Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel

1 Tower Avenue in Historic Fort Snelling, Minnesota

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Annual Chapel Picnic

21 July 2024 — 11:00 a.m.

Non-Denominational Christian Worship Service

hosted by

Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation

Jesus Christ, *Head of the Church*
The Congregation, *Ministers of the Gospel*

Ministerial Staff

Rev. Dr. Kenneth "Ken" L. Beale, Jr., *Senior Chaplain*
Rev. Philip "Buddy" A. Winn, Jr., *Associate Chaplain*
Dr. Desiderius "Desi" Klempay, *Organist*
Tamara Henschel, *Special Music Coordinator*

Administrative Staff

Bev Johnson, *Office Manager*
Carol Nygaard, *Accounting Specialist*

Where the Veteran Is Remembered

ORDER OF WORSHIP

We are glad that you are here for worship today!
*The * indicates that you are invited to stand as you are able.*
*The ** indicates times for the ushers to seat latecomers.*
*The **bold print** indicates readings/choral responses of the congregation.*
If you have a cell phone, please turn off the ringer. Thank you.

Lighting of Altar Candles *Symbol of the Spirit's Presence*

Lighting of the POW/MIA Candle

Special Music

"Soon and Very Soon"	A. Crouch
"'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"	W. Kirkpatrick
"Jesus Name" Medley	N. Hearns, B. & G. Gaither, arr. T. Dahl
"O America"	B. Graham, W. Joseph

Organ Prelude "Rondeau" H. Purcell

Consider using these sacred moments to meditate upon the scripture reading and prepare yourself to receive a blessing from God. Kindly be considerate of your neighbor's need for silence. We encourage your conversations to be held following worship. Please refrain from applause after the organ prelude.

Ringing of the Ship Bell

Call to Worship L = Leader **P = People**

L: The strength of our nation lies in our devotion and obedience to God.
P: We cannot retain a republic that will survive if God's Word is ignored.
L: God's will for America is for His people to be light and salt before all people.
P: May our country be truly "under God" and faithfully fulfill His purpose to His honor and glory.

* ***Processional Hymn of Praise*** "God of Grace and God of Glory" # 440

"Cwm Rhondda" words and music by Fosdick and Hughes
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1. God of grace and God of glory, on Thy people pour Thy power; crown Thine ancient Church's story; bring her bud to glorious flower. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.
2. Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn Thy Christ, assail His ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days, for the living of these days.
4. Set our feet on lofty places; gird our lives that they may be armored with all Christ-like graces in the fight to set men free. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, that we fail not man nor Thee! That we fail not man nor Thee!
5. Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore; let the search for Thy salvation be our glory evermore. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving Thee whom we adore, serving Thee who we adore.

* ***Invocation***

* ***Choral Response*** (sung by all)

"Habakkuk 2:20" music by Harrington
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The Lord is in His holy temple;
Let all the earth keep silence before Him.

** ***Organ Interlude***

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

We are proud of our nation, O God, and thank You for the privilege of being citizens of these United States. But our pride often causes us to leave You out of our politics. Forgive us when we reject Your guidance in our national and international affairs. Help us to be a country that shares Your concern and compassion for all people. We pray through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

* ***Gloria Patri*** (sung by all)

"Greatorex" words and music by *Gloria Patri*, 2nd cent. and Greatorex
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Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

* ***Statement of Faith*** The Apostles' Creed, *Ecumenical Version*

L: Christian, what do you believe?

P: I believe in God the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended to the dead.
On the third day He rose again;
He ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy universal church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body
and the life everlasting. Amen.

** ***Organ Interlude***

Children's Message (children gather on the steps of the chancel)

Special Music "Touch Your People Once Again" S. Green

Scripture Reading Judges 16:19-21 (New King James Version)

[19] Then she [Delilah] lulled him [Samson] to sleep on her knees, and called for a man and had him shave off the seven locks of his head. Then she began to torment him, and his strength left him. [20] And she said, "The Philistines are upon you, Samson!" So he awoke from his sleep, and said, "I will go out as before, at other times, and shake myself free!" **But he did not know that the LORD had departed from him.**
[21] Then the Philistines took him and put out his eyes, and brought him down to Gaza. They bound him with bronze fetters, and he became a grinder in the prison.

Sermon **"The Downward Spiral of Depravity"** Chaplain Beale
1st of 6 preelection messages based on the book *Right Thinking for a Culture in Chaos* © 2023

* ***Hymn of Response*** "If My People's Hearts Are Humbled"
Tune: "Love Divine, All Love Excelling" # 463
"Beecher" words and music by Blackwood and Zundel
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1. If My people's hearts are humbled, if they pray and seek My face; if they turn away from evil, I will not without My grace. I will hear their prayers from heaven: I will pardon every sin. If My people's hearts are humbled, I will surely heal their land.
2. Then My eyes will see their sorrow, then My ears will hear their plea, if My people's hearts are humbled, I will set their nation free. If My people's hearts are humbled, if they pray and seek My face; If they turn away from evil, I will not withhold My grace. Amen.

Offering of Tithes and Gifts
Dedication Prayer
Offertory Music "In This Very Room" R. & C. Harris
* Stewardship Response (sung by all)
"Old Hundredth" words and music by Ken and Bourgeois
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Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Call to Prayer

Sharing of Joys and Concerns (text prayer requests to 612-747-1059)

Leader: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastoral Prayer of the People

The Lord's Prayer: **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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

* ***Recessional Hymn of Dedication*** "This Is My Father's World" # 76

"Terra beata" words and music by Babcock and Sheppard
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3. This is my Father's world. Oh, let me ne'er forget that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet. This is my Father's world: The battle is not done: Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and earth and heav'n be one.

* ***Benediction***

* ***Extinguishing of the POW/MIA Candle***

* ***Choral Response*** (sung by all)

"America" words and music by Smith and *'Thesaurus Musicus'*
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Our fathers' God, to Thee, author of liberty, to Thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light;
Protect us by Thy might, great God, our King. Amen.

* ***Extinguishing of Altar Candles*** *Taking the Light Into the World*

Postlude "Festival March" G.F. Handel

WORSHIP LEADER: Tim Bray

SPECIAL MUSIC: A sincere welcome back to **Tim Dahl**. Tim is a performer who has enjoyed an eclectic background of musical venues. From musical comedy to gospel to Scandinavian folk songs, Tim has appeared in dinner theaters, churches, and industrial shows throughout the Midwest and several solo tours to Sweden. He has numerous radio and TV commercial credits and delights in having been a guest on "The Prairie Home Companion" show. When not singing, Tim has an active career as a realtor at Coldwell Banker Burnet. Many thanks for sharing your time and talents with us this Lord's Day!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: Raymond Berg

WELCOME KIT DISTRIBUTOR: Jillian Stocker

+ + + *ANNOUNCEMENTS* + + +

►►►Today is our 23rd Annual Chapel Foundation Picnic◄◄◄
(1-3:00 p.m.) at the Richfield Veterans Memorial Park Picnic Shelter
Tickets Must Have Been Purchased in Advance.

The Kitchen Is Closed throughout July. The Board of Directors has approved giving the volunteer *Kitchen Angels* a vacation from their gracious labors. May this be for them a time of refreshment.

For Children at Worship: Parents are welcome to make use of the "busy bags" available in the narthex. Children may keep their used papers, but kindly return the bag and contents following worship. Also, age appropriate children's bulletins are available from the ushers. The children's classroom will resume in September.

Kindly Assist Us by Wearing Your Name Tag each week. Learning one another's name is extremely important to our growth as a church family. If you don't have one or have misplaced yours, so indicate on the pew card *or* call the Chapel Office at 952-888-1525 to request one. Be sure to pick up your name tag the next week in the Chapel Foyer. Thank you for cooperating with this request.

Next Week (28 Jul) is the **Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**. Chaplain Ken Beale will proclaim a message entitled ***"Where Christianity and Culture Collide"*** based on Isaiah 5:20-21. This is the second message in a series of sermons based on the book *Right Thinking for a Culture in Chaos* by John MacArthur and Nathan Busenitz © 2023. Our special music will be harpist **Stephanie Claussen.**

If You Have a Prayer Request ... our *Prayer Chain* can be activated by calling our coordinator, Suzanne Berg (612-743-1780). Your prayer concerns will be held confidential and shared only among the prayer chain members and pastor.

FREE Devotional Materials are available to you in the Fellowship Hall. The *Our Daily Bread* (Jun-Aug) devotional is available. Also LARGE PRINT copies of *Our Daily Bread* (Jul-Sep) are available.

Remember Our Cherished Homebound: A roster of names and addresses can be found in the Fellowship Hall. Also, we have free cards/envelopes for all occasions: birthdays, thinking of you, get well, sympathy, and blank cards as well.

Full service CDs and **DVDs** of each worship service are available for a donation of **$5** each. Use the order envelope available in the Fellowship Hall. You can pick up your CD/DVD the following week at the Chapel, or if you would prefer to have your CD/DVD mailed to you, please be sure to include your address on the order form and your purchase will be mailed to you.

Ministry Beyond the Walls: Our weekly worship services can be viewed LIVE from your internet service. Homebound and absent members and friends can simply go to https://new.livestream.com/accounts/3709164 and tune in any Sunday starting at 10:45 a.m. Central Time. Services are also archived there for later viewing.

If you have an e-mail address and are not currently receiving the midweek ***"Chapel Chatter"***—providing you with what you need to know about the coming Sunday at the Chapel—please send an e-mail to the Chapel Foundation (info@fortsnellingmcf.org) and request to be added to this *Constant Contact* distro.

Benevolence: This congregation tithes (10% of) plate offerings. If you know of an organization/ministry that is in keeping with our purpose, please feel free to secure an application to submit for financial support. Simply call the Foundation Office at 952-888-1525 and provide your name and mailing address.

On-Line Giving Vehicle (VANCO): If you are homebound, traveling, relocated, or appreciate the Chapel Foundation ministry that comes to you by livestream, e-mails, newsletters, and/or pastoral care, PLEASE consider making your contributions at our website at https://fortsnellingmcf.org/opportunities-for-giving/general-offering/.

Upcoming Meetings … in the Chapel Foundation Conference Room:
Thu 15 Aug (6:00 p.m.)—***Membership Committee***
Tue 20 Aug (6:00 p.m.)—***Worship Committee***
Thu 29 Aug (6:00 p.m.)—***Fellowship Committee***
Tue 3 Sep (6:00 p.m.)—***Safety Committee***
Thu 5 Sep (6:00 p.m.)—***Publicity Committee***
Thu 12 Sep (6:00 p.m.)—***Finance Committee***
Sat 14 Sep (9:00 a.m.)—***Board of Directors***
All meetings are open to attend for FSMCF members only.

2024 Veterans/Patriotic Events: Throughout the year, the Chapel community pays tribute on the Sundays near a number of national commemorations, including these events: **9/11 Remembrance** (8 Sep); **US Constitution** (15 Sep); **POW/MIA** (22 Sep); **Gold Star** (29 Sep); **Veterans Day** (10 Nov); **Pearl Harbor Remembrance** (8 Dec). Mark your calendar with these dates.

This Week in U.S. Military History:
21 Jul 1944 — 3rd Marine Division & 1st Provisional Brigade & Marine Aircraft Group 21 landed to recapture Guam
24 Jul 1953 — began final U.S. ground combat of Korean War
25 Jul 1814 — *Battle of Lundy's Lane*
25 Jul 1944 — Allies break out of Normandy
26 Jul 1948 — ended segregation in the Army
27 Jul 1953 — ended Korean War

A Special Welcome to our Visitors . . .

We are delighted you have chosen to worship here today! May you experience a sincere welcome and a sense of God's love for you. We gather as a community of faith to share the *Good News* of Jesus Christ. We encourage you to return again ... and bring others with you. We hope that we may provide the sense of community and stimulation of character you have been searching for. We provide individual pastoral care by request. You may call the chaplain for an appointment. We are willing to provide additional services as needed. Simply call the Chapel Office (952-888-1525) or Chaplain Ken (612-747-1059). If you would like to talk about the sacrament of baptism for yourself or a member of your family, arrangements can be made by contacting the chaplain. For bookings of the Chapel, contact the Fort Snelling State Park directly at 612-279-3555. Worship services are not subsidized or endorsed by the MN DNR.

Upholding the Chapel with our Membership Vows of ...

Prayers

Juanita Rector; Mary Bangerter; Ron Casteel; Keegan Iversen; Arlene Amyotte; Barb Steffenson; Trudy Miller; Leslie Hoppe; Nancy Tjornhom; Leslee; Barb Bohlin; free SSgt Calvin Gibbs & Pfc Corey Clagett; John Butler; JoAnn Harkins; Sylvia; grandson Tyler; Laurie Wahl; Mel & Leslie Henschel; Paul & Kathy Raleigh; Nina; Greg Maginnis; Kermit Bischoff; Patricia Adler; Henry Langer; Don & Barbara Patton; Mick Burkard; Deb Axtell; Maddie Seeman; Marla McLeland; Abraham Quiring; Pat Peterson; Joe Angeles; Bruce VanBeusekom; David Edstrom; Dan Meyr; Cherie Middleton; cousin Karen; Jim Gullickson; Pam Roads; Bev Bretoi; Lew Olson; baby Iris Calvert; 600 MNANG soldiers deployed to Kuwait; Shirley Andress; Char; Connie Payette; Sarah, Aika & Mika Takagi; Gea Brown; Iain Hodge; Don Minor; Robert Chaucierre; Heidi Reichow; SGM Tom Staffa; Becky Henrickson; Patricia; Sandy Sorensen; Theresa; Uncle Tom; Rebecca Heller; Todd Utpadel; Scott; Breana; David "Doc" Feller; Judy Goodman; Harry Gall; Wade Brautigam; Linda Kieffer; Eric; Earl Lee; Bev Knick; family of SGT Sam Menne; peace in Ukraine & Israel

Presence

Sunday, 14 July 2024 witness at Chapel worship = **130** Livestream = **25**

Gifts

Sunday, 14 July 2024 Chapel offering plate = **$2,918.00**

Service

Many thanks to our Safety Committee who care for our health and wellbeing.

For More Information:

Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation

Office: 9031 Penn Ave. S., Bloomington, MN 55431

Phone: 952-888-1525 ♦ E-mail: info@fortsnellingmcf.org

Website: www.fortsnellingmcf.org

Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation
9031 Penn Ave S • Bloomington, Minnesota • 55431

Sunday 21 July 2024

The Downward Spiral of Depravity

Text: Judges 16:19-21

"He [Samson] *did not know that the Lord had departed from him"* (v. 20).

Earlier in Judges, the Israelites experienced a similar judgment from God: *"You have forsaken Me and served other gods; therefore, I will no longer deliver you. Go and cry out to the gods which you have chosen; let them deliver you in the time of your distress"* (Judges 10:13-14).

Many Christians in our nation hope that God does not abandon the United States of America. But what these people fail to realize is this: God has already abandoned America. If we are one nation under God, it is only in the sense that we are under His judgment.

In Romans 1:18-32, we find the most graphic and comprehensive presentation of what it looks like when God abandons a society. It begins with these words: *"For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven."* Paul goes on to describe wrath beginning at verse 24, *"Therefore, God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them. For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. For this reason,* ***God gave them over*** *to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error. And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper, being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice; they are gossips, slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful; and although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them"* (Romans 1:24-32).

Our society is not about to experience God's wrath, it is already experiencing it. The evidence of His abandonment is all around us. People's hearts are broken, their minds are depraved, their folly is blatant.

Phone: 952-888-1525
E-mail: info@fortsnellingmcf.org
Website: www.fortsnellingmcf.org

So how should we, as followers of the Lord Jesus, pray for our society? Psalm 81 provides a helpful template to consider. In verses 11-12, the Lord Himself is speaking: *"My people did not listen to My voice, and Israel did not obey Me. So, I gave them over to the stubbornness of their heart, to walk in their own devices."*

But the psalm continues, in verse 13, to express the heart of our gracious God: ***"Oh that My people would listen to Me**, that Israel would walk in My ways!"* This is what we ought to pray for—that the Word of God would be proclaimed so that many would repent from sin and turn to walk in the ways of the Lord.

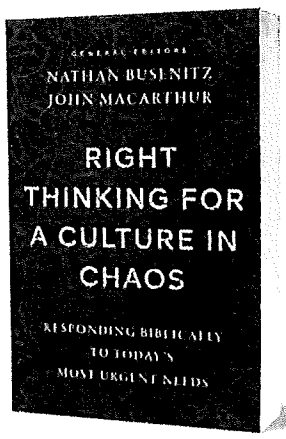
Notice the Lord's response to the possibility of the people's repentance: *"I would quickly subdue their enemies and turn My hand against their adversaries ... I would feed you with the finest of the wheat, and with honey from the rock I would satisfy you"* (verses 14, 16).

God wants one response from any nation or society: For its inhabitants to humble themselves, be contrite, and tremble at His Word (Isaiah 66:2). The only remedy is the Gospel. It is the message that humbles the sinner by calling him to turn in contrition from his wickedness and embrace the Lord Jesus in saving faith.

If the people in our culture will respond and listen to His truth, God will open the floodgates of mercy and grace. Pray that the Word of God would have free course and would run with all its power across this land. Pray that people would hear and believe and walk in obedient faith.

Going forward, it's unknown what God's plan is for our nation. But His heart is expressed in Psalm 81—*"Oh ... if you will listen to Me!"* (verse 8). That's what God is looking for. Only then will He turn away His wrath from a nation or people who are under His judgment.

—Chaplain Ken



This preelection sermon series is based upon Ken's reading of the book, *Right Thinking for a Culture in Chaos* by John MacArthur & Nathan Busenitz © 2023. For a more in-depth understanding of these topics and more, you are urged to consider purchasing and reading this book.
Our culture's decline has been rapid. Within our lifetime, we have witnessed an unprecedented spiral of moral degradation. Today's leading influencers openly reject the notion of moral absolutes, choosing instead to exchange the truth of God for whatever seems right in their own eyes. As a result, God has given our society over to degrading passions characterized by immorality, self-centeredness, and pride.
Our culture may be in chaos, but the clarity of God's Word cuts through the confusion. It establishes our convictions, ignites our courage, and governs our conduct. It shows us how we should live.