



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF FARMINGTON

Church of the Open Hands

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

November 26, 2023

Christ the King Sunday

Prayer of Preparation

Excerpt from *St. Patrick's Breastplate*

*Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me,
Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when
I sit down, Christ when I arise, Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me, Christ in
the mouth of everyone who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me,
Christ in every ear that hears me.*

*I arise today. Through a mighty strength, the invocation of the Trinity,
Through belief in the Threeness, Through confession of the Oneness of the Creator of
creation.*

We Enter into God's Presence

**Please stand in body or spirit*

Welcome / Greetings

Mary Carson

Signing of the Friendship Pad & Prayer Cards

Congregational Life

Mary Carson

Prelude

Piece d' Orgue

Jacques Nicolas Lemmens

*Call to Worship

Mary Carson

Leader: Sing praises to the Lord!

**All: With trumpets and sound of the horn, make a joyful noise before the
King, the Lord.**

Leader: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

All: We will exalt you, O God my King, and bless your Name for ever and ever.

All: Amen

**Opening Hymn #620*

Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven

Henry Francis Lyte

1 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; to his feet your tribute bring; ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore his praises sing: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.

2 Praise him for his grace and favor to his people in distress; praise him still the same as ever, slow to chide, and swift to bless: Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious in his faithfulness.

3 Fatherlike, he tends and spares us; well our feeble frame he knows; in his hands he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes. Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely yet his mercy flows.

4 Angels, help us to adore him; you behold him face to face. Sun and moon, bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

**Prayer of Brokenness/Confession*

Donnie Lehmann

Merciful God, we turn away from the pains and cries of our world. Overwhelmed by its brokenness, we ignore the call to engage and love those who are hurting. Let us truly believe we have nothing to fear from you or this world. We can come to you small, come to you weak, come to you broken, and you'll receive us. You'll help us and give us strength to care for the least of these in our midsts.

**Silent Confession*

**Assurance of Pardon-Forgiveness*

We Hear God's Word

Scripture Reading

John 18:28-40

Mary Carson

New Revised Standard Version

Jesus before Pilate

²⁸ Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. ²⁹ So Pilate went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" ³⁰ They answered, "If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you." ³¹ Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law." The Jews replied, "We are not permitted to put anyone to death." ³² (This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.)

³³ Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” ³⁴ Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?” ³⁵ Pilate replied, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?” ³⁶ Jesus answered, “My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom belonged to this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.” ³⁷ Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.” ³⁸ Pilate asked him, “What is truth?”

Jesus Sentenced to Death

After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, “I find no case against him. ³⁹ But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?” ⁴⁰ They shouted in reply, “Not this man but Barabbas!” Now Barabbas was a rebel.

Anthem	Praise the Lord! O Heavens, Adore Him Chancel Choir	Holy Manna arr. Hal H. Hopson
Sermon	You Say That I Am A King	Donnie Lehmann

We Respond to God’s Word

Offertory & Doxology <i>Collection of Prayer Cards</i>		Donnie Lehmann
	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		Mary Carson
Prayer of Thanksgiving & The Lord’s Prayer		Mary Carson

Lord, thank you for being a different kind of King.
 Thank you for your goodness and kindness in our lives. Lord, we pray for your Kingdom to come here now, bringing a kingdom of justice, righteousness, hope, love, peace, mercy and grace for all. Thank you for loving us. Thank you for your Kingdom that is unlike any Kingdom in this world.
 ... in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who taught 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# 367 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come Henry Alford**

1 Come, ye thankful people, come; raise the song of harvest home. All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin. God, our Maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied. Come to God's own temple, come; raise the song of harvest home.

2 All the world is God's own field, fruit in thankful praise to yield, wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown. First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear. Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.

3 For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the harvest home; from each field shall in that day all offenses purge away; give the angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast, but the fruitful ears to store in God's garner evermore.

4 Even so, Lord, quickly come to thy final harvest home. Gather thou thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin, there forever purified, in thy presence to abide: come, with all thine angels, come; raise the glorious harvest home!

Benediction Donnie Lehmann

Postlude Fanfare Jacques Nicolas Lemmens

Please welcome Donnie Lehmann, today’s guest preacher.

Donnie and his family moved to Michigan from Wisconsin in 2017 and have deeply rooted themselves to the Farmington Hills community. When not cooking or eating, you can find him on a soccer field playing or coaching soccer. Donnie formerly worked in youth ministry and has assisted with Youth United when time has permitted.

Worship Liturgist

We welcome Mary Carson as today’s liturgist. Jim Tubbs will serve as liturgist on December 3rd. For information on serving as a liturgist to assist the pastor during worship, please contact Kari Gorman.

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:

- December 3: Last names beginning L-K
- December 10: Last names beginning S-Z
- December 17: Last names beginning A-D
- December 24: Last names beginning E-K

Greening of the Church- December 2nd

It's that time of year again! Please join us for intergenerational activities to begin the Advent Season. We need your help to decorate the church for Advent and Christmas! On Saturday December 2nd at 9 a.m., we will decorate our building and beautiful campus. Come one, come all! And bring your friends too!

3rd Future Church Planning Task Force Meeting – Wednesday November 29

The Future Church Planning Task Force had a great meeting last Sunday discussing "Sailboat Church" by Joan S. Gray. One participant said, "I'm excited! I feel like we're pushing off the shore!" Please join us again **in Room 208/210 or online** to continue the enlightening discussion. We'll be discussing Chapters 6, 7, 8. This is the third of 4 meetings. The last meeting is set for Wednesday evening at 6:30pm (Dec 6)- discussion of chapters 9 & 10. Contact Tom Neal for the Zoom link if you need it. If you don't have the book yet, join us anyway! We have extra copies for you!

Adopt-A-Teen for Christmas

The **Mission Ministry** is once again hosting an Adopt-A-Teen gift buy for Christmas for 7 teens from families in Farmington Public Schools. **On November 26 and December 3, we'll have a small "tree" set up in the narthex** with suggested gifts written on "bulbs" that are on the tree for you to select what you will buy for a teen. You can select as many "bulbs" as you wish, from a variety of price points. **All the gifts must be delivered to the church by Sunday, December 10**, to be delivered to the families in time. It was so rewarding last year to be a part of this Christmas giving. We hope you'll join us once again.

Come Join the Congregation-Wide Workshops on 12/3/23 & 12/9/23

The last of the Healing and Visioning Sessions are two Communication Workshops to be held in December and are open to the whole congregation. The first is Sunday, December 3, 2023, 6:00-8:00 p.m. and will be held via Zoom (info to be provided later). The second is Saturday, December 9, 2023, 12:00-2:00 p.m. in Knox Hall. The workshops are the same, just delivered in different formats to accommodate the most people. Feel free to come to one or even both if interested. After these workshops, Beth Buelow and Dorsey Sherman will compile the information they learned in the Listening Sessions and Leader Development Workshop and present their summary and recommendations to FPCF to help in the future church planning.

Support CARES

The "suggested" donation for December is "protein". This includes: canned meats, tuna pouches, peanut butter, nuts, shelf stable cheese, and more. The last day of food distribution in 2023 at CARES is December 14. All donations for them in our bin will be picked up on Dec. 11. CARES will reopen on January 9. Feel free to begin dropping off donations again on January 7. Thank you for your generous donations of baking supplies and much more during November. Your neighbors appreciate the love you give!



“It’s The Most Wonderful Time Of The Year” is Wed., Dec. 6

Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Detroit (PWPD) and Our Presbyterian Women invite all men and women, including guests, to a festive Christmas Gathering the morning of Wednesday, Dec. 6. The day will start at 10:00 a.m. with coffee and treats in the narthex. The program in the sanctuary at 10:30 a.m. features an original play by Anne Sebesta (proudly presented by Presbyterian Prayers) and includes the singing of Christmas songs accompanied by Shari Fiore-Bloom. Then a hot catered lunch will be served.

Tickets (\$10) should be purchased in advance since we need a count for the caterer. They will be on sale at the welcome table on Nov. 19, Nov. 26, and Dec. 3. Contact Sue Carlson (248) 330-7188 with any ticket questions.

PW Collecting for Hat and Mitten Tree



Cold weather is here, and the forecast says it will be an “arctic winter.” Hats and mittens are going to be a must for school children. Therefore, it is time for Presbyterian Women’s annual Hat and Mitten Tree collection!

From Sunday, November 5 through Monday, December 10, we will be collecting hats, mittens, underwear, and socks (no scarves, please) for needy children right here in our own community. (These items are distributed through Neighborhood House and the GoodFellows).

We will also collect these same items for adults: hats, mittens or gloves, underwear, socks. (And the adults can use scarves). There is an ever-present need for all items during the cold, winter months. Adult items will be shared with Calvin East Presbyterian Church, Neighborhood House, Heartfelt Families of Farmington, Second Mile Center, and GoodFellows.

Your new items should be placed on or below the dowel tree in the Narthex starting Sunday, November 12. Please leave the price tags on the items. Thank you in advance for your generosity. If you have questions, feel free to contact Dale Hawkins, PW Vice Moderator for Justice and Peace, at (248) 478-6283.

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. To get on the email list contact Tom Neal at ttneal@sbcglobal.net.

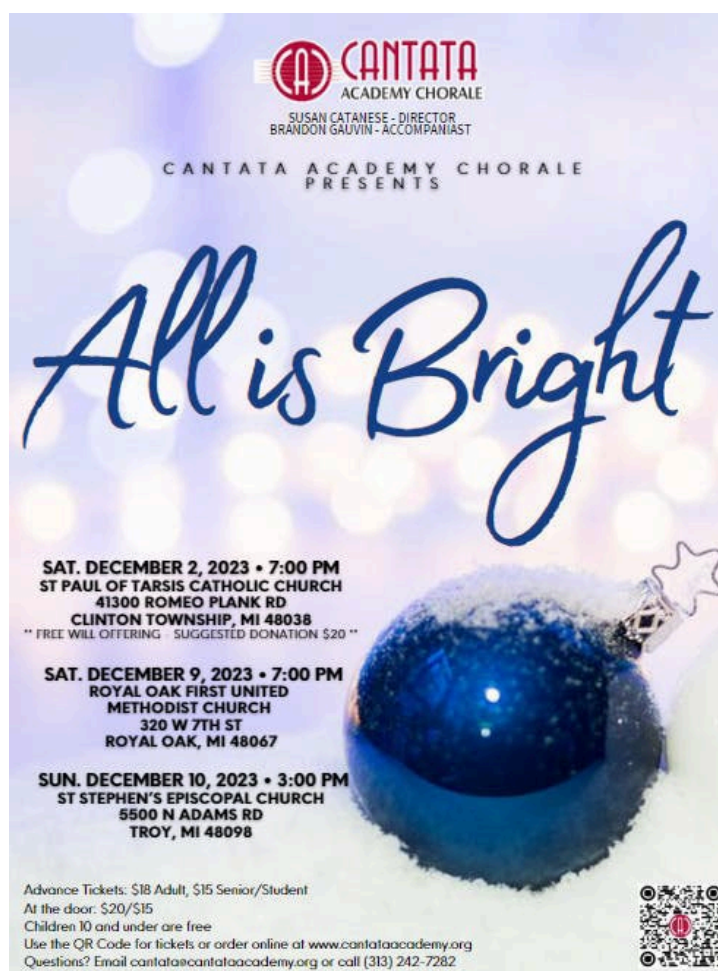
Cantata Academy Invites You to the Chorale, *All is Bright*

We invite you to enjoy one of our concerts this year. Among a number of inspirational pieces we will feature selections from Rutter's Magnificat. We have three venues to choose from with a variety of times. We hope you will join in the holiday concert fun!

December 2nd at 7pm

December 9th at 7pm

December 10th at 3pm



News from the Church Office

NEW FALL hours are in effect. The office is open Monday through Thursday. Hours are as follows: **Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Wednesday: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.** As a reminder please contact the church office via telephone at (248) 474-6170 or email at info@farmington-pres.org. It will be a very good idea to call ahead if you need to come into the building.

It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year

A Christmas Gathering



Wed. Dec 6, 2023

Coffee Hour	10:00 AM
Program, Play and Music	10:30 AM
Catered Lunch	12:00 noon

Tickets \$10.00

First Presbyterian Church of Farmington

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

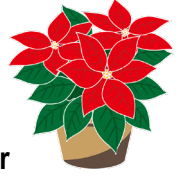
Amanda Schreiber

Jaiden Thomas



2023 Christmas Poinsettias

Deadline for ordering is Sunday, December 10



Please complete and return this form to the church office along with your payment. The cost for a red or white eight-inch double Poinsettia plant with gold foil cover is \$16.00 each. Poinsettias are available for you to take home after the 10:00 a.m. or 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service. Contact Eddie Matteson or the church office to arrange to pick up your poinsettia at another time, have it delivered to your home or to donate it to one of our homebound members.

Please make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church and mark it for poinsettias or Christmas flowers. For last-minute orders, please contact the office at 248 474-6170 and we will do our best to accommodate your request.

Please PRINT the following information so that it will be published accurately.

NAME: _____ PHONE No: (_____) _____

Number of red poinsettias: _____ Number of white poinsettias: _____

Amount due to First Presbyterian Church: \$ _____ Payment Enclosed: Yes ____ No ____

From: _____

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____



Farmington First Presbyterian Church

The Church of the Open Hands

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Farmington Hills, MI 48334

