



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF FARMINGTON

Church of the Open Hands

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

In preparing our hearts for worship, we will be dimming the lights in the narthex, indicating a time to quiet our minds (and mouths!). Please enter the sanctuary quietly and in time to hear the welcome and announcements.

March 24th, 2024

Palm/Passion Sunday

Prayer of Preparation

On this day of great rejoicing, Lord Jesus Christ, when we welcome you as Lord and Savior, we also walk in the shadow of your cross. Hosanna! we cry. Blessed are you who come in God's name to save us. Strengthen our faith on this Palm Sunday so that when the time comes to carry the cross, we may still call out to you with heartfelt praise. Give us the grace and courage to follow you this Holy Week from despair to hope, from darkness to light, from death to resurrection. Hosanna in the highest!

We Enter into God's Presence

**Please stand in body or spirit*

Welcome / Greetings

Richard Spurgeon

Signing of the Friendship Pad & Prayer Cards

Congregational Life

Richard Spurgeon

Prelude

Processional

William Mathias

**Call to Worship*

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!

God's steadfast love endures forever!

Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest heaven!

The Lord is our God, and has given us light;

Great is our God, and we give thanks to the Lord.

Hosanna to the Son of David!

Hosanna! Save Us, O God. Hosanna!

God's steadfast love endures forever.

**1 Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's name comest, the King and blessed One. [Refrain]**

**2 The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;
our praise and prayers and anthems before thee we present. [Refrain]**

**3 To thee, before thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise. [Refrain]**

**4 Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King! [Refrain]**

Refrain:

**All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!**

Prayer of Brokenness/Confession (in unison)

Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi

On this Sunday, O God, we remember how quickly we change. How fickle we are, how we pledge our devotion one moment and turn our backs the next. We go from shouting "Hosanna! Save Us!" to "Crucify Him." We declare that we love our neighbors and then we turn our backs on the homeless and hungry in our communities. We speak up for change and justice in one breath, and then continue unjust practices in daily lives by what we consume and the needs we ignore. Forgive us, O God, for we are half-hearted believers. Forgive us, O God, for we are partial justice warriors. Forgive us, O God, for we tire easily and we forget, and we grow weary. Forgive us, restore us, and renew us for the journey of faith, so that we might become whole people who live wholly into Your vision of new life. In the name of Christ, who lived into the fullness of humanity, and whom we follow. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon-Forgiveness

God does not turn away when we fail to be faithful. God does not reject us when we do not trust fully. God continues to love us, to forgive us, to restore us.

**It is God who helps us; it is God who saves us. It is all we need or ever will need.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

We Hear God's Word

Scripture Reading

Psalms 118:15-29

Richard Spurgeon

New Revised Standard Version

15 There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:

"The right hand of the LORD does valiantly;

**16 the right hand of the LORD is exalted;
the right hand of the LORD does valiantly."**

**17 I shall not die, but I shall live
and recount the deeds of the LORD.**

¹⁸ The LORD has punished me severely,
 but he did not give me over to death.
¹⁹ Open to me the gates of righteousness,
 that I may enter through them
 and give thanks to the LORD.
²⁰ This is the gate of the LORD;
 the righteous shall enter through it.
²¹ I thank you that you have answered me
 and have become my salvation.
²² The stone that the builders rejected
 has become the chief cornerstone.
²³ This is the LORD's doing;
 it is marvelous in our eyes.
²⁴ This is the day that the LORD has made;
 let us rejoice and be glad in it.
²⁵ Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!
 O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!
²⁶ Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.
 We bless you from the house of the LORD.
²⁷ The LORD is God,
 and he has given us light.
 Bind the festal procession with branches,
 up to the horns of the altar.
²⁸ You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
 you are my God; I will extol you.
²⁹ O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
 for his steadfast love endures forever.

Anthem

Hosanna! Sing a Loud Hosanna!
 Chancel Choir

Mark Hayes

Sermon

For Crying Out Loud
Luke 19:29-44

Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi

We Respond to God's Word

Offertory & Doxology
Collection of Prayer Cards

Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi

**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

Richard Spurgeon

Gracious and loving God,
In the journey of life, you are our guide and our companion.
From our beginning to our end, you are there.
You run this race alongside us,
at times encouraging us,
at times comforting us,
at times tending to our wounds,
at time carrying us when we don't think we can take another step.
For six weeks we have been on a Lenten journey,
and you have been right here with us—
with us in our spiritual disciplines and devotions,
with us in our weakness and failures,
with us in our fears,
with us in our hopes.
Today, we are with you in this parade,
waving our palms and shouting Hosannas in anticipation
of a reality not yet fulfilled,
of a deep yearning for God's Kingdom still unfolding,
as we saw in parades around this county yesterday—
parades for peace, parades for justice,
parades of courage and hope that indeed wisdom can prevail.
As we spend this final week with Jesus in Jerusalem,
we are amazed once again by his gentle spirit and fierce determination.
As he confronts those who challenge him,
he confronts our own stubbornness and defiant wills.
As he cares even for those who hate him,
we are challenged to love as he loves.
As he bears witness to the emergence of your kingdom,
our eyes are opened to your presence all around us.
As he moves with resolve toward his dark destiny,
we find ourselves struggling to understand why it has to be this way.
God, the journey is not just about the destination;
it is about each step along the way.
The journey itself is a blessing,
with all of its joys and sorrows.
As we run this race you are shaping us into new people.
As we move with you, we are continually born anew.
Help us to be attentive to each step,
in the darkness and in the light.
Help us to fully experience all that we encounter,

the good and the bad,
for in it all we discover you.

Though the race of life goes on,
our Lenten journey is nearing its conclusion.

Bind us ever closer to Christ,
so that we may turn our hearts and minds
to all that he experienced in the crucible of this holy week,
a week both terrible and wonderful.

And give us the courage and the persistence to go the whole way with you.

Unite us now in your vision for our world, as we pray as Jesus taught us,
We pray all of these things 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# 200 *A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd* Thomas H. Troeger

**1 A cheering, chanting, dizzy crowd had stripped the green trees bare,
And hailing Christ as king aloud, waved branches in the air.**

**2 They laid their garments in the road and spread his path with palms
And vows of lasting love bestowed with royal hymns and psalms.**

**3 When day dimmed down to deepening dark the crowd began to fade
Till only trampled leaves and bark were left from the parade.**

**4 Lest we be fooled because our hearts have surged with passing praise,
Remind us, God, as this week starts where Christ has fixed his gaze.**

**5 Instead of palms, a winding sheet will have to be unrolled,
A carpet much more fit to greet the king across will hold.**

Benediction

Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi

Postlude

Valet will ich dir geben (I bid farewell to vain worldly joys)

Max Reger

Please welcome Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi back, as today’s guest preacher.

Marjorie has served the Detroit Presbytery as Associate Pastor at Orchard Lake Community Church, Presbyterian, as Senior Pastor and Head of Staff at Northbrook Presbyterian Church in Beverly Hills, and as Parish Associate at Kirk in the Hills. She is certified by the Shalem

Institute in Contemplative Leadership and a recent graduate of Living School for Action and Contemplation.

Worship Liturgist

We welcome Richard Spurgeon as today's liturgist. Kari Gorman will serve as liturgist on March 28th. For information on serving as a liturgist to assist the pastor during worship, please contact Kari Gorman.

Meet Pastor Bruce!

The Transitional Pastor Search Committee is happy to announce Pastor Bruce Mulder as our new Transitional Pastor! Pastor Bruce will be joining us on Sunday, April 21. Please check out his bio at the end of the bulletin.

Town Hall with Session – TODAY Sunday, March 24

Please join us in Knox Hall for our town hall meeting TODAY, while you're enjoying your coffee and treats. We'll have updates on our new Transitional Pastor – Pastor Bruce – and we'll share recommendations from our two consultants who conducted the Healing and Visioning Workshops.

Alert! City of Farmington Hills Construction

City Hall driveways on Eleven Mile Road will be closed through the duration of the project
FARMINGTON HILLS, Mich. (March 14, 2024) — The City of Farmington Hills Department of Public Services began road reconstruction on Eleven Mile Road between Orchard Lake Road and Farmington Road on Friday, March 15. This section of Eleven Mile Road will be closed to through traffic for the duration of the road construction project, anticipated to conclude in September.

Joy Study

To ease the busy-ness of Holy Week we have decided to take a 3 week break from meeting. **We will NOT meet on March 26, April 2, or April 9.**

Join Us For A Fun Ladies' Night Out!

The Aspire Womens' Event is a one-night women's event full of laughter, learning, stories & music with 3 ladies taking the stage. The cast is: 1 Bible Teacher, 1 Comedian, 1 Musician. This event is being held in many cities across the country and is coming to Rosedale Gardens in Livonia on Sunday, 4/21/2024, 5:00 p.m. We are putting together a group from our church to attend. If interested, contact Dorothy Tait (248) 231-1055, detait1957@gmail.com). The group ticket price is \$25. We can carpool from the church. A copy of the flyer is below and here is a link: <https://aspirewomensevents.com>. Feel free to pass on this invite to others who may be interested.

Car Care Basics-April 21, 28, & May 5th from 2-4pm

Join Karl Cressman in Room 208/210 for learning the car care basics. You will learn hands on



skills in the parking lot along in the classroom. Please be sure to register for the event ahead of time. Car Basics, will provide opportunity for people of all ages to learn about basic car care and operations while developing hands on experience. Led by, engineer, Karl Cressman, our presenter is experienced in car care and maintenance. Register for a total cost of \$25 covers 3 two-hour sessions, snacks, and a takeaway. Register and pay for April 21 only...but plan on attending all 3 sessions to get the full event value.

An Invitation From Presbyterian Players

The calendar says March, but Presbyterian Players are thinking about December. We are currently searching for a script for our annual Christmas play. Before choosing

one, we would like to know how many performers are interested in taking part. Are you someone who might like to flex your acting skills on stage? Can you project your voice? Would you enjoy working with a small group of dedicated, cheerful "hams"? Are you free on Monday evenings from late September through early December? If you might be interested in taking a role, or being an assistant play coordinator, please contact Sue Carlson.

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)

The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. OGHS envelopes are available on the table as you enter the sanctuary. Checks can be made out to First Presbyterian Church Farmington but be sure to note that it is for OGHS in the memo line.

Please pay your 2024 Per Capita Apportionment

The Presbyterian Church 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 the "Per Capita" on each of our active members. For 2024, the Per Capita amount is \$36.00. We ask that you contribute \$36.00 for each member of your household confirmation age and above 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.

Preschool Open Enrollment



The Preschool is now open for enrollment for the upcoming 2024-25 school year. Please spread the word about our Preschool to friends and family who may be interested in enrolling. The program offers 2.5s, 3s

and Pre-K (4s) classes. Please visit the website: <https://farmingtonpreschool.org/enroll/> or call the preschool: (248) 474-9752 to schedule a tour and/or pick up your enrollment forms.

On-Call List for Personnel

The Personnel Committee is putting together an on-call list of people who could be available to volunteer to staff the office in the event that all office staff are sick or simultaneously out of the office. Please email Bob Van Hamme mvanhamme@twmi.rr.com and/or Sally Kirsten sckirsten@hotmail.com at for more information or to sign up to volunteer.

FPCF's Shopping List for CARES

Have you picked up your CARES shopping list yet? Look for it in the pew backs or the Mission bulletin board. Take it with you to the store. The items on the list are those most needed by the guests at CARES. Here is a suggestion: If you see a BOGO Sale (Buy One, Get One), pick up the free item for CARES.

Adult Bible Discussion – The Wired Word

Join our Bible discussion **Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in 208/210**. Sunday Topic: Location in Growing Population Area Is a Key to Fast-Growing Churches, Says Social Scientist. Advance copies are available the Saturday before by email. To get on the email list contact Tom Neal at ttneal@sbcglobal.net.

COVID-19 or Flu Symptoms

Please be mindful if you have symptoms, stay home, and take care of yourself and others.

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:

March 31: Last names beginning S-Z

April 7: Last names beginning A-D

April 14: Last names beginning E-K

April 21: Last names beginning L-R

News from the Church Office

Office hours are as follows: **Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays 9 a.m.-4 p.m.**; **Wednesdays: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.** The office is closed on Fridays. It is a good idea to call ahead if you need to come into the building. As a reminder, please contact the church office via telephone at (248) 474-6170 or email at info@farmington-pres.org.

Holy Week Services

March 24 – Palm Sunday @ 10:00 a.m.

The beginning of Holy Week and Jesus' final journey to the cross.

March 28 – Maundy Thursday Tenebrae- @7:00 p.m.

Service of the Shadows & Sacrament of Holy Communion.

March 31– Easter Sunday @ 10:00 a.m.

Celebration of the Resurrection



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF FARMINGTON
Church of the Open Hands

livestreamed & in person.

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

Dear family and friends of First Presbyterian Church of Farmington,

Grace and peace in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ!

It is a joy to be serving alongside you all as your Interim Pastor. I am excited to learn what God has in store for us, and how the Spirit will equip us to be the Body of Christ at First Presbyterian of Farmington, our nation and in the world.

To provide some background, I was born in Muskegon and raised in St. Petersburg, Florida. I graduated from Hope College (1984) and Western Theological Seminary (1999), both in Holland, Michigan. I am an ordained Minister in the Reformed Church in America (RCA) and will begin my 26th year of ministry in July.

I am married to Jean. She is a therapist at Bethany Christian Services in Grand Rapids working with teenage refugees from all parts and continents of the world. We live in Grand Rapids with our “105 pound of fur” Buddy, a mastiff/lab mix with a pinch of doofus. 🐶 He’s a rescue from Missouri. I love baseball (a lifelong Pittsburgh Pirates fan), enjoy reading biographies and theology, and **need** my morning coffee and love drinking coffee with others, too!

What I enjoy most about being a pastor is collaborating, preaching, and connecting with members of the congregation. I love to constantly learn, read, study, and interpret God’s word, and to translate and share the meaning and positive impact it can have on our lives. (I’m a self-described Word Nerd).

I am delighted with the opportunity to be your interim pastor, to serve you and to get to know you all in our time together.

Shalom,

Bruce Mulder



Bruce and Jean



Buddy



Farmington First Presbyterian Church

The Church of the Open Hands

26165 Farmington Road

Farmington Hills, MI 48334



2024 Easter Flowers Order Form

All orders are due by Monday, March 25



Please place your order for Easter lilies and tulips (in 6-inch pots with foil cover) and/or fresh produce for CARES by completing this form and returning it along with your payment. Plants may be taken after the Easter worship service at 10:00 a.m. on March 31 or left for delivery to a homebound member.

☐ I / We wish to donate the following plant(s) or fresh produce for decorating the church on Easter Sunday. Please use the following recognition in the Easter bulletin:

In honor of _____
name of person(s)

In memory of _____
name of person(s)

Donated by: _____ Phone: (____) _____

I / We would like to order the following number of plants:

_____ Red Tulip plant - \$12 each

_____ Fresh Produce for CARES - \$15 each

_____ Easter Lily plant - \$16 each

Total due \$ _____ ☐ Payment included with order

☐ Please deliver my plant to a homebound member.

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