



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF FARMINGTON

Church of the Open Hands

WELCOMING ALL; SHARING CHRIST; SERVING OTHERS

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 prepare ourselves for worship. Please enter the sanctuary quietly and in time to hear the welcome and announcements.

March 9, 2025

First 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

Seek Ye First
FPC Bell Choir

arr Bettcher

Welcome / Greetings

Pastor Bruce Mulder

Signing of the Friendship Pad & Prayer Cards

Call to Worship based on Psalm 99

Liturgist

Let us worship God, who has done great things.

We rejoice in our God, who made a way through the desert of this world.

Let us worship God, who has caused streams of mercy to flow in the wasteland.

We are the people God has formed through Christ; we worship him, and we rejoice!

Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

We praise God for the grace that has saved us. Alleluia! We rejoice!

*Opening Hymn #166 Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

**Lord, who through-out these forty days for us did fast and pray,
Teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.**

**As you with Satan did contend and did the victory win,
O give us strength to persevere, in you to conquer sin.**

**And through these days of penitence, and through this Passiontide,
Yes, evermore, in life and death, O Lord, with us abide.
Abide with us, till when this life of suffering shall be past,
An Easter of unending joy we may attain at last.**

Prayer of Confession

The palmist writes: If you, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness; therefore, you are feared. I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word, I put my hope. My soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning.

Almighty God, our Redeemer, in our weakness we have failed to be your messengers of forgiveness and hope. Renew us by your Holy Spirit, that we may follow your commands and proclaim your reign of love, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Words of Assurance based on Joel 2:13; 2 Corinthians 9:15

Return to the Lord your God, for God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. In Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

We Hear God's Word

Reading

Luke 4.1-13

Liturgist

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tested by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸ Jesus answered him, "It is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.’

Then the devil led him to Jerusalem and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,’

And ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone’

Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test’” When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Anthem

As The Deer
FPC Bell Choir

by Bettcher

Sermon

“That Sounds So Tempting”

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.**

Song of Invitation #701

Sanctuary

**Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I’ll be a living sanctuary for you.**

We Respond to God’s Word

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

Liturgist

O God, source of love and compassion; O Lord who is with us in every temptation, hear our prayers. We offer our compassion, empathy, love and service:

For the hungry and the sick in body, mind, or heart.

SILENCE

For those who contend with depression, anxiety, and loneliness.

SILENCE

For we who live in such times of fear, uncertainty, and stress.

SILENCE

For all who are grieving to the depths of their hearts.

SILENCE

For all who seek work, are underemployed, rejected and discarded.

SILENCE

For our enemies, foes or rivals.

SILENCE

Strengthen us to work for their healing and inspire us to build with you the kingdom of love in which none will cause suffering to others, and all will be caring, loving children of yours, our compassionate, all-embracing God, ever present, ever loving, never failing. Hear us as we pray Jesus' words:

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.

Offertory & Collection of Prayer Cards

We Follow God's Word into the World

*Hymn of Sending # 43 You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord

**You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in his shadow for life,
Say to the Lord, "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"
And he will raise you up on eagles' wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun and hold you in the palm of his hand.**

**The snare of the fowler will never capture you, and famine will bring you no fear:
Under his wings, your refuge, his faithfulness your shield.**

**You need not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day,
Though thousands fall about you, near you shall not come.**

**For to his angels, he's given a command to guard you in all of your ways;
Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.**

Benediction

Pastor Bruce Mulder

Postlude

Lead on O King Eternal

by Franklin Ritter



Beverly Adams Memorial

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Beverly Adams to more life this past weekend. Please keep her family and friends in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Memorial Service will be held at First Presbyterian, Sunday March 16th at 1 pm, with a memorial reception to follow

https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/livonia-mi/beverley-adams-12258807?utm_source=obit_alerts&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=obit_detail&utm_content=view_updates_button



Joan Hedgecock Memorial

Matt Hedgecock's mother, Joan Hedgecock, has passed to more life. Her memorial service will be held on Tuesday, March 11 at 11:30 a.m. in her church near Grand Rapids. A memorial luncheon will follow.

Zion Lutheran Church
582 Lamoreaux Dr. NW
Comstock Park MI 49321

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.

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.

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 9: Last names beginning L-R

March 16: Last names beginning S-Z

March 23: Last names beginning A-D

March 30: Last names beginning E-K



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!

First Presbyterian Church Staff	
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