

26165 Farmington Road
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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF FARMINGTON

Church of the Open Hands

WELCOMING ALL SHARING CHRIST SERVING OTHERS

December 14, 2024 3rd Sunday of Advent



Presbyterian Players Christmas Play “Operation: Whispering Pines”

Prayer of Preparation

God of hope, you call us home from the exile of selfish oppression to the freedom of justice, the balm of healing, and the joy of sharing. Make us strong to join you in your holy work, as friends of strangers and victims companions of those whom others shun, and as the happiness of those whose hearts are broken. We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We Enter into God’s Presence

**Please stand in body or spirit*

Prelude

Go Tell It On The Mountain

arr. Brent Edstrom

Welcome / Greetings

Pastor Craig

Signing of the Friendship Pad & Prayer Cards

Advent Reading & Lighting of the Third Candle (pink)

Kirsten/Malisow family

***Opening Hymn # 82**

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

We Hear God’s Word

**“Operation: Whispering Pines”
Presented by Presbyterian Players**



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.**

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Brothers and sisters,
as we joyfully await the glorious coming of the Christ,
let us pray for the needs of the church, our community, and the world.

God of joy and exultation, you strengthen what is weak; you enrich the poor and give hope to those who live in fear. Look upon our needs this day. Make us grateful for the good news of salvation and keep us faithful in your service until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Gracious God of deep joy, even when storms rage and doubts rise, you call us to see with kingdom eyes—to look for healing, hope, and signs of your grace breaking in. In this Advent season of expectation and weariness, we bring our gifts as expressions of joy, rooted not in ease but in trust. May our giving bear witness to your good news: that the blind still see, the lame still walk, and the poor still receive care. Use our offerings and us as signs of your coming reign, lights in the storm, and carriers of joy. In the name of Jesus, our hope and our 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.

Benediction

Postlude

Angels From The Realms Of Glory

Robert Thygerson

Presbyterian Players Present:

**“Operation: Whispering Pines”
A play by Karen Jones**



Director: Sue Carlson
Assistant Director: Leslie Moyna

CAST

STAFF

Maxine Sharp	Sue Carlson
Betty	Kari Gorman
Selma	Sandra Adkins

RESIDENTS

Eli Bishop	Tom Neal
Bernice Hawkins	MJ Floreno
Myrna Crawford	Sue Andrews
Suzanna White	Laurel Scott
Rufus Dobbs	Manny Sharpe
Clifford Smith	Karl Cressman

VISITORS

Agatha Prescott	Sally Kirsten
Plumber	Paul Floreno
Youth Leader	Mary Carson
Church Ladies	Leslie Black
	Pat Plamondon
Businessmen	Rob Kirsten
	Bill Vincent
Children	Maddie Schwartz
	Evie Schwartz
	Alison Shirts
	Lukey Schreiber
	Alistair Schreiber
Choir Members	Lorrie McVey
	Jim Tubbs

CREW

Prompter	Leslie Moyna
Sound & Lights	Sharon Cressman
Costumes & Props	Marcia Van Hamme
Set Decoration	Siobhan Moyna
Set Construction	Rob Kirsten
	Jim Scott



Today's flowers are presented in honor to the Presbyterian Players

Individual Offering Envelopes Will No Longer Be Supplied

As the demand for individual offering envelopes no longer meets the minimum order requirement, envelopes will not be ordered for 2026-saving \$250. Leftover boxes of envelopes from previous years are available, please contact the office if interested. The use of monthly electronic withdrawals (ACH) is also encouraged, which is easy to use.

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.

Mission Committee Donations

SNAP benefits have been in the news a lot lately. SNAP is the current name for food stamps. Our congregation along with COOS and Covenant, have always generously supported agencies that alleviate hunger, especially in our local community. The Mission Committee has used our 2025 budgeted money that was not already earmarked and sent a \$250 check to the three local agencies that provide hunger relief: C.A.R.E.S., Neighborhood House and Salvation Army. Additional information is provided on the board. If this is an issue you personally feel passionate about, you can make an individual donation. QR codes and envelopes are provided for your convenience. They are located on the project board that has been set up in the middle of the church narthex. Donations will not go through the church books. Donations are entirely individual.

First Presbyterian 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!

TODAY is the last day we will be collecting hats, mittens, underwear, and socks for needy families right here in our own community. These items will be donated to Heartfelt Families of Farmington and Second Mile Center of Detroit.

Your new items should be placed on or below the tree in the Narthex 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 at (248) 478-6283.



Reminder to send in pledge form

If you haven’t done so already, please mail in your pledge form to the office or drop them off in the collection basket when you attend the Sunday service. We are putting together our 2026 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!

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:

December 21: Last names beginning S-Z

December 28: Last names beginning A-D

January 4: Last names beginning E-K

January 11: 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



2025 Christmas Poinsettias

Deadline for ordering is TODAY December 14



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 \$18.50 each. Poinsettias are available for you to take home after the 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. The poinsettias can be picked up on Sunday, December 21, 2025 or after.

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:
