



First Presbyterian Church of Farmington

26165 Farmington Road
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 474-6170
www.farmington-pres.org

July 16, 2017
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer of Preparation

Franz Joseph Haydn

Lord, only you can make me good ground. Please let your planting be ample and let me be fallow and free to receive your Word. I will spend some time now imagining myself as fertile soil. Amen.

Welcome

Minute for Mission

Church Pictorial Directory

Deborah Draper

We Enter Into God's Presence

**Please stand in body or spirit*

Prelude

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
Nettleton, setting by Paul Manz

*Call to Worship (responsively)

Liturgist: God has abundantly cast God's seeds of love and hope upon us.

All: May we be fruitful soil for the planting and growing of hope and peace.

Liturgist: Come, let us praise God who is so generous with us.

All: May Let us sing songs of joy to God.

Liturgist: Hallelujah!

All: Hallelujah!

*Song of Joy 399

God Welcomes All (3 times)

Confessing Our Separation from God (unison)

Loving God, Sower and Reaper of grace, it is difficult for us to believe that we can be fruitful, good soil for your words and work. We admit to you that we are thorny stony fields, capable of growing goodness and sharing it around, but also prone to allow goodness to wither and weeds to flourish...we are not half as smart as we pretend we are...we are not anywhere near as loving as we want to be. Your mercy has taken root in us but we do not share enough of it. Most loving God, please open the channels of our lives to receive again the seeds of your Gospel. Rain your mercy upon us, shine your warmth and light into every dark place, and bring forth in us not the harvest we deserve but the harvest that in your glorious love you have purposed for us. Through Christ Jesus our Savior. Amen!

A Time of Silent, Personal Prayer for Peace

*Song of Assurance

More Than Before

Kelly S. Moor

**When I need forgiveness Lord,
when my heart is cold,
when I am feeling overwhelmed,
but no-one seems to know;
You are my source of life,
my shining light, my calm in every storm.
You hold my shaking hand
then I understand that in You
I am more than I was before.**

+++Latecomers may be seated at this time.

We Hear God's Word

Mindfulness Prayer

Not for Children Only

Prayer concern cards collected in the side aisles at this time

Passing of the Peace of Christ

Turn to your neighbor and pass the Peace of Christ

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Anthem

Lead Me, Lord
Summer Choir

Samuel Wesley

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

NT p. 13

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

(continued)

"Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Reflection

Willy-Nilly Sower

Rev. Eddie Jusino

We Respond To God's Word

*Affirmation of Faith (unison)

written by Christine Sine

Journey into Wholeness

We believe in God above us, Creator of all things, and sustainer of all life. We believe in Christ beside us, Companion and friend, redeemer of all the broken pieces of our universe. We believe in Spirit deep within us, Advocate and guide, who lives with us eternally. We believe in God's resurrection created world, where all things are fixed, and all creation fits together in vibrant harmonies. We believe in God above, beside, within, God yesterday, today and forever, the three in one, the one in three, We believe in God.

Joys and Hopes of the People of God

Offertory &
Signing of the
Friendship Pad

How Long Wilt Thou Forget Me, O Lord?
Mary Carson, Soloist

Sven Lekberg

*Doxology 609

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow, Alleluia

*Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

O Gracious God, bless our offering that it may reach and touch those who hunger, who hurt. May our morning offering be an act of gratitude and the seeds of new hope. Amen

We Follow God's Word Into the World

Hymn 719

Come, Labor Om

*Blessing

Postlude

March

G. F. Handel, arr. by Hal H. Hopson

We hold in our prayers: Doris Carmichael, Rosaline Chungag, Evelyn Dunn, John Flint, Anne Fuller, Wendy Gortney, Don Kobman, Sheryl Malibach and Corrine Wedge.

Assisting in Worship

	July 16	July 23
Lector	Sarah Gidley	Tom Neal
Ushers	Jim Hubble Ron Prieskorn Nancy Prieskorn Sue Andrews	Chris Davis Emily Davis Pres & Mary Happel
Greeters	Joanne Curtis	
Welcome Center	Sue Carlson	Sally Kirsten
Sunday Sextons	Dave Carlson Ron & Nancy Prieskorn	Rick Fuller Rick Fuller
Hospitality Time		[Available]

Wednesday Evening Vespers with Communion: Enjoy this mid-week spiritual boost weekly through August 30. This 30-minute, informal service starts at 7:00 p.m. and includes a celebration of the Lord's Supper. Meet us on Wednesday in the sanctuary for a time of worship and fellowship.

Fellowship & Music in Heritage Park: Join us on Thursday evenings through August 17 as we gather at 6:15 p.m. in the park for a time of fellowship and food sharing prior to the evening's free concert. Thursday's Stars in the Park features 80's tribute band The Square Pegz. In case of rain, the event moves the Costick Center.

It's Time for a new Pictorial Directory: Deborah Draper and Randy Edwards are leading the effort to publish a new directory in early 2018. Photo sessions are planned for September 15-16 (with additional dates available in August at a nearby church) and sign-ups sheets are available in the narthex. Each family unit gets a free 8x10" color portrait and additional portraits or packages can be ordered. Also volunteers are needed as photos sessions hosts and calling teams. For more information, contact Deborah Draper.

Still Time to Register for Vacation Bible School: Join us on July 31-August 4 from 9:30 a.m. - 12 noon for “God & Me @ Sea” Vacation Bible School at Antioch Lutheran Church. This will be a week of Bible time fun that’s all about water! Creation, Noah’s Ark, Jonah and the Whale, Jesus Walks on Water, and the Disciples Fill their Nets are the stories about which we will learn, play, and sing! All Children entering Kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to attend. Adults and those entering Grade 6 and up are invited to volunteer! Please contact Josh Archey if you would like to volunteer! Registration forms are in the narthex and your assistance in donating items from the posted list of needed craft supplies will be much appreciated.

Founder Festival Parade Float Planned: Calling all volunteers! Eddie Matteson is heading up a crew to create a First Pres float and assemble volunteers to ride in or march along with it in the July 22 Parade through downtown Farmington. To join in the fun and find out how you can help, contact Eddie.

ATTENTION ALL RUNNERS (or joggers, or walkers!): The 4th Annual End Homelessness Now 5k/10k will take place on Sunday morning, August 6, starting and finishing at St. David’s Episcopal Church in Southfield. Proceeds from the event benefit South Oakland Shelter – the rotating temporary shelter endeavor in which First Presbyterian has been a proud participant for more than a decade. For more information on how to race, volunteer or spectate, please call (248) 809-3773 or visit <https://my.southoaklandshelter.org/run/Static/Event-Info>.

“Prayground” in the Narthex features Christmas in July Theme! Does your little one need a break from sitting in the sanctuary? You can listen to the service from the narthex while your children enjoy books, toys and games celebrating Christmas in July! Or find our loving nursery attendants, Ms. Dawn and Ms. Sandy, at the back of the narthex and up the steps every Sunday! *Children are ALWAYS welcome to remain in worship with their family!*

Call for exhibitors: Do you make handcrafted items, jewelry or bake goods that you’d like to support the church’s music ministry? Applications are available for this fun weekend event on Nov. 11 & 12 in Knox Hall! Space sizes are either 8’x8’ or 8’x10’. We will have an 8’x10’ booth for church members who want to participate but don’t have enough handicrafts or baked goods for a complete space. For details or to get an application form, please contact Deborah Draper.

Summer Choir Welcomes All: Show up Sundays at 9:15 in the sanctuary to rehearse the anthem (music provided; no robes to wear), then afterward you join your family and friends in the pews for the rest of the service. Please sing with us in making a joyful noise to the Lord!

Check out our Resurrection Garden: A crew of industrious volunteers has been busy for several weeks rebuilding our raised garden beds and nurturing vegetable plants as part of our church-wide effort to harvest fresh produce for St. Alfred’s Food Pantry, soon to be called Cares of Farmington/Farmington Hills. To see their handiwork, take a look out a second-floor window or wander up the hill. Many thanks to this hardworking group.

Hospitality Time and Worship Flowers: Become part of our welcoming ministry! If you’d like to host a post-worship gathering by providing light treats or offer flowers in honor or memory of a loved one or to the glory of God, there are sign-up sheets posted on the kiosks. Your talents and participation are needed.

This Week At First Presbyterian

Sunday, July 16

10:00 a.m. Worship Service
11:15 a.m. Hospitality Time
6:00 p.m. Little Flock Bible Study

Monday, July 17

7:00 p.m. Yoga

Tuesday, July 18

8:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast at Leo's Coney Island
10:00 a.m. Stephen Ministers Meeting
7:00 p.m. Operations Committee/Personnel Meeting

Wednesday, July 19

7:00 p.m. Vespers & Communion
7:30 p.m. Mission Ministry Team Meeting

Thursday, July 20

6:15 p.m. Stars in the Park fellowship & free concert in
Heritage Park

Friday, July 21

6:00 p.m. Little Flock Bible Study

Saturday, July 22

9:40 a.m. Church Float in Founders Festival Parade

Sunday, July 23

10:00 a.m. Worship Service
11:15 a.m. Hospitality Time
6:00 p.m. Little Flock Bible Study

First Presbyterian Staff

Senior Pastor	Rev. Eddie Jusino
Ministers	Members of the congregation
Christian Education Director	Joshua Archey
Music Director	Dr. Gerald Custer
Organist	Shari Fiore
Administrative Assistant	Karen Spica
Sexton	Vanya Georgieva
Sunday Nursery Attendants	Dawn Johnson & Sandra Lieberman