



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF FARMINGTON

*Church of the Open Hands*

26165 Farmington Road,  
Farmington Hills, MI 48334  
(248) 474-6170  
[www.farmington-pres.org](http://www.farmington-pres.org)

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## January 7, 2024 The Lord's Supper Baptism of the Lord

### Prayer of Preparation

*O spirit dove, who flew over the chaotic water of creation, and alighted upon Jesus in his baptism, grace us with your presence. May we feel the brush of your wings, and know that your gift of life is upon us. Amen.*

### We Enter into God's Presence

*\*Please stand in body or spirit*

Prelude	<i>Prélude sur l'Introït de l'Épiphanie</i>	Maurice Duruflé
Welcome / Greetings		Pastor Aue
<i>Signing of the Friendship Pad &amp; Prayer Cards</i>		
Congregational Life		Pastor Aue
*Call to Worship		Mike Rogers

In the beginning, God...

**Swept over waters, spoke light into existence, created day and night and called it good.**

As the days and nights of creation filled with life, God...

**Made humanity out of the dirt to love and tend creation, to be loved and tended by God.**

As we lost our way, God...

**Sent Jesus, Love Incarnate, to show us the way back.**

On the day Jesus came to the banks of the Jordan River to be baptized, God...

**Declared, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."**

Let us, then, follow Jesus into the waters, remembering our baptism in which God...

**Claims us as beloved children, the family of God.**

**1 We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.**

**Refrain:**

**O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!**

**2 Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again,  
King forever, ceasing never over us all to reign. [Refrain]**

**3 Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a deity nigh;  
prayer and praising gladly raising, worshiping God Most High. [Refrain]**

**4 Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb. [Refrain]**

**5 Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! sounds through the earth and skies. [Refrain]**

**Call to Reconciliation**

**Unison Prayer for Forgiveness**

Timeless God, you cast Light into sin's dark places and call us your Beloved. Forgive us:  
when we still linger in the shadows; when we treat others in hurtful ways; when we speak ill  
of your friends.

As he knelt in the waters of Jordan, you proclaimed Jesus as your Child, pointing to him as  
the way to you. Forgive us:

when we put ourselves ahead of him; when we think he is no longer needed; when we fail to  
see him in the brokenness of our world.

Baptized and blessed in your living waters, you would have us be your servants in our time.  
Forgive us:

when we fail to welcome the stranger; when we refuse to forgive as we should;  
when we believe we are too good to kneel down and tie the shoes of the lost, the least, the  
last, the little.

*Silence is kept*

## Assurance of Pardon

Touched by the waters of life, fed at the feast of grace and hope, embraced in the warmth of God's love and hopes - this is good news!

**Blessed by baptism's tears, called to servanthood by the Beloved, filled with the peace of the Spirit, we are indeed God's people - redeemed, restored, refreshed to serve. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## We Hear God's Word

Scripture Reading

*Mark 1: 4-11*

Mike Rogers

<sup>4</sup> so John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup> And the whole Judean region and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him and were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup> Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup> He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals. <sup>8</sup> I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

### The Baptism of Jesus

<sup>9</sup> In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup> And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove upon him. <sup>11</sup> And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Anthem

*The Wexford Carol*  
Chancel Choir

Irish Carol  
arr. Joel Raney

Sermon

**Glimpses**

Pastor Aue

## We Respond to God's Word

Offertory & Doxology

*Collection of Prayer Cards*

Pastor Aue

**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-Bloom

# The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Song of Invitation 701

Sanctuary

**Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.  
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.**

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor Aue

May the Creator of heaven and earth be with you!

**And also with you!**

People of God, lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the One who gave his Heart to heal us.**

Let us give thanks to the One who made everything and called it 'good'.

**How right it is to give our thanks and praise to the One who calls us 'Beloved.'**

Into the shadows of silence, .... (prayer continues)

....with our beloved sisters and brothers in every time and place, we sing of your love:

**Holy, holy, holy! Creator of Light and life. Heaven and earth sing forever of your  
love and joy. Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the One who comes to be baptized by water and the Holy Spirit.  
Hosanna in the highest!**

Blessedness is your nature, Holy Imagination, ....

..... and the hope which is ours in that mystery we call faith:

**Bathed in your tears, Christ died for us; washed in the resurrection waters, Christ  
rose for us; bringing the waters of life to us, Christ will come again.**

As your Spirit changed chaos into creation, .....

..... singing to you through all eternity God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

The Words of Institution

Sharing of the Gifts of Bread & Cup

Pastor Aue

*With consideration for public health concerns (especially the rise in COVID and RSV cases) we will be coming forward to receive communion. Please come forward to receive the bread and cup when you are ready, or raise your hand and you will be served where you are seated. Please be sure to deposit your trash in the trash can, not the recycling bin- Thank you!*

Communion Prayer

Pastor Aue

Prayers of the People

Mike Rogers

God of redemption and new life, we focus once more this day on the greatest gift ever given -- Jesus, our Savior. As he was baptized by John in the Jordan, we were able to share in his baptism and receive the promise of sharing in Jesus' resurrection. As we leave one year behind and look with hope to the new year ahead, help us to live and give of ourselves as those who know every day what a great gift we have been given. May it move us to give our whole selves more freely! In the name of Christ, our Savior and Redeemer, who teaches us to pray together ...

**"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 # 192

*Shine Jesus Shine*

Graham Kendrick

**1 Lord, the light of your love is shining, in the midst of the darkness, shining;  
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us; set us free by the truth you now bring us.  
Shine on me; shine on me.**

**Refrain:**

**Shine, Jesus, shine; fill this land with the Father's glory. Blaze spirit, blaze; set our hearts on fire. Flow river, flow; flood the nations with grace and mercy. Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.**

**2 Lord, I come to your awesome presence, from the shadows into your radiance; by the blood I may enter your brightness. Search me; try me; consume all my darkness.  
Shine on me; shine on me. [REFRAIN]**

**3 As we gaze on your kingly brightness, so our faces display your likeness; ever changing from glory to glory, mirrored here may our lives tell your story.  
Shine on me; shine on me. [REFRAIN]**

Benediction

Pastor Aue

Postlude

*Christe Sanctorum*

David Blackwell

Today's flowers are presented by Karen and Paul Spica in memory of Don & Margot Stewart on their wedding anniversary.

### **Worship Liturgist**

We welcome Mike Rogers as today's liturgist. Alvine Cooper will serve as liturgist on January 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. For information on serving as a liturgist to assist the pastor during worship, please contact Kari Gorman.

### **Annual Meeting scheduled February 4, 2024; annual reports due- JANUARY 10, 2024**

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 4, 2024, in Knox Hall and via Zoom following the worship service. Reports to be included in the 2023 Annual Report should be emailed to the church office ([info@farmington-pres.org](mailto:info@farmington-pres.org)) no later than Wednesday, January 10, 2024. The 2023 Annual Report will be emailed to members who have signed up through the church website to receive the FYI newsletter, the annual report and other important church information via email (to sign up, please go to [www.farmington-pres.org](http://www.farmington-pres.org)). A few printed copies of the 2023 Annual Report will be available at the welcome center on Sunday, January 28, 2024, or you may contact the church office to request a hard copy.

### **De-Greening of the Church**

Sunday, January 7 marks the end of Christmastide as we celebrate both Epiphany and the Baptism of the Lord. Please join us following worship today to help take down the Advent/Christmas decorations that have been gracing our building. The more hands, the quicker the work, so we encourage everyone who is able to lend a hand!

### **Mission Ministry Will Host FAIA at FPCF on January 11**

The Mission Ministry is pleased to host the Farmington Area Interfaith Agency (FAIA) lunch and meeting on **Thursday, January 11, from 12:00 noon to 1:30 pm**. We can expect to host about 25-30 attendees from various faiths in the area. If you've ever thought about attending, now is the time to do it. You'll see many familiar faces and make some new interfaith friends. Please join us! If you plan to attend, please let Karen Linnell ([klinnell@sbcglobal.net](mailto:klinnell@sbcglobal.net)) know so we can finalize lunch plans. Watch the bulletin for more details.

### **Raymond B. Randolph Jr. to speak at FPCF on MLK Weekend**

The Social Justice Book Club is honored to invite Mr. Raymond B. Randolph Jr. to speak at FPCF on MLK weekend, January 14, at 11:15 am during coffee hour. Mr. Randolph has been an important voice in our group since the beginning. Randolph will speak on his personal experiences with significant events in Civil Rights history. He was one of the Richmond 34 – students from Virginia Union University who staged a sit-in at a department store lunch counter. He was also a member of the Freedom Riders, the Civil Rights activist group that traveled in interstate buses in Mississippi to challenge the local and state segregation laws.

### **Jacket Drive for Second Mile Center (until January 15)**

There are many sales this time of year as stores clear inventory, and the Mission Ministry would like to take advantage of this to help out Second Mile Center. **They have a shortage of jackets for children and youth, especially boys ages 8-15.** There are still several months of cold weather. If you would like to help, you can buy the jackets and hang them in the Mission Cove area or place in the large containers until January 15. Thank you for helping keep kids warm this winter.

### **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 7: Last names beginning S-Z

January 14: Last names beginning A-D

January 21: Last names beginning E-K

January 28: Last names beginning L-R

### **2024 Worship Flower sign-up available**

Please consider giving flowers in memory of a loved one or to recognize a special occasion such as a birthday or anniversary or to the glory of God. **An arrangement is \$25** and enhances our in-person and livestreamed worship services. More than one arrangement may be ordered for any Sunday and will be displayed on plant stands near the pulpit during the service. Your donation will also be acknowledged in that Sunday's worship bulletin. Please sign up on the flower calendar on the kiosk or order through the church office at least one week in advance. You may take home the flowers after the service, ask to have the flowers delivered to you or request to have them delivered to one of our homebound members.



### **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**

This year, we have a CARES shopping list to help with donations. You'll find the list in the pew backs, in the pocket on the Mission bulletin board or in the FYI. Please take a list home with you (or even a couple more to share with family or friends!) Use it when you go shopping. The CARES bin for donations will be in the Narthex in its usual spot or in the Mission Cove. And, yes you may donate things not on this list! Please make sure the food items have not expired. If you have a large quantity, you may take it directly to CARES M-F 10a-2p. Thank you!

### **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: Young Israeli Goes to Jail Rather Than Enlist to Fight in Gaza. To get on the email list contact Tom Neal at **ttneal@sbcglobal.net**. Our class is continuing to meet throughout December, please be assured that lessons will be emailed and published on Thursday, December 28, just as they do every Thursday.

### **Need To Make A Room Reservation Or Rental?**

The date will not be held for any event, until the completed the Facility Reservation Form has been filled out and returned to Carly. Once approved, the date of the event will be added to the church calendar. Please be sure to contact Carly Vivio in the office, as your first point of contact to reserve a room or rental inquiry. Please call the office at (248)474-6170 or email Carly at: [info@farmington-pres.org](mailto:info@farmington-pres.org)

### **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](mailto:info@farmington-pres.org).



## **First Presbyterian Church Staff**

### **Ministers of the Church**

**Pastoral Care Parish Associate**

**Minister of Music & Organist/Pianist**

**Office Administrative Assistant**

**Office Assistant**

**AV Tech Intern**

### **Members of the Congregation**

The Rev. Craig S. Aue

Shari Fiore-Bloom

Carly Vivio

Amanda Schreiber

Jaiden Thomas



**Farmington First Presbyterian Church**

*The Church of the Open Hands*

26165 Farmington Road  
Farmington Hills, MI 48334



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