



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF FARMINGTON

*Church of the Open Hands*

WELCOMING ALL; SHARING CHRIST; SERVING OTHERS

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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.*

# February 2, 2025

## Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

### Communion Sunday

Prayer of Preparation

*In you, O LORD, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.  
In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me and save me.  
Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me, for you are my rock and my  
fortress (Psalm 71.1-3).*

## We Enter into God's Presence

\*Please stand in body or spirit

Prelude

What A Friend We Have In Jesus

Jason Tonioli

Welcome / Greetings

Pastor Bruce Mulder

*Signing of the Friendship Pad & Prayer Cards  
Welcoming Our Guests*

\*Call to Worship—

Christ manifested in the flesh; Christ revealed in the Spirit.

**Praise the Lord, all you nations.**

Christ contemplated by the angels; Christ worshiped by the Magi.

**Praise the Lord, all you nations.**

Christ believed in the world; Christ exalted in glory.

**Praise the Lord, all you nations. Let us worship God. Amen!**

*\*Opening Hymn #463*

*How Firm a Foundation*

**How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!  
What more can be said than to you God hath said,  
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?**

**"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,  
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.**

**"When through the deep waters I call thee to go,  
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;  
For I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,  
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.**

**"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,  
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply,  
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design  
Thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine.**

**"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."**

Prayer of Confession

God of grace, you have given us Jesus, the light of the world, but we choose darkness and cling to things that hide the brightness of your love. Immersed in ourselves, we have not risen to new life.

Baptize us with your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may preach your Word to the nations and tell of your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ, our Lord, and our light forever. Amen.

Words of Assurance— from Psalm 103

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**God will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever.**

God does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

**For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is God's steadfast love toward those who fear the Lord;**

As far as the east is from the west, so far God removes our transgressions from us.

**As a father has compassion for his children, so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.**

Hear the Good News: we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

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

Reading

Jeremiah 1.4-10; Luke 4.21-30

### Jeremiah 1.4-10

Now the word of the LORD came to me saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." But the LORD said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a boy,' for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD."

Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said to me, "Now I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant."

### Luke 4.21-30

Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is this not Joseph's son?" He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'" And he said, "Truly I tell you; no prophet is accepted in his hometown. But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months and there was a severe famine over all the land, yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many with a skin

disease in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.” When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

*Anthem*

*O, Christ, The Healer*  
FPC Choir

*by Gerald Custer*

Sermon

“Jesus Comes a Meddlin”

**ISAIAH 61. 1-2**

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me  
because the Lord has anointed me; he  
has sent me to bring good news to the  
oppressed,  
to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives  
and release to the prisoners,  
<sup>2</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor  
and the day of vengeance of our God...

**LUKE 4.18-19**

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because God has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.  
God has sent me to proclaim release to  
the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to set free those who are oppressed,  
<sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

## **Celebrating the Lord’s Supper**

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Eternal God, holy and mighty, it is truly right and our greatest joy  
to give you thanks ... the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

### The Words of Institution

The Lord Jesus, the same night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "*Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you: do this in remembrance of me.*"

In the same way, after they had eaten, Jesus poured a cup saying, "*This cup is the new testament in my blood: do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.*"

### Sharing of the Gifts of Bread & Cup

*Please come forward to receive the bread and cup when you are ready or raise your hand and you will be served where you are seated.*

### Communion Prayer—from Psalm 103

Bless the Lord, O my soul;

**and all that is within me, bless God's holy name!**

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

**and forget not all God's benefits,**

who forgives all your iniquity,

**who heals all your diseases,**

who redeems your life from the Pit,

**who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy.**

Bless the Lord, O my soul;

**and all that is within me, bless God's holy name! Amen.**

## **We Respond to God's Word**

Offertory & Collection of Prayer Cards  
Doxology #606

Pastor Bruce Mulder

**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

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

Let us pray for the church and for the world. Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace, that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

*Silence*

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Silence*

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who teaches us to 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 #722*

*Lord, Speak To Me That I May Speak*

**Lord, speak to me that I may speak in living echoes of your tone.  
As you have sought, so let me seek your erring children, lost and lone.**

**O lead me, Lord, that I may lead the wandering and wavering feet.  
O feed me, Lord, that I may feed your hungering one with mana sweet.**

**O teach me, Lord, that I may teach the precious truths which you impart.  
And wing my words that they may reach the hidden depths of many a heart.**

**O fill me with your fullness, Lord, until my very heart o'erflow**

In kindling thought and glowing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.

O use me, Lord, use even me, just as you will, and when, and where  
Until your blessed face I see, your rest, your joy, your glory to share.

Benediction

Pastor Bruce Mulder

Postlude

Toccata (abridged)

C.M. Widor

### **Worship Liturgist**

We welcome Mike Rogers as today's liturgist. For information on serving as a liturgist to assist the pastor during worship, please contact Kari Gorman.

### **Today is the Annual Congregational Meeting of the First Presbyterian Church of Farmington (FPCF) - Sunday, February 2, 2025 - 11:15 p.m. after Worship**

This meeting will be held in person in Knox Hall and virtually via Zoom. The purpose of this meeting is to review the 2024 annual reports of the boards, ministries, committees and staff of the church, review the 2024 financial reports and the 2025 budget and elect the Pastor Nominating Committee Members. There is a supply of printed copies of the 2024 Annual Report available. Electronic copies are available by contacting the church office.

Zoom Invite Information - The meeting will open appx.10 minutes early to allow people to join.

Topic: Annual Congregational Meeting

Time: Feb 2, 2025 11:15 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82081491506?pwd=rDwPkP7bXQ0Vh3cmRRoS6KbKrkn9II.1>

Meeting ID: 820 8149 1506

Passcode: 608745

### **2025 Offering Envelopes**

If you requested a box, please pick it up from the Welcome Center in the Narthex. If you would like to order a box or are unable to pick yours up, please contact the church office.

### **Mission Project Blessing Bags**

Look over the lists posted on the Kiosk in the Foyer and consider what you may like to provide for the Blessing Bags. Sign up for you want to donate, drop off your items in the plastic bin in Mission Cove by Thursday Feb 6. Join us on Sunday Feb 9, to assemble the bags.

### **Recycle Your Old Toothbrushes, etc.**

Please start saving your old toothbrushes, empty toothpaste tubes and caps, toothbrush outer packaging and empty floss containers, any brand. Place them in the marked bin in the foyer. Colgate has started a program to recycle these hard-to-recycle items. Let's keep more items out of the landfill! Thanks for your care for planet Earth. Questions? See Sharon Cressman.

**Custodian Needed!**

Your First Presbyterian Church of Farmington is actively seeking a part time custodian. The candidate should have a good background in building maintenance. The job is 20 hours per week. The pay for it position is \$20 per hour. Please refer any candidates to Bob Van Hamme @mvanhamme@twmi.rr.com

**Lenten Study: “Lord, teach us to pray” (February 17 – April 7)**

Join us for an 8-week journey through the Lord’s Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) that will deepen your prayer life during this Lenten season. The prayer course will be held every Monday morning, 10:00 am – 11:00 am, in the Garden/Parlor Room, from February 17- April 7. The course consists of a video, discussion questions, and practical prayer activities. **Registration is required to plan room size.**

Please register at: [Sign-up for the 2025 Lenten Study](#)

Or contact Sharon Cressman or Colleen Tavor.

**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 [tneal@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tneal@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:

February 2: Last names beginning E-K

February 9: Last names beginning L-R

February 16: Last names beginning S-Z

February 23: 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 donate, just scan the QR code and follow the prompts!

<b>First Presbyterian Church Staff</b>	
Ministers of the Church	Members of the Congregation
Transitional Senior Pastor	Rev. Bruce Mulder
Pastoral Care Parish Associate	Rev. Craig Aue
Minister of Music	Peter Cartwright
Office Administrator	Liz Labourdeth
Administrative Assistant	Amanda May Schreiber
AV Tech Intern	Lidia Neathamer