



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF FARMINGTON

Church of the Open Hands

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Farmington Hills, MI 48334
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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 20, 2024

22nd Sunday After Pentecost

Prayer of Preparation

For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve and to give his life a ransom for many.
Mark 10.45

We Enter into God's Presence

**Please stand in body or spirit*

Prelude	What Wondrous Love	Southern Harmony
Welcome / Greetings		Bruce Mulder
<i>Signing of the Friendship Pad & Prayer Cards</i>		
Update from the Mission Study Team		Colleen Tavor

**Call to Worship—from Psalm 104*

Bless the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, you are very great. You are clothed with honor and majesty,

You are wrapped in light as with a garment. You stretch out the heavens like a tent;

You set the beams of your chambers on the waters; you make the clouds your chariot; you ride on the wings of the wind;

You make the winds your messengers, fire and flame your ministers.

You set the earth on its foundations, so that it shall never be shaken.

You cover it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains.

O LORD, how many are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

Praise the LORD!

**Opening Hymn #12*

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

**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.**

**Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light
Nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might:
Thy justice, like mountains high soaring above;
Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.**

**To all, life thou givest, to both great and small.
In all life thou livest, the true life of all.
We blossom and flourish like leaves on a tree,
Then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.**

**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!**

Prayer of Confession—Psalm 91

Because you have made the LORD your refuge, the Most High your dwelling place, no evil shall befall you, no scourge come near your tent. For God will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone. You will tread on the lion and the adder; the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot.

The Lord says: those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name.

Our God says: when they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue them and honor them.

O Lord of heaven and earth; God of grace and majesty; we call out to you, confessing our sin.

We have turned from you, we have disobeyed you, we have offended you; Lord Jesus Christ. Have mercy on me, a sinner. Amen.

Words of Assurance—based on Isaiah 53 and Romans 8

Surely Christ has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases, yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But Christ was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the LORD has laid on Christ the iniquity of us all. Christ was oppressed, and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

What more are we to say about these things? Christ died for us. Christ sits at the right hand of the Father and intercedes for us. Christ washes away our sin. Thanks be to God!

People of God, we are forgiven. Alleluia, amen.

We Hear God's Word

Reading

Hebrews 5.1-10; Mark 10.35-45

NRSV

Hebrews 5.1-10

Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness, and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not presume to take this honor but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest but was appointed by^[a] the one who said to him,

“You are my Son;
today I have begotten you”;

as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

In the days of his flesh, Jesus^[b] offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered, and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

for us too! You do not daydream or become weary in that care. We thank you that you not only watch over us with diligence but that you will guide us so that we will not fall— so that we won't even stumble. Whether we are awake or asleep, you are there, sheltering and protecting us from all that would hurt us. We know that you watch over all our living— you have in the past, and we know you are now. Your promise holds for the future and for eternity, and we praise and thank you for that. Hear us as we pray:

“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 #727

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

**Will you let me be your servant, let me
be as Christ to you? Pray that I may have the
grace to let you be my servant too.**

**We are pilgrims on a journey; we're together
on the road. We are here to help each
other walk the mile and bear the load.**

**I will hold the Christ light for you in the
nighttime of your fear. I will hold my hand out
to you, speak the peace you long to hear.**

**I will weep when you are weeping; when you
laugh I'll laugh with you. I will share your joy and
sorrow till we've seen this journey through**

**When we sing to God in heaven, we shall
find such harmony, born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.**

**Will you let me be your servant, let me
be as Christ to you? Pray that I may have the
grace to let you be my servant too**

Benediction

Pastor Bruce Mulder

Postlude

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

Coronation
arr. Oliver Holden

Worship Liturgist

We welcome Karen Spica as today's liturgist. Our liturgist for October 27 is Alvine Cooper. For information on serving as a liturgist to assist the pastor during worship, please contact Kari Gorman.

IT'S PASTOR APPRECIATION WEEK!

We are so lucky to have Pastor Bruce Mulder with us as our transitional pastor.

Make sure to let him know how much you appreciate him.

Mission Study Congregational Surveys – We Need Your Voice!

In order to hear as many voices as possible with as much information as possible, the Mission Study team will implement 3 surveys (Don't worry! You don't have to take them all!)

A longer survey has been sent to church leadership (Deacons, Elders, Committee heads, etc.). Then, during the last week of October, another shorter survey will be sent out via eblast to the entire congregation (church leadership will not participate in this survey as they have already answered these questions in the earlier survey). Both surveys can be taken online or hardcopy. Then, on Sunday, October 27, we'll have a town hall gathering (with lunch!) after the service where we will hold table discussions on topics of interest to the future of our church. Lastly, on Sunday, November 17, we'll discuss the results of the surveys.

Mission Study Town Hall Gathering + Lunch (11:15 - 1:00 pm) - Sunday, October 27

Join us on Sunday, October 27 for lunch at 11:15am in Knox Hall and a collaborative discussion on a variety of topics of interest to the future of FPCF. We want to hear from you! On Sunday, November 17, after the service, we'll share the results of the surveys we've submitted and discussions.



PW AWARD WINNER

Congratulations to Lois Caito, the 2024 recipient of the Lifetime Membership in Presbyterian Women. Lois was chosen for her outstanding and faithful contributions in many areas of the work of our church.

Hurricane Helene

Mission Ministry is sending \$ 1,000 to the World Central Kitchen for Hurricane Helene Relief efforts. Mission is also offering members a Matching Donation opportunity. During the month of October when a member donates \$ xxx to this effort the Mission Ministry will match that amount up to \$ 1,000 and send another check to WCK for the combined member plus Mission amount. Additional questions please contact a Mission member.

CRAFT SHOW

We are looking for bakers and helpers to work 2-hour shifts. There is a signup sheet on the Kios or you can speak with Deborah Draper. We have about 30 crafters and getting more daily.

Join the JOY study this year!

JOY is reading and discussing the book of Romans using a study guide written by New Testament scholar N.T.Wright. Come learn from Romans with us! See Sharon Cressman if interested!

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 3, Consecration Sunday, and enjoy a lovely 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 27.

Drop the RSVP in the collection basket or call the church office to ensure we receive it in time for the caterer.

Stewardship 2025 – What does following Jesus mean to you?

As we move through our process of change and transition toward a permanent pastor, what better way to move forward than by “following Jesus?” Last year we committed to being a “b sailboat church,” depending on God’s provision as the Holy Spirit guides us forward. May we all draw closer to Jesus as we explore what it truly means to follow him. Please feel free to share what “following Jesus” means to you on the Stewardship bulletin board in the foyer.

Civility Discussion following worship today at 11:15 a.m.

In today’s political climate, many Americans believe they can’t be friends with people with opposing political viewpoints, or fear that any attempt to dive into a political topic with someone who might disagree would have a negative outcome. Celebrated journalists Stephen Henderson and Nolan Finley are long-time friends though they rarely agree when it comes to politics. The Civility Project aims to build civility by teaching people to listen to and understand one another. Join us after the service today during our hospitality time, as we sit with Henderson and Finley in a judgment-free zone, a safe place to talk, express yourself, and be ok with the outcome.



Presbyterian Players

Mark your calendar for the Christmas Gathering on Wednesday, Dec. 11 at 10:00 a.m. There will be a music program featuring your favorite musicians, followed by a Christmas comedy, “Shepherds and Kings,” presented by Presbyterian Players. Coffee and snacks will follow. Tickets (\$5.00) will be on sale in November.

FPCF's Shopping List for CARES

Thank you for using your 2024 CARES shopping list each month to donate. Your neighbors, the guests at CARES, appreciate the availability of a variety of food from which to choose.

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:

October 20: Last names beginning L-R

October 27: Last names beginning S-Z

November 3: Consecration Sunday Brunch

November 10: Last names beginning E-K

November 17: Last names beginning L-R

First Presbyterian Church Staff

Ministers of the Church

Transitional Senior Pastor

Pastoral Care Parish Associate

Minister of Music & Organist/Pianist

Office Administrator

Administrative Assistant

AV Tech Intern

Members of the Congregation

Rev. Bruce Mulder

Rev. Craig S. Aue

Shari Fiore-Bloom

Carly Vivio

Liz Labourdeth

Amanda May Schreiber

Lidia Neathamer