
In preparing our hearts for worship, we will be dimming the lights in the narthex, indicating a time to prepare ourselves for worship. Please enter the sanctuary quietly and in time to hear the welcome and announcements.

January 26, 2025

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Prayer of Preparation

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock, and my redeemer (Psalm 19.14).

We Enter into God's Presence

*Please stand in body or spirit

Prelude Holy, Holy, Holy arr. Brent Edstrom

Welcome / Greetings Pastor Bruce Mulder

*Signing of the Friendship Pad & Prayer Cards
Welcoming Our Guests*

*Call to Worship—from Hebrews 1

Long ago, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets;

Now God has spoken to us by a Son.

God made the world through the Son, who has been appointed heir of all things and the perfect reflection of God's glory.

The Son is the exact representation of God's being, sustaining all things by his powerful Word.

Praise God for the gift of the Son.

We welcome the light of the world! Amen.

**Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
All are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.**

**Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
Where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness, and as symbol of God's grace;
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
All are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.**

**Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat;
A banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us:
All are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.**

**Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
To heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
Let us bring an end to fear and danger:
All are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.**

**Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
And loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word .
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace.
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
All are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.**

Prayer of Confession

Almighty and merciful God,

**We confess that we have sinned against you and one another in both our actions
and our inactions.**

We recognize that in Jesus Christ our Light has come,

Yet often we choose to walk in shadows and ignore the light.

Gracious God, forgive our sins and remove from us the veil of darkness that shrouds our lives.

**Illumined by your Word and Table, may we rise to the radiance of Christ's glory.
Amen.**

Words of Assurance—from John 1

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. To all who have received him, to those who believe in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

As God's beloved children, we are washed cleaned and forgiven.

Thanks be to God. **Amen.**

We Hear God's Word

Reading

Psalm 19; Luke 4.14-21

Psalm 19

The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament^[a] proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge. There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard; yet their voice^[b] goes out through all the earth and their words to the end of the world. In the heavens^[a] he has set a tent for the sun, which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy. Its rising is from the end of the heavens and its circuit to the end of them, and nothing is hid from its heat. The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul;
the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb. Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward. But who can detect one's own errors? Clear me from hidden faults. Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless and innocent of great transgression. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

Luke 4.14-21

Then Jesus, in the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding region. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

Anthem

Hymn of Promise
FPC Bell Choir

by Natalie Sleeth

Sermon

“Beautiful Words ... Gospel Words”

“THERE ARE A MILLION WAYS TO
PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS, AND WE SELL GOD
SHORT WHEN WE FORGET THAT, WHEN WE TRY
TO FORCE OURSELVES INTO A NARROW MOLD
OR FALL SILENT BECAUSE WE CANNOT.

EVERY NOW AND THEN WE MAY BE
CALLED TO STAND UP IN SOME PUBLIC PLACE
AND GIVE AN *ACCOUNT OF THE HOPE THAT IS IN
US*.

BUT 90% OF THE TIME OUR ACTIONS OR
WORDS WILL BE THE QUIET KIND—READING
PSALMS TO A SICK FRIEND, TELLING THE TRUTH
TO SOMEONE WHO HAS ASKED FOR IT, ENDING A
QUARREL WITH WORDS OF FORGIVENESS,
WRITING A NOTE THAT RESTORES HOPE,
LISTENING TO A SENIOR’S STORY, LAUGHING AT
A YOUNG CHILD’S JOKE, INVITING A STRANGER
TO COME IN.

**ALL OF THESE ARE PROCLAMATIONS OF
THE GOOD NEWS”**

Barbara Brown Taylor, *Gospel Medicine*, p. 7

We Respond to God’s Word

Offertory & Collection of Prayer Cards
Doxology #606

Pastor Bruce Mulder

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here and below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen**

Prayer of the People, Thanksgiving, & The Lord's Prayer

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Alleluia!

Shout to the Lord, all the earth. Alleluia!

O Christ, let your gospel shine in every place where the Word of life is not yet received. Draw the whole creation to yourself, that your salvation may be known through all the earth. God of all mercies,

hear our prayer.

O Christ, Savior, and Lord, extend your church to every place. Make it a place of welcome for people of every race and tongue. God of all mercies,

hear our prayer.

O Christ, Ruler of rulers, direct the work and thoughts of the leaders of nations, that they may seek justice and further peace and freedom for all.

God of all mercies,

hear our prayer.

O Christ, Master of all, support of the weak and comfort of the afflicted, strengthen the tempted and raise the fallen. Watch over the lonely and those in danger. Give hope to the despairing and sustain the faith of the persecuted.

The grace of God be with us all.

SILENCE

O Christ, light made manifest as the true light of God, gladden our hearts on the joyful morning of your glory, call us by our name on the great Day of your coming, and give us grace to offer, with all the hosts of heaven, unending praise to God, in the prayer you taught us—

“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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.”

We Follow God's Word into the World

In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
But one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide Earth.

In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find;
His service is the golden cord close binding humankind.

Join hands, disciples of the faith whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God are surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet south and north.
All Christly souls are one in him throughout the whole wide Earth.

Benediction

Pastor Bruce Mulder

Postlude

Rejoicing Always

Colin Curtis

Worship Liturgist

We welcome Sharon Cressman as today's liturgist. For information on serving as a liturgist to assist the pastor during worship, please contact Kari Gorman.

LA Fire Assistance

Mission Ministry will be sending a donation to World Central Kitchen to help in their LA Fire Assistance. The congregation can contribute to this donation if interested if "LA Fires" is noted on a check or other form of payment.

2025 Offering Envelopes

If you requested a box, please pick it up from the Welcome Center in the Narthex. If you would like to order a box or are unable to pick yours up, please contact the church office.

Second Notice of the Annual Congregational Meeting of the First Presbyterian Church of Farmington (FPCF) - Sunday, February 2, 2025, 11:15 a.m. after Worship

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation/Corporation of FPCF will be held in person in Knox Hall and virtually via Zoom. The purpose of this meeting is to review the 2024 annual reports of the boards, ministries, committees and staff of the church, review the 2024 financial reports and the 2025 budget and elect the Pastor Nominating Committee Members.

There is a supply of printed copies of the 2024 Annual Report available this week and next. An electronic copy will be sent out via email and is available by contacting the church office.

Mission Project Blessing Bags

Look over the lists posted on the Kiosk in the Foyer and consider what you may like to provide for the Blessing Bags. Sign up for you want to donate, drop off your items in the plastic bin in Mission Cove by Thursday Feb 6. Join us on Sunday Feb 9, to assemble the bags.

Recycle Your Old Toothbrushes, etc.

Please start saving your old toothbrushes, empty toothpaste tubes and caps, toothbrush outer packaging and empty floss containers, any brand. Place them in the marked bin in the foyer. Colgate has started a program to recycle these hard-to-recycle items. Let's keep more items out of the landfill! Thanks for your care for planet Earth. Questions? See Sharon Cressman.

Custodian Needed!

Your First Presbyterian Church of Farmington is actively seeking a part time custodian. The candidate should have a good background in building maintenance. The job is 20 hours per week. The pay for it position is \$20 per hour. Please refer any candidates to Bob Van Hamme @mvanhamme@twmi.rr.com

Lenten Study: “Lord, teach us to pray” (February 17 – April 7)

Join us for an 8-week journey through the Lord’s Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) that will deepen your prayer life during this Lenten season. The prayer course will be held every Monday morning, 10:00 am – 11:00 am, in the Garden/Parlor Room, from February 17- April 7. The course consists of a video, discussion questions, and practical prayer activities. **Registration is required to plan room size.**

Please register at: [Sign-up for the 2025 Lenten Study](#)

Or contact Sharon Cressman or Colleen Tavor.



Hospitality Training by Pastor Bruce

Today, Pastor Bruce will hold Hospitality Training in Knox Hall during coffee hour. Many consider us to be a very friendly and welcoming congregation. If you are interested in being a part of a Hospitality Team, please contact Tom Neal or Colleen Tavor.

Adult Bible Discussion – The Wired Word

Join our Bible discussion **Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in 208/210**. Advance copies are available the Saturday before by email. To get on the email list, please contact Tom Neal at ttneal@sbcglobal.net.

Hospitality Time Schedule

You are invited to bring ONE food item on ONE Sunday each month. Your Sunday depends on the first letter of your last name. It would be greatly appreciated if you are also able to help with set-up or clean-up. Please note healthy options are welcome as well such as fruit, eggs, cheese & crackers, veggies etc. Here’s the upcoming schedule:

January 26: Last names beginning A-D

February 2: Last names beginning E-K

February 9: Last names beginning L-R

February 16: Last names beginning S-Z



QR Code for Donations!

If you ever forget to go to the ATM, or simply don't carry cash on you, we've decided to include the church QR code for a more streamlined donation process. To donate, just scan the QR code and follow the prompts!

First Presbyterian Church Staff

Ministers of the Church	Members of the Congregation
Transitional Senior Pastor	Rev. Bruce Mulder
Pastoral Care Parish Associate	Rev. Craig Aue
Minister of Music	Peter Cartwright
Office Administrator	Liz Labourdeth
Administrative Assistant	Amanda May Schreiber
AV Tech Intern	Lidia Neathamer
