



God has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

**All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.**

Let heaven and earth rejoice! And all the people say:

**Let us worship the Lord our God amen. Amen**

*\*Opening Hymn #410*

*God Is Calling Through the Whisper*

**God is calling through the whisper of the Spirit's deepest sighs,  
Through the thrill of sudden beauties that can catch us by surprise.  
Flash of lightning, crash of thunder; hush of stillness, rush of wonder:  
God is calling can you hear? God is calling can you hear?**

**God is calling through the voices of our neighbors' urgent prayers,  
Through their longing for redemption and for rescue from despair.  
Place of hurt or face of needing, strident cry or silent pleading:  
God is calling can you hear? God is calling can you hear?**

**God is calling through the music of sublime and human arts,  
Through the hymns of earth and angels, and the carols of our hearts.  
Lift of joy and gift of singing; days and nights our praises bringing:  
God is calling can you hear? God is calling can you hear?**

Prayer of Confession

God of light, we have been so blind when truth has been so clear. When we could have looked ahead, we fell behind. When we could have viewed the wider picture, we saw only a part. When we could have sensed the Spirit leading, we missed the way. Forgive our dim apprehension of love's clear leading. Give us faith that trusts when it cannot see, through the light that lingers when all else fails, even the bright Morning Star of our faith, Jesus Christ, the Savior. **Amen.**

Words of Assurance—Ezekiel 36:25-26

Listen to what the Lord says: *I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.*

**Thanks be to our God who forgives and restores us. Amen!**

**We Hear God's Word**

Reading

Luke 6. 27-38

Luke 6. 27-38

“But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who asks of you, and if anyone takes away what is yours, do not ask for it back again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you expect to receive payment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. Instead, love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

*Anthem*

*Wade in the Water*  
FPC Choir

*by Phillip Hayden*

Sermon

“Jesus’ Radical (Ridiculous?) Demand”

## **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

God of new beginnings, as we celebrate your Epiphany, we recognize that we are even now forging ahead into a new year. As we look back on the year gone by, we see so many things: things that grieve us, things that cause us to rejoice, things that surprise us in ways both good and bad, things that concern us.

For our congregation, O Lord, any given year is often a time of highs and lows, of births and of deaths, of exciting opportunities and of unfulfilled hopes. Yet you are the faithful God who stays with us in and through it all. When we ascend into heights of joy, you are there to receive the words of praise that gush from our lips. When we descend into valleys of shadow, death, fear, and uncertainty, you are there to hold our hand in the darkness and to assure us that we are not alone. When we walk level paths as we go about ordinary tasks, you walk with us, gracing the fruit of our hands with your own sacred benediction.

We confess, Lord Jesus, that because we do not always behave the way we desire for ourselves, there are times when your abiding presence makes us squirm, when the brilliance of your light makes us scurry for cover. We are ashamed of some of the things we do as you walk alongside us, of some of the thoughts we entertain in the deep places of our hearts. Yet in your grace you continue to stick with us, so we find your faithful constancy as our companion in joys and sorrows to be a source of relief, of assurance, of repo

Thank you for being with us through the many turns and twists our paths took last year. In this new year, bathed in the sacred light of Epiphany, we sense anew how much we need your providential presence. We know that in past months loved ones have suddenly died, precious jobs were suddenly terminated, illnesses that we did not even remotely suspect were diagnosed—and suddenly all of life changed. We did not see any of those things coming, O God, and we do not have eyesight that can penetrate the months ahead in this new month and year. We pray for your mercy and strength to face what is to come. But we pray too that you will keep us in good health, in perfect safety, and in the knowledge that we are loved by you and also by family and friends.

Befriend the friendless, swaddle in love the unloved, take compassion on the bereft, the childless, the lonely—and do all of that, O God, through us and through the love, friendship, and compassion we ourselves proffer to this community. Hear us as we pray, our gracious God. For any here this morning who feel so constricted by doubt, anger, or grief that they cannot pray, assure them that we, along with many others, are praying for them.

We ask and pray through Christ Jesus, the light of Epiphany, the light of the world, 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 #756*

*O God of Every Nation*

**O God of every nation, of every race and land,  
Redeem the whole creation with your almighty hand.  
Where hate and fear divide us and bitter threats are hurled,  
In love and mercy guide us and heal our strife torn world.  
From search for wealth and power and scorn of truth and right,  
From trust in bombs that shower destruction through the night,  
From pride of race and station and blindness to your way,  
Deliver every nation, eternal God, we pray.  
Lord, strengthen those who labor that all may find release.  
From fear of rattling saber, from dread of war’s increase.  
When hope and courage falter, your still small voice be heard.  
With faith that none can alter, your servants undergird.  
Keep bright in us the vision of days, when war shall cease,  
When hatred and division give way to love and peace,  
Till dawns the morning glorious when truth and justice reign  
And Christ shall rule victorious o’er all the worlds domain.**

Benediction

Pastor Bruce Mulder

Postlude

Morning Song

by Stanley Saxton

### **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.

### **It is time to pay the 2025 Presbytery Per Capita Apportionment**

The Presbyterian Church U.S.A is a “connectional” church where we interact through the Presbytery of Detroit, the Synod of the Covenant, and the General Assembly. These councils are funded by a “Per Capita” amount which is based on the number of active members at each church. For 2025, the Presbytery Per Capita amount is \$37.09. To make it easier, we are asking that each member contributes \$37.00 to help offset this amount. Checks may be made payable to the First Presbyterian Church of Farmington; please note “Per Capita” on the memo line.

### **USHERS AND COMMUNION HELPERS NEEDED**

If you are interested in being an usher or communion helper once a month please see Deborah Draper 248-579-6053 Communion servers have to be ordained members.

**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 [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:

February 9: Last names beginning L-R

February 16: Last names beginning S-Z

February 23: Last names beginning A-D

March 2: Last names beginning E-K

March 9: 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 prompts!

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