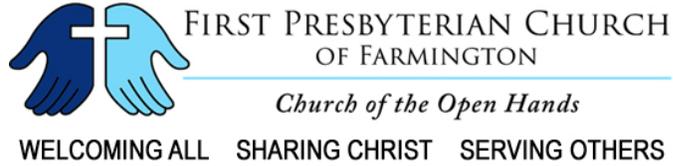


26165 Farmington Road
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 474-6170
www.farmington-pres.org



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.

October 19, 2025

Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Prayer of Preparation

"Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of the unjust and cruel. For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O LORD, from my youth."

We Enter into God's Presence

**Please stand in body or spirit*

Prelude	We Gather Together	arr. Brent Edstrom
Welcome / Greetings		MJ Floreno
<i>Signing of the Friendship Pad & Prayer Cards</i>		
Stewardship	"Sharing Christ"	Kari Gorman
*Call to Worship	(Psalm 28:6-9)	

One: Blessed be the LORD! For he has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy;

All: The LORD is my strength and my shield; In him my heart trusts and I am helped;

One: My heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him, The LORD is the strength of his people;

All: The LORD is the saving refuge of his anointed. Be their shepherd and carry them forever.

One: With thanksgiving and praise, let us worship God.

*Opening Hymn #175

Seek Ye First

1. **Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!**
2. **Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek, and you shall find;
Knock, and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, Alleluia!**
3. **You shall not live by bread alone, but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of God. Allelu, Alleluia!**

*Prayer of Confession (standing)

Rev. Steven Nuss

Our prayer of confession is followed by a time for silent confession.

Almighty and most merciful God, we are thankful that your mercy is higher than the heavens, wider than our wanderings, deeper than all our sin. Forgive our frivolous attitude toward life, our callousness toward suffering, our envy of those who have more than we have, our obsession with creating a life of constant pleasure, our indifference to the treasures of heaven, our neglect of your wise and gracious law. Help us to change our way of life so that we may desire what is good, love what you love, and do what you command, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(Silent confession)

*Words of Assurance (standing)

Rev. Steven Nuss

One: Hear the Good News! God does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is God's steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does God remove our transgressions from us. As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.:

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Psalm 103:10-13

*Passing of the Peace (standing)

Rev. Steven Nuss

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

We Hear God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

MJ Floreno

All: Almighty and Everlasting God, through your Holy Spirit, open our minds that as the Scriptures are read and Your Word is proclaimed, we may be lead into your presence, your truth and taught your will. Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

Listen now to the Word of the Lord

In the eleventh year, in the third month on the first day, the word of the LORD came to me: Son of man, say to Pharaoh king of Egypt and to his hordes: Who can be compared with you in Majesty? Consider Assyria, once a cedar in Lebanon, with beautiful branches overshadowing the forest; it towered on high, its top above the thick foliage. The waters nourished it, deep springs made it grow tall; their streams flowed all around its base and sent their channels to all the trees of the field. So it towered higher than all the trees of the field; its boughs increased and its branches grew long, spreading because of abundant waters. All the birds of the sky nested in it's boughs, all the animals of the wild gave birth under its branches; all the great nations lived in its shade. It was majestic in beauty, with its spreading boughs, for its roots went down to abundant waters. The cedars in the garden of God could not rival it, nor could the junipers equal its boughs, nor could the plane trees compare with its branches-no tree in the garden of God could match it's beauty. I made it beautiful with abundant branches, the envy of all the trees of Eden in the garden of God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Day By Day
(Choir)

arr. Gerald Custer

Gospel Reading

Matthew 13:31-32; 17:14-20 (NIV)

Rev. Steven Nuss

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches." **17:14-20:** When they came to the crowd, a man approached Jesus and knelt before him. "Lord, have mercy on my son," he said. "He has seizures and is suffering greatly. He often falls into the fire or into the water. I brought him to your disciples, but they could not heal him." "You unbelieving and perverse generation," Jesus replied, "how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy here to me." Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of the boy, and he was healed at that moment. Then the disciples came to Jesus in private and asked, "Why couldn't we drive it out?" He replied, "Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."

Sermon

"Is the Kingdom of Heaven Within Us?"

Rev. Steven Nuss

Offertory & Collection of Prayer Cards

*Doxology #606

**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.**

We Respond to God's Word

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

Rev. Steven Nuss

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 #12

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise!

- 1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.**
- 2 Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, though rulest in might:
Thy justice, like mountains high soaring above;
Thy cloud, which are fountains of goodness and love.**
- 3 To all, life thou givest, to both great and small.
In all life though livest, the true life of all.
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
Then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.**
- 4 Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light.
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.
All praise we would render; O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!**

Benediction

Rev. Steven Nuss

Postlude

"Lancashire"

arr. Jason Payne



Today's Flowers are presented by the Deacons in Celebration of Louise Bumb's 104th Birthday!
Happy Birthday Louise!



Joining us in worship today is the Rev. Steven Nuss, an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church USA, and a member of the Presbytery of Detroit. He has served churches in Ohio and Michigan, and recently retired as a chaplain at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit. Currently, he serves as a volunteer in the No Member Dies Alone ministry at the Michigan Veteran Home in Chesterfield Township. He is married to his wife Kathy, who recently retired from the Clinton-Macomb Library for the Blind. They are the proud parents of two wonderful young adults, Emily and Joshua.

OFFICE NEWS: Amanda May Schreiber, our administrative assistant, will be in the office on Monday mornings 9:30am-12:00pm, Wednesdays 10:00am-4:00pm, and working from home on Thursdays and Fridays. Please email any bulletin requests, or with any questions or concerns outside of these shortened office hours and staff will contact you back as soon as possible. Clerk of Session, Dorothy Tait will be covering on Wednesdays as well. The office will continue to be closed most Fridays. During this time of transition, you may wish to call or email ahead to make sure staff will be available to assist you if you need to stop by the office.

Stewardship Pledge Forms & RSVP for Consecration Day Luncheon

Pledge forms and RSVP forms for the Consecration Day Luncheon have been mailed and you should have them by now or soon. You may return the pledge form using the enclosed envelope or bring it with you on November 2, Consecration Sunday, and enjoy a delicious luncheon with your church family after the service. This is a special fellowship time for our church, and we hope to see you there!

RSVP's for the Consecration Day Luncheon are due no later than Sunday, October 26. Drop the RSVP in the collection basket or call the church office to ensure we receive it in time for the caterer.

Stewardship: This week we focus on "Sharing Christ" (Kari Gorman)

Our Stewardship theme this year is leaning into our new vision statement: Welcoming All, Sharing Christ, Serving Others. A vision statement gives us direction for who we are as a church family and how to better serve God in our community and beyond. Check out the last page of the bulletin to see how your Mission Ministry, with your help, is reaching beyond the walls of our church. We pray that "Welcoming All, Sharing Christ, Serving Others" becomes an even more personal commitment for you as we move into 2026.

KIDS' WORSHIP BAGS

The kids' worship bags are available at the welcome desk (on the wooden tree hanger). The activities in the bags are updated each week to reflect the lectionary readings for that Sunday as well as some other fun items. The yellow bags are for kids aged preschool to 8 years old; and the white bags are for kids aged 8+ years. Kids are welcome to take a bag each Sunday to use during worship and/or to take home to enjoy. If your child forgot to pick up a worship bag before service, please let an usher know and they will get one for your child.

Hunger Warriors Pack Meals On October 4, 2025, 14 members of our congregation helped to pack 10,000 meals for Rise Against Hunger. Thanks to: Karl and Sharon Cressman, Mary Carson, Charlene Diehl, Nancy Newell, Bob and Marcia VanHamme, Rick Fuller, Ginny Hubble, Dorothy Tait, Dan Piontek, Lorrie McVey, and Ron Prieskorn for spending part of a beautiful, fall day combating hunger. -Nancy Prieskorn, Mission



CALLING ALL EUCHRE PLAYERS for a fun afternoon!

Formerly known as “Women’s Euchre”, we’re including men and women. We’ll meet from **2 to 4 pm** in the Church Library. If you are new to the game, we can teach you. Depending on the number of players, we may play a different game. Mark these dates on your calendar: **Nov. 7, and Dec. 5**. Please see the sign-up sheet on the kiosk in the foyer!

CARES Food Pantry

The number of people needing assistance in providing enough food for their family continues to grow. Between 750 and 800 households are served by CARES each month. Please take home a yellow CARES shopping list, found in the pews, and take it with you on your next shopping trip. We have provided a plastic bin in the Narthex for your generous donations. Thank you for remembering your neighbors.

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:

October 26: Last names beginning S-Z

November 2: Last names beginning A-D

November 9: Last names beginning E-K

November 16: Last names beginning L-R



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 prompt just scan the QR code and follow

First Presbyterian Church Staff

Ministers of the Church

Members of the Congregation

Pastoral Care Parish Associate

Rev. Craig S. Aue

Minister of Music

Peter Cartwright

Office Administrator

Liz Labourdeth

Administrative Assistant

Amanda May Schreiber

AV Tech Intern

Lidia Neathamer



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF FARMINGTON

Church of the Open Hands

WELCOMING ALL SHARING CHRIST SERVING OTHERS

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

SUPPORTED BY YOU THROUGH YOUR MISSION MINISTRY 2025

“As you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me” (Matthew 25:40)

LOCAL AGENCIES

CARES	[Community. Action. Resources. Empowerment. Services.]
Freedom House	[Comprehensive approach to those who seek asylum]
Lighthouse	[Emergency and stability services]
Crossroads	[Emergency assistance, advocacy, & counseling]
Second Mile Center	[Safe environment for after-school and summer programs]
Oakland Co Foster Closet	[Support services, supplies, aid to children in foster care]
Neighborhood House	[Supports clients to reclaim well-being after economic upset]
Ruth Ellis Center	[Supports LGBTQ+ youth and young adults in need]
Danika Community Development Inc (DCDI)	[Supports under-served populations]

OTHER LOCAL SUPPORT

Auto Clinic	[Help with simple auto repairs]
Troop 179	[Support camp scholarship]
Crop Walk	[Nationwide movement to raise funds to end hunger and poverty]
Youth United	[Inter-faith summer camp for youth to promote understanding]
Juneteenth	[Support local celebration of Juneteenth, day of freedom for all]

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

World Central Kitchen	[Serves freshly made meals to people affected by disaster]
Marion Medical	[Builds wells in Africa]

PRESBYTERIAN BODIES

- Presbyterian Women (PW) Benevolence
- Governing Bodies
- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)

OTHER COLLECTIONS/ACTIVITIES/SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

- Blessings Bags for the Unhoused
- Resume Writing and Practice Interview Workshop
- Garden and Nutrition Project
- FAIA Luncheon
- Hospitality House Food Pantry
- Cereal for Summer Collection
- Backpacks for Foster Kids
- Rise Against Hunger
- Christmas Gifts for Farmington Public School Kids

Mission Ministry Members: Rick Fuller (Chair), Nancy Prieskorn, Leslie Black, Karen Linnell, Laura Hedgecock, Charlene Diehl

Read more about our partner agencies at Farmington-pres.org/serve.