



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.

April 14, 2024

3rd Sunday Of Easter

Prayer of Preparation

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

We Enter into God's Presence

*Please stand in body or spirit

Prelude

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

William H. Doane
arr. Vicki Tucker Courtney

Welcome / Greetings

MJ Floreno

Signing of the Friendship Pad & Prayer Cards

Congregational Life

MJ Floreno

*Call to Worship

MJ Floreno

Come, people of God!

Let us offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,
and lift up his name in the presence of his people.

For God is gracious and merciful,
full of compassion and love.

While we were still helpless, he came to save us.

Let's worship God together!

*Opening Hymn #244

This Joyful Eastertide

George Ratcliffe Woodward

**1 This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow!
My love, the Crucified, has sprung to life this morrow.**

Refrain:

**Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day prison,
our faith had been in vain. But now has Christ arisen,
arisen, arisen, arisen.**

**2 My flesh in hope shall rest and for a season slumber
till trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number. [Refrain]**

**3 Death's flood has lost its chill since Jesus crossed the river.
Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver. [Refrain]**

Prayer of Brokenness/Confession

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon-Forgiveness

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

We Hear God's Word

Scripture Reading

Luke 24:36b-48

MJ Floreno

New Revised Standard Version

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and their companions and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you-- that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day,

and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things."

Anthem	<i>Child of God</i> Chancel Choir	Spiritual arr. Walter Ehret
Sermon	Got Peace?	Rev. Geoffrey T. Piper

We Respond to God's Word

Offertory & Doxology <i>Collection of Prayer Cards</i>	Rev. Geoffrey T. Piper
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**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	MJ Floreno
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Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. We offer this prayer 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

**1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.**

**2 Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now, and touching every place and time.**

**3 In every insult, rift, and war where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, where even hope has died.**

**4 Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.**

**5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.**

Benediction

Rev. Geoffrey T. Piper

Postlude

At Easter-tide, No. 3 of Six Occasional Preludes, Op. 182

Charles Villiers
Stanford

Today's flowers are donated by Betty Reynolds in memory of Russ Reynolds.

Please welcome back Rev. Geoffrey Piper, today's guest preacher

The Rev. Geoffrey T. Piper retired from fulltime parish ministry in 2020 after 35 years in the U.S. and Canada. He and his wife, Leslie, (a church organist and choir director), began their ministry through the Anglican Church of Canada in remote fishing villages in northern Quebec. They have also served Episcopal parishes in Massachusetts, Michigan and Florida. They have three adult children and five grandchildren. Geoffrey enjoys trout fishing, woodworking, personal fitness, and spending time alongside the grandkids.

Worship Liturgist

We welcome MJ Floreno as today's liturgist. Our liturgist for April 21st is Pastor Bruce Mulder. For information on serving as a liturgist to assist the pastor during worship, please contact Kari Gorman.

Musical Guests Next Week

Next week we welcome Jennie Spenner, flute, and Mark Bedard, oboe, to First Pres. They are both accomplished musicians who will assist with the voluntaries and the anthem. If you have heard John Rutter's The Lord is My Shepherd, you know how stunning it is with oboe. Please be in attendance. You will not regret it!

JOY! Study takes a break

To ease the busy-ness of Holy Week, we have decided to take a three-week break from our Tuesday meetings **and will resume on April 16. Contact Sharon Cressman for details about joining JOY! Study.**

Potluck Meet N Greet for Pastor Bruce on April 21

We're all excited to meet Pastor Bruce on April 21 and we want to give him a big warm 1st Pres Farmington welcome! If you can, please sign up to bring something to the potluck Meet N Greet. The sign up list is on the coffee treat table in Knox Hall. Thank you!

Welcome Basket for Pastor Bruce

We would like to present Pastor Bruce with a Welcome Basket on April 21. Please bring a card, a welcome note, a gift card to a local restaurant, etc. that we can place in a welcome basket on April 21.

Join Us for a Fun Ladies' Night Out!

The Aspire Women's Event is a one-night women's event full of laughter, learning, stories & music with three ladies taking the stage. The cast is: 1 Bible Teacher, 1 Comedian and 1 Musician. This event is being held in many cities across the country and is coming to Rosedale Gardens in Livonia on Sunday, April 21, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. We are putting together a group from our church to attend. If interested, contact Dorothy Tait (248-231-1055, detai1957@gmail.com). The group ticket price is \$25. We can carpool from the church. Here's 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 5 from 2-4 p.m.

Join Karl Cressman in Room 208/210 for learning car care basics. You will learn hands-on skills in the parking lot as well as in the classroom. Please be sure to register for the event ahead of time. Car Care 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 three two-hour sessions, snacks, and a takeaway. Register and pay for April 21 only ... but plan on attending all three sessions to get the full event value.



The poster for the Car Care Basics Community Clinic features a blue header with the title. Below the title are three illustrations: a woman with a flat tire, a car with a lit dashboard light, and a man working on a car's hood. The text includes: "Ohhh Nooo! - I've got a flat! 'Pop the hood'? How do I do that? The dash light is on! What does it mean? Become confident under the hood!". It lists the cost as "\$25 3 Sessions" and provides the dates: "Sunday, April 21 2-4 pm", "Sunday, April 28 2-4 pm", and "Sunday, May 5 2-4 pm". A QR code is present for registration, along with the URL <https://timeurl.com/CarCare2024>. At the bottom, it identifies the location as the First Presbyterian Church of Farmington, 26165 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48335.

Alert! City of Farmington Hills Construction

City Hall driveways on Eleven Mile Road will be closed through the duration of the project. 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.

Spring Clean-up day Saturday May 4

On Saturday May 4 between 8:30 am and noon we will have our annual spring cleanup day. Our focus will be on trimming, raking, and planting flowers to beautify our property. Please bring tools for pruning, planting, and general clean-up that day. Coffee, juice, and donuts will be provided. Any questions: contact Jeff Ely

Reserve the Date: Saturday May 4 @ 7 PM for a bit of musical self-care.

Spring choral concert by **Cantata Academy Chorale** featuring a variety of pieces including Broadway favorites (Do You Hear the People Sing, Masquerade, Another Op'n'n, Another Show; Impossible Dream and Lullaby of Broadway) and deeply inspirational selections (Oh Love, Sing me to Heaven, Earth Song, Afternoon on a Hill, and a particularly haunting piece - Even When God is Silent). Please join us for a relaxing uplifting evening of music. Advance purchase tickets available at <https://cantata-academy-chorale.square.site> for a reduced price of \$18/Adult, \$15 Senior/Student or at the door for \$20 Adult, \$15 Senior/Student. Children under 10 free.

Reserve the Date: Saturday May 4 @ 7 p.m. for a bit of musical self-care

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Master Gardener in the House

Did you know that plants have a Ph level? Did you know that plants like certain spots and don't like other spots? Well, we are happy to say that our own Laurel Scott, Master Gardener extraordinaire, has taken over caring for all the plants in the building (as well as new plants that will be appearing here and there). We ask that you please NOT water any of the plants no matter how tempted you may be. However, Laurel encourages all of us to talk lovingly to all of the plants at any time. Research shows that makes them thrive even more. And hey, that goes for the rest of us too!

Please remember to....

Wear your name tags. Pastor Bruce is coming soon!

Say "hi" to your neighbor!

Give a smile, get a smile!

Happy Birthday, Farmington!

Did you know that Farmington was founded 200 years ago? Just think what life here must have been like in 1824. To learn more about the city's rich past and its bicentennial, plan to join us for a Gathering in Knox Hall on Monday, May 20 at 7:00 for dessert, coffee, and a speaker who is an expert on the history of Farmington. This event is open to all. PW will be selling tickets (\$5.00) at the welcome table in May.

An Invitation To Potential Thespians

Have you got the acting bug? Would you like to help present the Christmas story in a creative way on stage? Would you like to work with a small group of dedicated, friendly hams? Can you talk plenty loud? If so, Presbyterian Players wants YOU. We are currently in the process of choosing a play, which will be performed on Dec. 11 and Dec. 15. Rehearsals are held Monday evenings, beginning in late September. If you would like to take a role or help in other ways, contact Sue Carlson, Sally Kirsten, Tom Neal, or Laurel Scott.

Who Moved My Chair?

Don't be surprised if you start seeing some changes soon in the narthex, kiosk area, and Knox Hall! While we love our church, it needs some updating, and like all of us at times, could use a makeover. A newly formed committee, with several enthusiastic members, will be working on sprucing up our shared spaces to make them warmer and more welcoming to us and newcomers. We hope you look forward to and enjoy the updates! If you have any questions, please contact Colleen Tavor.

6th annual Craft Fair TODAY!

A colorful poster for an Arts & Crafts Show. The title "ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW" is in a serif font. Below it, the dates "APRIL 13-14, 2024" and times "SAT: 10A-4P, SUN: 11A-2P" are listed in a white box. A pink ticket graphic says "Entry \$2". The text "Featuring previous crafters and local artists, food & sweet treats for sale. Fundraiser for the worship and music ministry." is below. The location "First Presbyterian Church of Farmington, 26165 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48336" is at the bottom. The church logo and name "FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF FARMINGTON Church of the Open Hands" are at the bottom right. The background has colorful wavy patterns.

Good news! Our 6th annual Craft Fair is TODAY As of now we have 35 crafters which is more than double what we had in November!

Let's support our Music Ministry while buying handmade gifts for Mother's Day, Father's Day, and graduations as well as all other holidays and family birthdays. And spread the word to your friends, family and neighbors.

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 2024-2025 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://farmingtonprespreschool.org/enroll/> or call the preschool: (248) 474-9752 to schedule a tour and/or pick up your enrollment forms.

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**. 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:

April 21: POT LUCK-Meet N Greet with Pastor Bruce *See sign up sheet in Knox Hall

April 28: Last names beginning S-Z

May 5: Last names beginning A-D

May 12: Last names beginning E-K

May 19: Last names beginning L-R

FPCF is looking for Legal Counsel

From time to time, there are contracts or other documents to be reviewed to ensure everything is correct and all parties are covered. If there is anyone in the church willing to provide help in this area or if there are any recommendations, please contact the church office at 248-474-6170.

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.

COVID-19 or Flu Symptoms

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

News from the Church Office



It is with regret that we inform you that Amanda Schreiber, part of our office administrative team, will be leaving us effective May 1st. Amanda's last day in the office will be April 30th. We wish Amanda the best. She will be missed.

If you or someone you know has an administrative background and would be interested in working in the office for six hours per week, please let Sally Kirsten or Bob Van Hamme know.

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.

Next week the church office will be staffed intermittently so it will be 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

First Presbyterian Church Staff	
Ministers of the Church	Members of the Congregation
Pastoral Care Parish Associate	The Rev. Craig S. Aue
Minister of Music & Organist/Pianist	Shari Fiore-Bloom
Office Administrative Assistant	Carly Vivio
Office Assistant	Amanda Schreiber
AV Tech Intern	Jaiden Thomas

Welcome our New Transitional Pastor!
If you haven't seen his bio yet, here it is again! Welcome, Pastor Bruce!

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 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

