## Sermon Notes




# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ROCHELLE

TO "GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL PEOPLE" INVITING THEM INTO A SAVING RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST, BUILDING THEM INTO THE IMAGE OF CHRIST, SENDING THEM INTO SERVICE FOR CHRIST.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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# WELCOME

#### October 5, 2025 - 9:00am

Welcome and Announcements - Lizzie Cartwright

Time of Preparation for Worship

Introit: Praise the Lord in His Holy Temple

Call to Worship

Leader: In your wisdom, O God, you call us here to worship you.

All: We gather, alive to the Word of God.

Leader: You call us to be fully alive with your life abundant, ready to listen and respond with heart, soul, strength, and mind.

All: We listen, alive to the Word of God.

Leader: You call us to be always watchful for your Word of wisdom, sometimes startling and unexpected, sometimes still and quiet, but always dwelling among us.

All: We wait for your Word, O Lord.

Choir Anthem: How Great Thou Art with Majesty

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

For self-righteousness that will not compromise, and from selfishness that gains by the manipulation of others, forgive us, O God.

For the lust of money or power that drives to kill, forgive us, O God.

For the arrogance and thoughtlessness that abuses your good creation, forgive us, O God.

For trusting in the weapons of war and mistrusting the councils of peace, forgive us, O God.

For listening to the strains of hopelessness: forgive us, O God.

For hearing, believing, and speaking lies about other nations, forgive us, O God.

For suspicions and fears that stand in the way of reconciliation, forgive us, O God.

For words and deeds that encourage discord, perpetuate racist assumptions, sexist stereotypes, and classist attitudes— for everything that contributes to oppression, forgive us, O God. Amen.

Song: Blessed Assurance

Scripture Reading: Hebrews 6:16-20

Sermon: Where Did Hope Go?

Song of Preparation: Hope of the Nations

The Lord's Supper

The Apostles' Creed

Offering and Doxology

Song: My Hope is in You

Blessing

#### October Adult Ed

"What type of person did Jesus come for?"
Although the obvious answer is everyone, a look at Jesus' life and parables gives us a clue of His deep love and compassion for the undeserving, the doubting, the prodigal and the faithful.

Join us on Sundays at 10:00 in the Adult Ed classroom. Lydia Roberts will be teaching in October.

Our Middle & High Schoolers are hosting a PORK CHOP SANDWICH DINNER fundraiser!

OCTOBER 14th - 4:30-6:00pm

Use the QR code or call the office to place your order!



#### SUNDAY, October 5

9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour, Adult Ed, Sunday School 6:30 p.m. High School Youth Group 6:30 p.m. Chunko's Small Group 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

#### MONDAY, October 6

10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Middle School Youth Group

#### WEDNESDAY, October 8

11:00 a.m. Prayer Group 6:00 p.m. Choir 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

#### THURSDAY, October 9

7;30 a.m. Kiwanis Meeting 4:00 p.m. 3-5th Grade Youth Group

#### SATURDAY, October 11

4:00 p.m. Transport for Christ Banquet 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

#### SUNDAY, October 12

9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour 6:30 p.m. High School Youth Group 6:30 p.m. Chunko's Small Group 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

If you have a prayer request that you would like to be put on the "Prayer Chain", please send it to Mary Kay Merema. She sends the prayer requests to the texting threads. Mary Kay's phone number is 815-761-3428.





### **Sunday Greeters Needed!**

The Deacons are looking for volunteers to serve as greeters prior to the 9:00 a.m. Sunday service. We hope to have two greeters (or more!) each Sunday—to assist people at the east entrance and to pass out bulletins as worshipers arrive.

Come at 8:30 a.m. and you are done by 9:00 a.m. to join worship. Easy!

For more information, or to volunteer, please contact one of the deacons.

Thank you!

Office Coordinator/DCE - Sara Slattengren Student Ministry Leader - Tessa Stouffer Secretary/Receptionist - Midge Berg Financial Secretary - Karen Hauck

Church Web Site: www.placeforgrace.com

E-Mail Addresses:

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Office Hours: M-Th 9a-4p Fri 9a-12Noon We have scheduled preachers for this fall. Each week we will have someone from our congregation preaching.

October 12: Eric Heinekamp October 19: Jim Cappel October 26: Lydia Roberts

Please continue to pray for our Interim Search Committee, as they seek to find someone to lead us.

They continue to conduct interviews, both via Zoom and in person.

#### Interim Pastor Update

We have interviewed a few candidates on zoom and 1 in person. Pastor Peter Park of Bolingbrook, IL has agreed to fill the pulpit for our church for the first three Sundays in November and December.

We have been meeting as a group to help fill the position of interim pastor. We have and will continue to pray that God will provide our church with a willing and faithful candidate.

Blessing to you all, Interim Search Committee

## Did you know?

Our church offers a great printed resource for people dealing with emotional, physical and /or spiritual needs. CareNotes are short, concise booklets with easy-to-read information and support on a wide variety of topics, including aging, family care, grief, mental wellness and spiritual support.

The motto of CareNotes explains its purpose:

Take One—and take heart

Give One—and give hope

The Deacons have recently reorganized these booklets. They are available in the hallway between the narthex and Fellowship Hall. Please take a look and help yourself to this free resource. Share them with others, too, as appropriate.

#### TSHIRT FUNDRAISER



Our Alaska team is excited to start thinking about planning another Mission Trip! They will be fundraising for a while to get a little jump start on their account.

- This image will be on a black shirt-

This shirt symbolizes a lot of what our Alaska Mission Trip entailed. All of our team had the opportunity, many of them had several times, to pray with people in parking lots, on the street, at The Door (a homeless shelter for children). While most of our team felt stretched out of comfort zones to do

this, everyone embraced the opportunity and openly prayed with those who wanted.

Please help us continue this mission as we live our daily lives here in Rochelle!

Shirts range in price, depending on what you'd like! Please allow up to I week for shirts to be available for pick up!

NEW LIFE LIBRARY—GENTLE AND LOWLY: The Heart of Christ for Sinners and Sufferers

Review by Joanne Mayes

I understand that several people, including me, asked our librarian to order Dane Ortlund's GENTLE AND LOWLY: the Heart of Christ for Sinners and Sufferers. The book was published in 2020 by Crossway in Wheaton, Illinois. At that time the author was senior pastor at Naperville Presbyterian Church in Naperville, Illinois.

The book focuses on the one place in the four gospels, Matthew 4:28-30, where Jesus describes himself: "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Ortlund's focus on this key scripture flows through twenty-three chapters which consider issues such as Jesus' heart in action throughout the Bible, how Jesus relates to us in our sins, His advocacy for us before God, legalism and grace, a dark look at what Jesus endured on the cross, and what He is doing for us in heaven.

I found the book to be a bit repetitive but realize Ortlund is trying to drive home his point. Also, all the parentheses, mainly scripture references, and the footnotes were distracting to me. However, the book is well worth the reader's time and will help him/her discover who our beautiful Savior Jesus is.