



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF FARMINGTON

*Church of the Open Hands*

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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.

## November 17, 2024

### 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

Prayer of Preparation

*“Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful”* Hebrews 10.23.

**We Enter into God’s Presence**

\*Please stand in body or spirit

Prelude

All Creatures of Our God and King

arr. Pierce Dickens

Welcome / Greetings

Bruce Mulder

*Signing of the Friendship Pad & Prayer Cards*

Minute for Mission

\*Call to Worship— from Psalm 103

Praise the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

**Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.**

Praise the LORD, you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding,  
who obey his word.

**Praise the LORD, all his heavenly hosts, you his servants who do his will.**

Praise the LORD, all his works everywhere in his dominion.

**Praise the LORD, O my soul. Let us worship the Lord our God. Amen.**

**“Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
There is no shadow of turning with thee.  
Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.  
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.**

**Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,  
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.**

**Pardon for sin and peace that endureth,  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!**

Prayer of Confession

Righteous and just Lord Jesus Christ,  
We who own more than we use, proclaim more than we experience, and request more  
than we need, come seeking your forgiveness. Hear our prayer:

We seek your salvation,  
**then act like we save ourselves.**

We beg your forgiveness,  
**then repeat our errors.**

We experience your grace,  
**then act defeated.**

We rely on your power,  
**but only in hard times.**

We have become confused and misguided;  
**forgive our every defection.**

Bring us to a constant commitment and a steady trust, through Jesus Christ, who is the  
way of hope, the truth of God, and the life of love, now and always. **Amen.**

Words of Assurance— Micah 7:18-20, NRSV

Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over the transgression  
of the remnant of your possession?

**God does not retain his anger forever, because the Lord delights in showing  
mercy.**

God will again have compassion upon us;

**God will tread our iniquities under foot.  
You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.**

You will show faithfulness to Jacob and unswerving loyalty to Abraham, as you have sworn to our ancestors from the days of old.

**Thanks be to our faithful God. The Lord has forgiven us and remembered our sin no more. Amen!**

### **We Hear God's Word**

Reading

Psalm 16; Hebrews 10.11-25

NRSV

#### Psalm 16

Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge. I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you." As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble ones in whom is all my delight. Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows; their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names upon my lips. The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;

I have a goodly heritage. I bless the LORD, who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me. I keep the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure.

For you do not give me up to Sheol or let your faithful one see the Pit. You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

#### Hebrews 10.11-25

And every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, "he sat down at the right hand of God," and since then has been waiting "until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet." For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. <sup>15</sup> And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us, for after saying, "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds," and he adds, "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more." Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet

together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Anthem Praise the Lord! O Heavens, Adore Him

Sermon "Let Us ..."

**We Respond to God's Word**

Offertory & Doxology #606

Pastor Bruce Mulder

*Collection of Prayer Cards*

**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.**

Prayers of the People

MJ Floreno

Prayer of Thanksgiving & The Lord's Prayer—

MJ Floreno

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name;

*SILENCE*

Give thanks to the LORD, for God is good.

**God's steadfast love endures forever.**

Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven;

*SILENCE*

Give thanks to the LORD, for God is good.

**God's steadfast love endures forever.**

Give us this day our daily bread;

*SILENCE*

Give thanks to the LORD, for God is good.

**God's steadfast love endures forever.**

Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors;

*SILENCE*

Give thanks to the LORD, for God is good.

**God's steadfast love endures forever.**

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil;

*SILENCE*

Give thanks to the LORD, for God is good.

**God's steadfast love endures forever.**

For the kingdom and the power and the glory are yours forever;

*SILENCE*

Give thanks to the LORD, for God is good.

**God's steadfast love endures forever. Amen and amen.**

### **We Follow God's Word into the World**

Hymn of Sending # 192      Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining

**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.**

**Shine, Jesus, shine; fill this land with the Father's glory.**

**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.**

**Shine, Jesus, shine; fill this land with the Father's glory.**

**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.**

**Shine, Jesus, shine; fill this land with the Father's glory.**

Benediction

Pastor Bruce Mulder

Postlude

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

arr. Alice Jordan

### **A Warm Welcome for our Pianist/Organist Margaret Bell!**

Margaret received her bachelor's degree in music (Organ Performance) and Mathematics from the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, VA. She has been a church organist for over 45 years. She recently retired from Orchard Lake Community Church, Presbyterian after almost 27 years as their organist and accompanist. All four of her children attended Pre School here at First Presbyterian of Farmington.

### **Worship Liturgist**

We welcome MJ Floreno as today's (and next Sunday's) liturgist. For information on serving as a liturgist to assist the pastor during worship, please contact Kari Gorman.

### **Reminder to send in pledge form or letter of intent**

If you haven't done so already, please mail in your pledge form or letter of intent to the office or drop them off in the collection basket when you attend the Sunday service. We are putting together our 2025 budget and need your pledge. Thank you for your generosity in supporting the programs and ministries of First Presbyterian Church of Farmington. We couldn't do what we do without you!

### **Scouts BSA Troop 179 Holiday Wreaths**

Scouts BSA Troop 179 are selling wreaths for the holidays. They will be for sale Sunday, November 24, before and after Church. The small wreaths are \$29, medium wreaths are \$39, 25 feet of roping are \$30, and stands are \$6 each. If you would like one, but can not be at church on Sunday, please contact Katie Malisow at [kmalisow@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kmalisow@sbcglobal.net)

### **Don't Forget: Adopt-A-Teen for the Holidays**

The Mission Ministry is hosting an Adopt-A-Teen gift buy for Christmas for 7 teens from families in Farmington Public Schools. On **November 17 and 24**, please select your gift choices from our "tree" in the Narthex. All the gifts must be delivered to the church by **Sunday, December 1**. Gifts may be wrapped, if you wish, and please attach the bulb tag to the gift.



### **44<sup>th</sup> Annual Presbyterian Men's Communion & Advent Breakfast**

December 14<sup>th</sup> The 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Presbyterian Men's Communion & Advent Breakfast will be hosted at Kirk in the Hills in Bloomfield Township. The breakfast will include breakout sessions discussing communication and stewardship! FPCF Men will meet in the church parking lot to carpool and will leave by 7am. if or RSVP to Tom Neal ([ttneal@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ttneal@sbcglobal.net))

### **Join the new Hospitality Team**

The Membership Committee encourages you to join our Hospitality Team. Help us welcome guests each Sunday. Pastor Bruce will be leading a Hospitality training session. If interested reach out to Collee Tavor ([CMTcounseling@gmail.com](mailto:CMTcounseling@gmail.com)) or Tom Neal ([ttneal@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ttneal@sbcglobal.net))

### **CHRISTMAS GIFT BAGS FOR SECOND MILE CENTER**

For more than a decade, PW has organized a Christmas outreach project for the children at Second Mile Center in Detroit. This is an opportunity for you as an individual or group to provide a Christmas gift bag for a child in need. The large bag includes an outfit, socks and underwear, a hat and gloves, a book, and a gift or toy from the child's list. The total value of the items is about \$100, so often a bag is put together by more than one person. If you would like someone to do the shopping for you, that can easily be arranged. (In lieu of providing a whole bag, gift cards (\$25 suggested) or cash donations are also appreciated to supplement the bags.) The children's wish lists come from Ruth Azar around Thanksgiving, and the bags are due on Dec. 8. If you would like to find out more or sign up, contact Sue Carlson at [srdcarlson@me.com](mailto:srdcarlson@me.com).

## 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. Learn from Romans with us! See Sharon Cressman if interested!

## 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 “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.



## Christmas Gathering is Dec 11 at 10 A.M.

What happens when a city family, the Kings, gets hopelessly lost while cutting down a Christmas tree in the woods and is rescued by an extended back country family, the Shepherds? Find out by attending the Christmas comedy “Shepherds and Kings,” by Karen Jones, presented by Presbyterian Players on Wed. Dec. 11 at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary.

There will also be Christmas music performed by our First Pres musicians, and light refreshments after the program. Tickets are \$5.00 and can be purchased at the welcome table or by contacting Sue Carlson. Your hosts, Presbyterian Women, invite men and women, including guests, to join us.

## 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](mailto: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:

November 10: Last names beginning E-K

November 17: Last names beginning L-R

November 24: Last names beginning S-Z

December 1: Last names beginning A-D



### **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 make a donation, just scan the QR code and follow the prompts!

## **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

Liz Labourdeth

Amanda May Schreiber

Lidia Neathamer