



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF FARMINGTON

Church of the Open Hands

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

January 28, 2024

4th Sunday After Epiphany

Prayer of Preparation

God of Love, we are grateful to be gathered together. We are connected in the Spirit and invited to love one another. Together, we experience your sacred calling, and together, we worship you. We offer you our thanks, our wonder, and our marvel. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

We Enter into God's Presence

**Please stand in body or spirit*

Prelude	Sing unto the Lord	arr. Mark Hayes
Welcome / Greetings		Laurel Scott
<i>Signing of the Friendship Pad & Prayer Cards</i>		
Congregational Life		Laurel Scott
Minute for Mission		Nurture Committee
Call to Worship		Laurel Scott
Faith is like a mustard seed,		
at times, tiny; at times, just beginning,		
at times, a spark; at times, glimmer.		

Yet in the Grace of God, it becomes a calling.

In the Love of God, it becomes a community.

It becomes the Kingdom of God,
growing, stretching, being, becoming.

**It becomes the Kingdom of God,
healing, loving, liberating, belonging.**

Friends, let us worship the God that invites us here.

**Opening Hymn #399*

God Welcomes All

John L. Bell

**God welcomes all, strangers and friends,
God's love is strong and it never ends.**

Prayer of Brokenness/Confession

God of Grace, Truly, you see and name us: We are Beloved. We are Accepted. We are Held. We are Called. Yet sometimes, the truth of this understanding remains only a glimmer within ourselves. We doubt our worth, and we question that anything meaningful or transformative could move through our lives. Yet even the smallest seeds of hope and trust can cultivate new pathways of justice, peace, belonging, and renewal. Please forgive us and revive our calling again. We pray in Christ's name, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon-Forgiveness

We Hear God's Word

Old Testament Lesson

Numbers 11:10-30

Laurel Scott

New Revised Standard Version

¹⁰ Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the LORD became very angry, and Moses was displeased. ¹¹ So Moses said to the LORD, "Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? ¹² Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom as a wet nurse carries a nursing child, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors'? ¹³ Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me, saying, 'Give us meat to eat!' ¹⁴ I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. ¹⁵ If this is the way you are

going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery.”

The Seventy Elders

¹⁶ So the LORD said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting and have them take their place there with you. ¹⁷ I will come down and speak with you there, and I will take some of the spirit that is on you and put it on them, and they shall bear the burden of the people along with you so that you will not bear it all by yourself. ¹⁸ And say to the people, ‘Consecrate yourselves for tomorrow, and you shall eat meat, for you have wailed in the hearing of the LORD, saying, “If only we had meat to eat! Surely it was better for us in Egypt.” Therefore the LORD will give you meat, and you shall eat. ¹⁹ You shall eat not only one day, or two days, or five days, or ten days, or twenty days, ²⁰ but for a whole month, until it comes out of your nostrils and becomes loathsome to you—because you have rejected the LORD who is among you and have wailed before him, saying, “Why did we ever leave Egypt?” ’ ” ²¹ But Moses said, “The people I am with number six hundred thousand on foot, and you say, ‘I will give them meat, that they may eat for a whole month!’ ²² Are there enough flocks and herds to slaughter for them? Are there enough fish in the sea to catch for them?” ²³ The LORD said to Moses, “Is the LORD’s power limited? Now you shall see whether my word will come true for you or not.”

²⁴ So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD, and he gathered seventy of the elders of the people and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵ Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders, and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

²⁶ Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷ And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” ²⁸ And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, “My lord Moses, stop them!” ²⁹ But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD’s people were prophets and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!” ³⁰ And Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.

Anthem

All Creatures of Our God and King
First Pres. Choral Bells

Lasst Uns Erfreuen
arr. Hal H. Hopson

We Respond to God's Word

Offertory & Doxology
Collection of Prayer Cards

Rev. Renee Roederer

**Direct, control, suggest, this day,
in all I design, do, or say,
that all my powers, with all of their might,
might serve you both day and night.**

arr. Shari Fiore

Prayers of the People

Laurel Scott

Prayer of Thanksgiving & The Lord's Prayer

God of grace and God of glory, we come before you in prayer today, assured and comforted by the promise that when we do not know how to pray as we ought, your Holy Spirit intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words. Lord, the burdens and challenges of life leave us speechless. We thank you that even as we pray, Jesus prays for us to be one and strengthened for the ministry to which you call us. Lord, hear our prayers ...

... for the people who have been named in worship today, whose names are on our prayer list, whom we carry in our hearts, who are known only to you. ... for your church in every place, that we may bear faithful witness to your amazing grace in our lives and in our world, even when it offends our sense of fairness and our understanding of the way life ought to be.

... for the mission, ministry, and work of this congregation. May we always serve with a spirit of generosity as we depend upon your gifts, rather than with a sense of scarcity that comes from looking to ourselves. ... for the peoples of this world whom you have created in your own image: for those who are in dangerous places through no fault of their own; for those who have experienced disasters that have upended their lives; for those who are oppressed and long to live as free people; for those who mourn and long to have hope in their lives. Almighty God, help us to live lives worthy of the calling to which you call us. Remind us that we are the body of Christ. When one member suffers, may we all share the suffering and extend the loving care of Christ. When one member is honored, may we all rejoice together rather than be envious of another's blessings. Lord God, help us to live, love, and serve as faithful followers of Jesus Christ in your kingdom. We offer these and all our prayers in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray together,

(This prayer was taken from the Presbyterian Outlook)

“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

***Hymn of Sending #716**

God Whose Giving Knows No Ending

James H. Wood

**1 God, whose giving knows no ending,
from your rich and endless store,
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,
costly cross, grave's shattered door:
gifted by you, we turn to you,
offering up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever,
gracious donor of our days.**

**2 Skills and time are ours for pressing
toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
all at peace in health and freedom,
races joined, the church made one.
Now direct our daily labor,
lest we strive for self alone.
Born with talents, make us servants
fit to answer at your throne.**

**3 Treasure, too, you have entrusted,
gain through powers your grace conferred:
ours to use for home and kindred,
and to spread the gospel word.
Open wide our hands in sharing,
as we heed Christ's ageless call,
healing, teaching, and reclaiming,
serving you by loving all.**

Benediction

Rev. Renee Roederer

Postlude

Shine, Jesus, shine

David Blackwell

Today's flowers are presented by Pat and Mark Plamondon in memory of Deb Burnell.

Please welcome back Rev. Renee Roederer, today's guest preacher.

Rev. Roederer is a Presbyterian (PCUSA) minister who lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan. She is the Community Care Director at the [Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan](#), where she connects with individuals and families to provide educational information, resources, referrals, companionship, and support. Renee enjoys choral singing, hiking, photography, and traveling, and she's an avid writer. One of her greatest joys in life is the large, chosen family she has built over time, with whom she enjoys keeping in touch, laughing hard, and reflecting on life.

Worship Liturgist

We welcome Laurel Scott as today's liturgist. Alvine Cooper will serve as liturgist on February 4th. For information on serving as a liturgist to assist the pastor during worship, please contact Kari Gorman.

Preschool Open House



The preschool will be open on Saturday, February 3rd from 10a.m.-Noon to meet the teachers and enroll in the upcoming 2024-25 school year.

Please spread the word about our preschool to friends and family who may be interested in enrolling. Enrollment for the 2.5's, 3's and Pre-K (4's) is now open enrollment. Please visit the website:

<https://farmingtonprespreschool.org/enroll/> or call the preschool: (248)

474-9752 to schedule a tour and/or pick up your enrollment forms.

Need to make a bulletin announcement?

If you need to make a bulletin announcement, it MUST be submitted in writing via email to info@farmington-pres.org no later than Tuesday before the given Sunday worship. If the announcement or correction is submitted after Tuesday it will not be printed in the given bulletin and will be printed in the following week's bulletin. Please check spelling, dates, times etc. and the timeline in which you would like the announcement to run. before submitting. Bulletin announcements should be 3 sentences or less. Additionally, as a reminder, you will need prior approval for inclusion of an activity in the church calendar. Any questions? Contact the church office at info@farmington-pres.org with any questions and/or submissions.

Scam Alert!

The Craft Fair for First Presbyterian Church of Farmington has been notified that a scammer (Arielle Lizz Debra) is asking people to send money via Venmo to book a booth for the craft

fair. **This is not us and we don't have Venmo set up.** Please don't send money to this person! First Presbyterian Church of Farmington only takes checks or cash only. Questions: info@Farmington-Pres.org.

First Pres Sailors Meeting TODAY – Please join us!

The Future Church Task Force regrouped in Nov/Dec and renamed our group as “First Pres Sailors” based on our reading of the book Sailboat Church by Joan S. Gray. We gleaned many ideas from the book and our discussions. We have formed a prayer group to pray for the future of our church and are beginning to work on our self-study (last done in 2015), which needs to be completed before we contract with a permanent pastor. Please join us and play an active role in the future direction of FPCF! **We'll meet in the Garden Parlor Room on Sunday, January 28, at 11:30 pm.** Everyone is welcome!

Annual Congregational Meeting Notice First Presbyterian Church Of Farmington-Sunday, February 4, 2023

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation/Corporation of the First Presbyterian Church of Farmington will be held in Knox Fellowship Hall and via Zoom on Sunday, February 4, at 11:15 a.m. following worship. The purpose of this meeting is to review the 2023 annual reports of the boards, ministries, committees, and groups of the church, the 2023 financial reports and the 2024 budget. Information for joining the meeting via Zoom will be forthcoming. The 2023 annual report will be emailed to members who have signed up through the church website to electronically receive the FYI newsletter and other important church information. To sign up for the newsletter and electronic communications, simply go to www.farmington-pres.org. A limited number of printed copies of the 2023 Annual Report will be available at the Welcome Center on Sunday, January 28 and Sunday, February 4. Copies can also be obtained by calling the church office. A Town Hall will follow the meeting open to topics of interest to the Congregation.

Ash Wednesday Service

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, which falls on Feb. 14 this year. Please join us on that date at 7:00 pm for a service of prayer and contemplation that will include the imposition of ashes.

Future Church Prayer Group Formed

It's the beginning of 2024 and FPCF is at a crossroads as we prepare ourselves to step into the future. We have much to pray for: a transitional pastor, a permanent pastor, the focus of our mission, God's plan for us as a church in this time and in this place. **The prayer group has formed and meets, in person, every Wednesday at noon, at the church, in the Garden Parlor Room (or another heated room).** If you are interested in joining us, please

contact Colleen Tavor (cmtcounseling@gmail.com) to stay informed via email of any changes that may be needed.

FPCF is looking for legal counsel

From time to time, there are contracts or other documents to be reviewed to ensure everything is correct and all parties are covered. If there is anyone in the church willing to provide help in this area or if there are any recommendations, please contact the church office.

Electric Typewriter Needed

The church office is looking for an electric typewriter, the current one is starting to experience issues. This is used to update the official church registers. These are legal documents which are typed and not yet converted to digital.

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, cheese & crackers, veggies etc. Here's the upcoming schedule:

January 21: Last names beginning E-K

January 28: Last names beginning L-R

February 4: Last names beginning S-Z

February 11: Souper Bowl- everyone is welcome to bring a soup to pass



****Note:** On 2/11/2024, Nurture Committee invites you to gather for fellowship after worship where you can enjoy soup for the Super Bowl LVIII. Please bring your favorite soup to pass; We hope this event will be a complete touchdown!

2024 Offering Envelopes

Those who have used numbered envelopes in 2023 will automatically receive envelopes for 2024, unless you inform us otherwise. If you have NOT used envelopes this year, but DO wish to have them for next year, please contact the church office at 248-474-6170 to make

your request known. Numbered envelopes facilitate the speed and accuracy of the data entry process for our offering counters, so we do encourage you to use envelopes if you contribute manually on a regular basis. We also encourage the use of electronic debit. If you wish to automatically submit your pledge electronically from your bank account monthly, please call the church office to have the forms mailed to you. If you have any questions, please call the church office at (248) 474-6170.

FPCF's Shopping List for CARES

Have you picked up your CARES shopping list yet? Look for it in the pew backs or the Mission bulletin board. Take it with you to the store. The items on the list are those most needed by the guests at CARES. Here is a suggestion: If you see a BOGO Sale (Buy One Get One), pick up the free item for CARES.

COVID-19 or Flu Symptoms

Please be mindful if you have symptoms, stay home and take care of yourself and others.

Adult Bible Discussion – The Wired Word

Join our Bible discussion **Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in the Library**. Advance copies are available the Saturday before by email. Sunday's Topic: Where Are the 'Good Samaritans'? To get on the email list contact Tom Neal at ttneal@sbcglobal.net.

News from the Church Office

Office hours are as follows: **Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Wednesday: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.** It is a good idea to call ahead if you need to come into the building.

As a reminder please contact the church office via telephone at (248) 474-6170 or email at info@farmington-pres.org.

First Presbyterian Church Staff	
Ministers of the Church	Members of the Congregation
Pastoral Care Parish Associate	The Rev. Craig S. Aue
Minister of Music & Organist/Pianist	Shari Fiore-Bloom
Office Administrative Assistant	Carly Vivio
Office Assistant	Amanda Schreiber
AV Tech Intern	Jaiden Thomas



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