



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 21, 2024

4th Sunday in Easter

Prayer of Preparation

Living Word, whose love abides in us, You call us to love in truth and action. Give courage to our hearts so we may love your beloveds. Open our ears to the wisdom of those you send, who might otherwise be dismissed. Transform our charity into justice over all the earth. Amen.

We Enter into God's Presence

*Please stand in body or spirit

Prelude	<i>Movement II from the Trio for Flute, Oboe and Piano</i> Jennie Spenner, Flute Mark Bedard, Oboe	Madeleine Dring
Welcome / Greetings		Pastor Aue
<i>Signing of the Friendship Pad & Prayer Cards</i>		
Congregational Life		Pastor Aue
*Call to Worship (Responsive)		Pastor Bruce Mulder

L: What a joy it is to welcome you this day!

P: We are grateful and happy to be here.

L: Christ, the Good Shepherd, invites you to walk with him.

P: We accept that invitation, confident in his guidance.

L: Be ready to serve the Lord in all that you do, for his love has been poured upon you.

P: Open our hearts and spirits this day, Lord, to receive your holy words and to be challenged in our service to you. AMEN.

**1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us; much we need your tender care.
In your pleasant pastures feed us; for our use your fold prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us: we are yours.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us: we are yours.**

**2 We are yours: in love befriend us; be the guardian of our way.
Keep your flock: from sin defend us; seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear your children when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear your children when we pray.**

**3 You have promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be;
you have mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.**

**4 Early let us seek your favor; early let us do your will.
Blessed Lord and only Savior, with your love our spirits fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us; love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us; love us still.**

Prayer of Brokenness/Confession

We grumble and complain about our daily lot in life. We read the newspapers, watch the broadcast news and moan about the evil which flourishes in the world. And we wonder, "Where are you, O God?" We turn our backs on the needs of the poor or give only a cursory acknowledgment of their plight. We throw our hands up in the air and act as though we are defeated. And we cry, "Why isn't God taking care of all this?" Forgive us, patient Lord. Forgive our arrogance, our ignorance, our pettiness. Forgive us when we could have done something to help someone else, but chose instead to turn away. Forgive us when we, by our attitudes and language, our thoughts and actions, have gone against your will. You are with us, Lord. You lead us daily in right paths and offer to us the bread of life. You stand with us in times of trial and in the presence of those whom we fear, giving us your abundant love. And then, you offer to us a place in your eternal home. How can we doubt your presence? Help us to trust you. Help us to praise you and remember that you have called us to be your witnesses and workers in this world. Give us strength and courage, joy and peace for all the work that you have for us to do. In the name of Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, who laid down his life for us, his sheep, we pray.

Silence is kept

Assurance of Pardon-Forgiveness

We Hear God's Word

Gospel Lesson

John 10:11-18

Pastor Bruce Mulder

New Revised Standard Version

¹¹“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

Anthem

The Lord is My Shepherd
Chancel Choir and Mark Bedard, Oboe

John Rutter

Sermon

What "Other Fold?"

Pastor Aue

We Respond to God's Word

Offertory & Doxology

Collection of Prayer Cards

Pastor Aue

**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

Pastor Aue

Prayer of Thanksgiving & The Lord's Prayer

Pastor Bruce Mulder

Gracious Provider, we gather with hearts filled with gratitude for the love and light you've shown us. Your Word reminds us that true love is seen in the self-sacrifice of Christ. As we offer our tithes and offerings, we are reminded of the importance of generosity and stewardship in every aspect of our lives. May these gifts be a reflection of the love we have experienced in Christ and our commitment to steward them faithfully for the work of your kingdom. Use these offerings to bring justice, mercy, and hope to a world in need.

Our souls are weary, O God. We hear too easily the loud clamor of the world. We witness the terror and trauma all around us. We long for the "good old days" when life seemed so much safer and simpler; when we felt cherished and protected. In this spirit, we have come to this time of worship, seeking your peace and hope. The Psalmist wrote of green

pastures and refreshing springs of water, places of rest. Offerings of quietness and comfort flood our thirsting souls. What we would give for such places in the heart! In the midst of all that is difficult, there is one who leads us to these places where, when we have gathered strength and healing, we are prepared to go forth in confidence to serve again. Jesus, the Good Shepherd, knows our name and our needs. He listens for our cries and responds in love.

We have offered today the names and situations of illness, mourning, stress, and concern which touch our lives and our souls. We have breathed our heart's desire for their healing and restoration. God's abundant love shall flood over them until they are more than filled. God will be with all these dear ones in their situations and needs. And God will be with us, strengthening us, restoring us, healing us, challenging us, to bear witness to the Good News of Salvation in the name of Jesus Christ. Open our hearts this day, O Lord, and enter into our lives we pray 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# 693

The Gift of Love

Hal H. Hopson

**1 Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire,
and have not love, my words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.**

**2 Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess,
but not be given by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.**

**3 Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control; our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed; by this we worship, and are freed.**

Benediction

Pastor Aue

Postlude

Balladine from 6 petites fantaisies
Jennie Spenner, Flute

Jules Demersseman

Today's flowers are donated by Betty Reynolds in memory of Russ Reynolds (**with sincere apologies that they were not presented last week**); and by Katie and Art Malisow in honor of Nathan Malisow's 21st Birthday.

Welcome Pastor Bruce Mulder!

After a year and a half of searching, the day has finally come. Please welcome Transitional Pastor Bruce as he joins FPCF today. Pastor Bruce lives in Grand Rapids and will be working 30 hours per week. His starting schedule will be working Sundays, Tuesdays, & Wednesdays in Farmington; Mondays & Thursdays in Grand Rapids. Fridays and Saturdays will be his days off. Everyone is welcome to stay after church today for a potluck to meet our new Pastor.

Worship Liturgist

We welcome Pastor Bruce Mulder as today's liturgist. Our liturgist for April 28th is Alvine Cooper. For information on serving as a liturgist to assist the pastor during worship, please contact Kari Gorman.

Musical Guests

Today 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. Jennie plays in the Rochester Community Concert Band, of which she is a founding member, and in the Royal Oak Symphony Orchestra. She also plays in various chamber ensembles throughout the metro Detroit area. Jennie taught middle school band for several years before taking leave to raise her family. She is currently an active volunteer in the schools.

Mark started saxophone in the 5th grade and oboe in junior high school and played through high school. After a hiatus which included military service and university, he took up the oboe again, playing in community bands and orchestras. Following his retirement after almost 30 years as an engineer at Chrysler, Mark has centered his activities around the oboe. In addition to founding the woodwind quintet Woven Woods, he currently plays in the North Oakland Concert Band, the Rochester Concert Band, the Royal Oak Symphony Orchestra, the Waterford New Horizons Concert Band and the Lincolnshire Woodwind Quintet. Mark also occasionally plays saxophone in dance bands and saxophone quartets.

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.



**CAR CARE BASICS
COMMUNITY CLINIC**

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!

\$25
3 Sessions

- Sunday, April 21 2-4 pm
- Sunday, April 28 2-4 pm
- Sunday, May 5 2-4 pm

Register:



<https://tinyurl.com/CarCare2024>

**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 p.m. 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 for Adults and \$15 for Seniors/Students. At the door the prices are \$20 for Adults and \$15 for Seniors/Students. Children under 10 free.

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, to assist Pastor Bruce to begin to learn out names and help welcome him to The Church of the Open Hands.

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.

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 ttnéal@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 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

Transitional Pastor	The Rev. Bruce Mulder
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



Farmington First Presbyterian Church
The Church of the Open Hands
26165 Farmington Road
Farmington Hills, MI 48334

