



## Fourth Sunday of Easter April 26, 2026



### Prayer of Preparation

Dear Lord, I want to pause and say thank you-not just in the big moments, but in the ordinary ones too. Thank You for the food I eat, the air I breathe, and quiet the moments of joy that make up my day. Teach me to recognize Your work in the small things and to respond with the genuine thanks, In Jesus name, Amen.

## We Enter into God's Presence

*\*Please stand in body or spirit*

### Prelude

*Rock of Ages*

arr. Brent Edstrom

### Welcome / Greetings

Laurel Scott

*Signing of the Friendship Pad & Prayer Cards*

### \*Call to Worship

Laurel Scott

**People: Thank You God for your love to me**

Leader: Everyone who has gathered in this place, lift your hands and praise God

**People: Thank you, God, for your love in this place**

Leader: Shout praises to God for you are Gods' servant, so shout praises

**People: Thank you, God, for your love to others**

Leader: All who serve in this place, who serve our God, come and shout praises.

**People: Thank you, God, for your love that we can share.**

Leader: Praise the name of our God who is kind and good

**People: Thank you, God, for your love endures forever**

### \*Opening Hymn # 22

*God of The Sparrow*

## Prayer of Confession (in unison)

**All: Gracious Lord, You have taught us to trust You, but we prefer to trust ourselves. You have offered us peace, but we continue to live in chaos. You have offered us rest, but we are weighed down with our own sin. Help us to surrender our need for control, misguided self-sufficiency, and prideful arrogance. Forgive our sin. Heal our hearts. Cleanse our souls and let us find true rest in You. In Jesus' Name. Amen**

(A time of silent, personal prayer).

## \*Words of Assurance

Rev. LeShawn Billingsley

In the stillness, God whispers grace.  
In the shadows, God shines light.  
In our weariness, God breathes peace.  
We rest in Your mercy, O Lord,  
and give thanks for love that never ends. Amen.

## We Hear God's Word

### Prayer of Illumination

Laurel Scott

Prepare our hearts and minds, O God, to receive your Word. Silence in us any voice but your own, that, hearing, we may obey your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

### First Scripture Reading

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NKJV)

Laurel Scott

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

### Anthem

*Thy Word*  
Bell Choir

arr. Peggy Bettcher

### Second Scripture Reading

Luke 17:11-17 (KJV)

Rev. LeShawn Billingsley

And it came to pass, as he went to Jerusalem, that he passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee. And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off: and they lifted up their voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us. And when he saw them, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed. And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan. And Jesus answering said, were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine? There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger. And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole.

### Sermon

The One Who Came Back to Say Thank You

Rev. LeShawn Billingsley

## We Respond to God's Word

Offertory & Collection of Prayer Cards

Rev. LeShawn Billingsley

\*Doxology #606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God all creatures here below.  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Prayers of the People, Prayers of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer Laurel Scott

One: Gracious God, for all Your gifts — seen and unseen, in joy and in trial — we give You thanks, and we offer our lives in service to Your glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Let us pray for God's rule on earth as Jesus taught us:

**All: 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 # 819

*Be Still My Soul*

\*Benediction

Rev. LeShawn Billingsley

Postlude

*Risen Today!*

arr. Christina Becket

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### Welcome Rev. LeShawn Billingsley, Today's Guest Preacher

Rev. LeShawn Billingsley stands as a faithful and dynamic servant of the Most High God, a lifelong pillar of New St. Mark Baptist Church in Detroit, Michigan. With a solid educational foundation, including a Bachelor of Applied Science degree in Nuclear Medicine Technology from Ferris State University and specialized training at the Heritage Center of Religious Studies—he is divinely equipped for both kingdom work and professional excellence.

At New St. Mark, he pours out his life in multifaceted service as associate minister, moderator of the trustee board and mime ministry, praise team member, choir member, men's ministry and ERT ministry. Anointed and called to full-time ministry in 2012, he was licensed as a minister in 2013 and gloriously ordained as Reverend in 2019, marking milestones of surrender and spiritual authority.

Complementing his sacred calling, Rev. Billingsley brings over 32 years of distinguished healthcare experience as a nuclear medicine technologist between Corewell Health and Trinity Health. His career reflects Christ's healing touch—delivering compassionate, precise care for every soul.

A devoted family man, he cherishes his role as loving husband to his beautiful wife, Keisha, and proud father to their two wonderful children, Kameron and Lauryn. Above all, Rev. Billingsley thrives in teaching profound truths, preaching with fire and conviction, mentoring the next generation, and singing exuberant praises to God—lifting the name of Jesus through every gift, melody, and act of selfless service to the glory of God.

### **Taco Bar Hospitality Time precedes May 3 Congregational Meeting**

Celebrate an early Cinco de Mayo with us on Sunday, May 3 between worship and the annual Congregational Meeting.



### **May 3, 2026, Annual Congregational Meeting, 11:15 a.m., Knox Hall**

There will be an Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, May 3, 2026, after the Worship Service and Taco Bar luncheon in Knox Hall and virtually via Zoom. The purpose of this meeting is to nominate and elect the next class of Deacons, Elders, Nominating Committee Members and the Financial Review Team. The Town Hall is to discuss our churches' response to immigration issues, which the Session is working on creating an official policy on, and desire congregational input. The Zoom meeting will open 5-10 minutes early to allow people to join.

### **Zoom meeting link:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84798532963?pwd=r01aVzrUvy5MnSnMzxc6oX683Xigcn.1>

**Meeting ID: 847 9853 2963    Passcode: 894928**



### **2026 CROP Hunger Walk - Sunday, May 3, 2026**

**Building a better world where there is enough for all.** No one in this world should be hungry. The steps we take and the funds we raise together provide life-saving support including emergency food and resources, along with the seeds, tools and programs which help families feed themselves now and in the future. **Please consider signing up to walk and/or to donate funds**, which can be made now either online, directly to one of the walkers or sent to the church office.

**Online donations:** The online link is: <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/chw/team/first-presbyterian-of-farmington> and our team name is "First Presbyterian of Farmington". You may donate to the FPCF church team or to a specific walker.

**In-person donations:** Online donations are preferred, but cash and checks written to **CWS/CROP Hunger Walk** are also accepted. Sign-up forms will be available in the Narthex on April 26 and May 3, the day of the Walk.

For more info or to sign up to walk, please contact Dorothy Tait [detait1957@gmail.com](mailto:detait1957@gmail.com). The more walkers, the better. The walk starts at the First United Methodist Church of Farmington, 33112 Grand River, Farmington, 12:30 p.m. registration.

**Health and Wellness Program** hosted by FPCF Deacons. Please join us from 11:30am to 12:30pm on May 17 in Knox Fellowship Hall. The Deacons are pleased to announce that Emily Davis will be our presenter. Emily is a Health & Wellness Coach and is certified as an Athletic Trainer and as an Independent Metabolic Health Coach. She holds a Master's in Exercise Physiology and a Bachelor's degree in Athletic Training; and has years of experience.

Emily will focus on building strength and balance, and healthy nutrition. Emily will demonstrate simple exercises for improving balance and strength, discuss meal planning for better nutrition, and answer questions about starting a wellness routine.

This program is ideal for anyone wanting to improve overall health or start a wellness routine.



**PW Gathering is Monday, May 18**

All are welcome to join Presbyterian Women for the annual Spring Gathering on Monday, May 28 at 7:00pm. The speakers will be our own Jeff and Ellen Ely, who will present a program, "The Trail Provides: Hiking the Pacific Crest Trail and the Arizona Trail." There will be refreshments. Tickets (\$5) will be on sale at the information table.

**Church Spring Cleanup Day**

The annual spring cleanup day will be Saturday, May 9 at 9:00 am. All are welcome to join the scouts and the Property team. Thank you.





### **Shower Her with Greeting Cards**

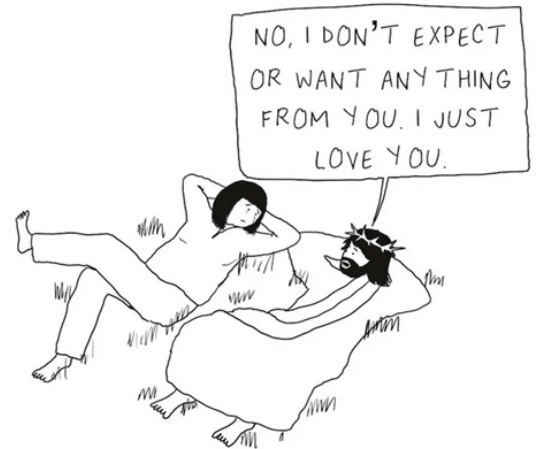
Sadie Brown is in Hospice care at the Manor of Novi. Please send her greeting cards to let her know her church family is thinking and praying for her. The address is 24500 Meadowbrook, Novi MI 48375.

### **FPCF to Use Naked Pastor Art and Cartoons.**

Before you balk about “Naked Pastor” take a breath. No one is taking their clothes off, least of all our pastor. (No offense, Craig.)

The Naked Pastor is actually a well-clothed man named David—a “pastor turned artist”—who focuses on telling the naked truth.

His cartoons and art challenge religious norms and focus on love and inclusivity and the CommTech committee has purchased a digital subscription to use his art.



We look forward to sharing these with you in this newsletter, social media, bulletins, etc.

Your Communications and Technology Committee



### **QR Code for Donations!**

If you ever forget to go to the ATM, or simply do not carry cash on you, we include the church QR code for a more streamlined donation process. To donate, just scan the QR code and follow the prompt.

### **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 is the upcoming schedule:

- May 3: Last names beginning L-R
- May 10: Last names beginning S-Z
- May 17: Last names beginning A-D
- May 24: Last names beginning E-K





### The Hospitality Team Wants You!

Are you a friendly and welcoming person who would feel comfortable making people feel at home when they enter our church? If so, please consider signing up to be a **greeter** once a month. We are also in need of a few more **ushers** to pass out bulletins, pass the offering plate, and offer assistance to worshippers. Please let Sharon Cressman, Deborah Draper, or Colleen Tavor know if we can add you to our team to help us create a hospitable vibe at First Farmington.

## First Presbyterian Church Staff

### Ministers of the Church

Parish Associate/Temp Acting Head of Staff

Minister of Music

Office Administrative Assistant

Sexton

AV Tech Intern

### Members of the Congregation

Rev. Craig S. Aue

Peter Cartwright

Jennifer Taub

Richard Spurgeon

Lidia Neathamier

## Church Calendar April 26 to May 3, 2026

### **Sunday, April 26**

9:00am - 10:00am The Wired Word

10:00am - 11:00am Worship In-Person and Livestream Service

**11:00am- 2:00pm Craft Show**

### **Monday, April 27**

**Office Open 9:30am until 3:30pm**

9:30am Revitalization Team Meeting

6:00pm - 7:00pm Soul Stretch Yoga

7:00pm- 9:00pm Social Justice Book Study

### **Tuesday, April 28**

**Office Open 9:30am until 3:30pm**

4:00pm - 6:00pm PNC Meeting -Library

7:00pm - 9:00pm Scouts Troop Meeting

7:15pm – 8:30pm JOY Book Study via Zoom

### **Wednesday, April 29**

**Office Open 9:30am until 3:30pm**

7:30am – 8:30am Optimist Club

2:00pm - 3:00pm Future Church Prayer Group

7:00pm- 9:00pm Scouts

### **Thursday, April 30**

**Office Open. Jennifer will not be in. Pastor Craig will be.**

**Please call ahead if you plan to visit.**

6:00pm – 7:20pm Choral Bells Practice

7:20pm – 8:50pm Chancel Choir Practice

### **Friday, May 1**

2:00pm-4:00pm Euchre

### **Saturday, May 2**

10:00am Dayle Mataya Visitation

11:00am Dayle Mataya Memorial Service

12:00pm Memorial Luncheon

### **Sunday, May 3**

9:00am - 10:00am The Wired Word

10:00am - 11:00am Worship In-Person and Livestream Service

11:15am -1:15pm Congregational Meeting

