

Mendenhall Presbyterian Church

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 16, 2016

11:00 a.m.

*Welcoming all, we gather together as a caring church family to: Give thanks and worship God;
Learn and live the teachings of Jesus; Nurture faith and spiritual growth;
and Joyfully share God's love by serving others in the community.*

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Preparation for Worship (The following prayer may be used to prepare for the service.)

Fall is such a mix of warmth and chill, brilliant colors and drab days. In all of life's ups and downs, Jesus, may we feel you as close as a warm sweater. Amen.

Introit

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Stand firm in the word of the Lord.

Let us call on God, our help.

Continue in the truth of the gospel.

Let us pray and not lose heart.

Let us worship God.

***Hymn #683**

“Lord of All Hopefulness”

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Sovereign God, we confess that we have not turned away from sin. You call us to study the Scriptures, but we are easily distracted. You ask us to be persistent in prayer, but we are quickly discouraged. Forgive us, God of grace. Write your Word in our hearts, so that we may truly know you and joyfully serve you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(Here each worshiper offers silent, personal confession.)

Hymn #441 (Verse 1)

“Hear the Good News of Salvation”

Words of Forgiveness

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

1st Reading

Jeremiah 31:27-34

²⁷The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of humans and the seed of animals. ²⁸And just as I have watched over them to pluck up and break down, to overthrow, destroy, and bring evil, so I will watch over them to build and to plant, says the LORD. ²⁹In those days they shall no longer say: "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge." ³⁰But all shall die for their own sins; the teeth of everyone who eats sour grapes shall be set on edge. ³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Anthem

2nd Reading

Luke 18:1-8

¹Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ²He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' ⁴For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" ⁶And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

***Affirmation of Faith (Unison)**

We believe in God - who brings forth life from death, joy from sorrow, blessing out of disaster; who meets us behind our closed hearts and speaks a word of peace; who is known in the simple act of breaking bread, gathering around a table; who never forgets our name, who feels our pain, who renews our lives from the inside out.

We believe in the risen Christ - who bears wounds so that we might not hide from our own; who is present to us in our loneliness, our fear, our doubt; who embraced the hard questions, faced death's door and walked ahead into every experience so we might know we have a Companion on the way.

We believe in the Holy Spirit - who is as close to us as the air we breathe; who inspires the church to be a beacon of light, an oasis of peace and a fountain of joy; who blows free as the wind, touching souls, chasing away the blues, setting loose an alleluia. We shall live as a people of God.

Hymn #630

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

Prayers of the People/Lord’s Prayer

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

Offering

Offertory

***Hymn #644 (verse 1)**

“Give Thanks, O Christian People”

***Prayer of Dedication**

GO IN GOD’S NAME

***Hymn #321**

“The Church’s One Foundation”

***Charge and Blessing**

***Postlude**

***All who are able please stand.**

Leading in worship this morning:

Kevin Kaufmann, Interim Pastor

Cindy Hagel, Organist

Jace Erickson, Choir Director

Hazel Merdink, Liturgist and Offering Counter

Dean & Penny Schumacher, Ushers

Lorraine Love, Greeter

WE WELCOME, in the name of Christ, all who come to worship today. If you are a visitor, we invite you to sign the Guest book in the Narthex. Please be sure to write your full address and to introduce yourself to the Pastor following the service. Please worship with us again and join us following worship for fellowship downstairs at 10:30 a.m.

CALENDAR

Today	6:30 p.m.	Financial Peace University
Monday, October 17	9:30 a.m.	Forks Co-op
	9:30 a.m.	Quilting
	5:00 p.m.	Crafts
Wednesday, October 19	9:30 a.m.	Forks Co-op
	3:15 p.m.	Youth Group
	6:00 p.m.	PNC
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Practice
Friday, October 21	8:00 a.m.	Lefse
Saturday, October 22		Lefse
Sunday, October 23	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship
	11:00 a.m.	Worship – Polka Service
	2:00 p.m.	Worship/Communion at Good Sam
	6:30 p.m.	Financial Peace University

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UNDIES SUNDAYS OCTOBER 2-16th. By donating to Undies Sundays, you are helping the less fortunate here in your community. Items needed: NEW underwear and socks (adult & children), diapers, personal care items (such as soap, shampoo, razors, deodorant, etc.) Thank you! (A box has been set up in the Narthex for your donations).

LOVE FEAST. If you are interested in helping with the Love Feast held at Zion Methodist Church on Tuesday, October 25th, please sign up in the entry.

LEFSE DAYS- Volunteers are needed to help with lefse on the following days: Friday, October 21 and 28 at 8:00 a.m. to peel, boil, and rice potatoes and on Saturday, October 22 and 29 at 8:00 a.m. to roll lefse. Anyone can learn to roll lefse. Come for the excitement and good lunch! If you are willing to help on any of these days, please call the church 773-2469 or call or text Ann (701)-741-1258 or Cindy (701) 739-2706. **OFFICE**

HOURS: Pastor Kevin is in the office Monday - Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. If you need to get in touch with him after hours, his cell phone number is 701-351-3468 (this is a long distance number). Pastor Kevin's e-mail: kevin.kaufmann57@gmail.com Dawn's office hours for October are Monday, Wednesday, & Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

EAST GRAND FORKS FOOD SHELF is in need of ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS. Please put these items in the grocery cart in the narthex.

NEXT STATED SESSION MEETING — Monday, November 7— The Session of Mendenhall Presbyterian Church encourages members with concerns or ideas to come to the open forum the first fifteen minutes of each stated Session meeting. The Session meets in the Session Room the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m.

OFFERING: As of October 10

	This Month	Year to Date
General Offering	\$ 4,498.00	\$ 89,558.40
Expenses	<u>\$ 1,459.15</u>	<u>\$110,071.01</u>
	\$ 3,038.85	(\$ 20,512.61)

Per Capita is \$43.50 per confirmed member for 2016. If you haven't already paid your Per Capita there are envelopes available in the Narthex for your convenience.

Session

Class of 2016

Cindy Barrett, Christian Education
Paul Stadem, Stewardship & Finance
Hazel Merdink, Worship/PW Rep.

Class of 2017

Bev Bredemeier, Personnel
Scott Love, Property
Shannon Vacura, Worship

Class of 2018

Gail Schrage, Christian Care & Outreach
Kathie Wirkus, Stewardship & Finance
Doug Twite, Property

Mary Barrett, Clerk of Session
Kevin Kaufmann, Moderator

Staff

Kevin Kaufmann, Pastor
Dawn Anderson, Office Administrator
Mike Lachowitz, Custodian

Cindy Hagel, Organist
Jace Erickson, Choir Director
Gloria Bancroft, Youth Director