17th** as we celebrate our seniors! This is a chance to bless our high school seniors as they take their next steps in life! Our graduating seniors, class of 2026, are Lia Cunningham, McKenzie Fields, Ben Rasmussen & Evan Anfinson.

May Missions - Our May mission partner is Frontiers; an organization that reaches out to unreached Muslims in Northern Africa. More info on this mission can be found at frontiersusa.org

Food Pantry - We support our Ecumenical Food Pantry year round, but each month is assigned a needed item. The needed items for the month of May are peanut butter and jelly. If you would like to donate, we collect donated items in a grocery cart in the front entry of the church. Thank you for your continued generosity and support of the food pantry!

Happy Birthday - Jayden Janssen (4/3), Rich Howard (4/7) and Grace Riskedahl (4/8)!

