



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.*

# March 16, 2025

## Second Sunday in Lent



### Prayer of Preparation

Holy and loving God, as we worship you today, we long for your Spirit to both comfort and challenge us, to help us become more holy and more loving. In a world that does not understand repentance, we pray for new understanding, humility, patience, and discipline that will help us die to sin and live for Jesus. **Amen.**

## We Enter into God's Presence

*\*Please stand in body or spirit*

Prelude

Divenire

by Ludovico Einaudi

Welcome / Greetings

Pastor Bruce Mulder

*Signing of the Friendship Pad & Prayer Cards*

\*Call to Worship based on Isaiah 55:2, 11-12; John 4:24

Liturgist

Let us worship God, for whom our souls thirst and our bodies long.

**Listen, listen to me, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare.**

We have come to hear the Word God has sent.

**God's Word will not return empty but will accomplish through us his holy purpose.**

Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

**Then we will go out with joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills will sing; the trees of the field will clap their hands.**

\*Opening Hymn #35 Praise Ye The Lord, The Almighty

**Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near; join me in glad adoration!**

**Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,  
Shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!  
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been granted in what he ordaineth?**

**Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!  
All that hath life and breath come now with praises before him!  
Let the amen sound from his people again; gladly for aye we adore him.**

Prayer of Confession

O Lord, you desire truth in our inward being;

**Teach us wisdom in our secret heart.**

Send out your light, send out your truth,

**And let them lead us to our home.**

Take from us the weight of our sin,

**That room might be made for the spirit of truth.**

If we prepare a dwelling place, that spirit will abide within us,

**And the truth will set our spirits free.**

Then shall we love not only in word or in speech; then shall we love in deed and in truth,

**And by this know that our service is faithful.**

O Lord, you desire truth in our inward being;

**Teach us wisdom in our secret heart. Amen.**

Words of Assurance based on Ezekiel 36:26; 2 Corinthians 1:20

The Lord God said: *I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.* Brothers and sisters: In Christ, all God's promises are "Yes." Hear the good news: Through Christ, our minds and hearts are cleansed, healed, and renewed! **Thanks be to our Lord Jesus. Amen.**

# We Hear God's Word

Reading

Luke 13.31-35

Liturgist

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.' "

Anthem

Just As I Am  
FPC Choir

arr Gilbert Martin

Sermon

"Foxes, Hens and Chicks"

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.**

# We Respond to God's Word

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

Liturgist

O Jesus who wept over the death of Lazarus, be with all who grieve.

Gracious God, hear our prayer.

**And in your love answer.**

O Jesus who wept over the state of Jerusalem, be with our cities, our villages, and our centers of worship.

Gracious God, hear our prayer.

**And in your love answer.**

O Jesus who wept alone in Gethsemane, be with all who feel alone, all who face difficult decisions.

Gracious God, hear our prayer.

**And in your love answer.**

O Jesus who cried, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" be with all who are tortured, all who are victims.

Gracious God, hear our prayer.

**And in your love answer.**

O Jesus who offered up prayers with loud cries and tears, hear our prayers,

**Let our cry come to you.**

O Jesus who wept in sympathy and frustration,

**Let our cry come to you.**

O living God who knows all our pain and joy,

**Let our cry come to you. And hear us as we 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 # 440

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

**Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly,  
While the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high.  
Hide me, O my Savior, hide, till the storm of life is past.  
Safe into the haven guide. O receive my soul at last!**

**Other refuge have I none; hangs my helpless soul on thee.  
Leave, ah! Leave me not alone; still support and comfort me.  
All my trust on thee is stayed; all my help from thee I bring.  
Cover my defenseless head with the shadow of thy wing.**

**Thou, O Christ, art all I want; more than all in thee I find.  
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint, heal the sick and lead the blind.  
Just and holy is thy name; I am all unrighteousness.  
False and full of sin I am; thou art full of truth and grace.**

**Plenteous grace with thee is found, grace to cover all my sin.  
Let the healing streams abound; make and keep me pure within.  
Thou of life the fountain art; freely let me take of thee.  
Spring thou up within my heart. Rise to all eternity.**

Benediction

Pastor Bruce Mulder

Postlude

Toccata in D Minor

JS Bach



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### **Financial Town Hall**

Please join us Sunday April 13<sup>th</sup> in Knox Hall following Worship to discuss FPC's finances.

### **Pastor Nominating Committee**

Please keep the PNC in your prayers as they begin the process of finding/calling our next pastor. The team is comprised of Lois Caito, Karl Cressman, Becca DeSloover, MJ Floreno, Donna Marvicsin, Tom Neal and Bill Vincent.

### **CARES Food Pantry**

The number of people needing assistance in providing enough food for their family continues to grow. Between 750 and 800 households are served by CARES each month. Please take home a yellow CARES shopping list, found in the pews, and take it with you on your next shopping trip. We have provided a plastic bin in the Narthex for your generous donations. Thank you for remembering your neighbors.

### **CALLING ALL WOMEN EUCHRE PLAYERS for a fun afternoon**

Our next 2 afternoons of cards will be: **Friday March 21 and Friday May 2** from 2:00 to 4:00 in the **Library**. Add these dates to your calendar and sign up on the kiosk. Get in on the fun

before we go on summer break! New players are welcome- we can teach YOU!

-Questions? See Nancy Prieskorn

**Hospitality Team Kick-Off Meeting (Sunday, March 30, Room 208/210, 11:30-12:30)**

Several of you expressed interest in being a part of the Hospitality Team! We're excited to get started and what better timing than when so many exciting things are happening at our church! Be a vital part of fulfilling our vision of WELCOMING ALL, SHARING CHRIST, SERVING OTHERS! Contact Colleen Tavor for questions.

**Blessing Bag Stories**

A few weeks ago, many of us helped to pack "blessing bags" that we could keep in our cars and hand out to needy people that we saw whenever we were out driving. There are still some Blessing Bags in the Mission Cove area of the foyer. Please help yourself to more so you can hand them out. We've heard many heartwarming stories from those who are handing them out. We'd like to share these stories in our next newsletter. Please send any stories you would like to share to Colleen Tavor ([cmtcounseling@gmail.com](mailto:cmtcounseling@gmail.com)).

**Reminder: FYI is Changing its Name to "Community Connections"**

Just a quick reminder that our monthly newsletter will be changing its name from FYI to "Community Connections." Community Connections is your newsletter where we share our God Moments, our gratitude, our joys, our concerns, our spiritual growth with each other. If you have something you would like to see in Community Connections, please contact Karen Spica or Colleen Tavor.

**Coming Soon: New Name Tags**

We'll be moving soon to using lanyard name tags instead of our current pinned name tags. The name tag board will be repurposed and moved to another location, and we'll be creating a Welcome Center in that area. If you want to keep your current pin name tag, that is fine. Just call the office and let us know not to make a new name tag for you.

**Interviewing and Resume Writing: Effective Strategies**

In partnership with DCDI (Danika Community Development Inc), we will again sponsor a resume writing and practice interview workshop. Emphasis will be placed on consulting and advising and practice interviews. The workshop will take place on 3 consecutive Saturdays (March 22, 29, and April 5), in Room 208/210 from 10:00 am – 12:30 pm. If you would like to volunteer to help with the resume exercises or practice interviews, please contact Colleen Tavor.

**Save the Date! Family Friendly Game Night 2.0: Friday, March 28**

The first Game Night was a blast! Let's do it once more before summer. We'll gather in Knox Hall at 5:30 for a meal and then games at 6:30. We have board games, card games and BINGO! Bring your favorite game, too. Please sign up on the kiosk so we can get a head count.

**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.

### **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:

March 16: Last names beginning S-Z

March 23: Last names beginning A-D

March 30: Last names beginning E-K

April 6: 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>
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