



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF FARMINGTON

*Church of the Open Hands*

WELCOMING ALL; SHARING CHRIST; SERVING OTHERS

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*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.*

# June 8, 2025

# Pentecost



## Prayer of Preparation

Lord God, especially today as we remember the coming of your Spirit, each those of us who lead worship not to rely on our own strength to make worship meaningful and inspiring. Rather, give us joy and freedom in knowing that worship is a gift made possible by the work of your Holy Spirit. Through Christ, our Lord, **Amen.**

## We Enter into God's Presence

*\*Please stand in body or spirit*

Prelude

Blessed Assurance

arr. Brent Edstrom

Welcome / Greetings

Pastor Craig Aue

*Signing of the Friendship Pad & Prayer Cards*

\*Call to Worship (responsive)

Liturgist

Beloved, pay attention! The Holy Spirit sweeps among us, binding us together as family in Christ.

**We are children of God, heirs of grace.**

Beloved, have you noticed? The Holy Spirit moves among us, creating and renewing the whole of creation, inspiring us to co-create with God and one another.

**We are children of God, co-creators in grace.**

Beloved, be encouraged. The Holy Spirit lives among us, surrounding us with mercy and grace, witnessing to us about God's steadfast love for God's people.

**We are children of God, witnesses to grace.**

Beloved, pay attention! Whether in a rushing wind or a gentle breath, the Holy Spirit welcomes you here, for we are all children of God, brought together by grace.

**We are children of God, knit together by the Spirit. Thanks be to God! Amen**

\*Opening Hymn #834

Precious Lord Take My Hand

1. Precious Lord, take my hand; lead me on, help me stand;  
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.  
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light;  
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.
2. When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near;  
When my life is almost gone,  
Hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall;  
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

Call to Reconciliation

We lock our doors, shutter the windows, huddle in silence, hoping God will not care about our foolish lives, painful choices, hurtful words. Yet rather than breaking into shame and punish us, God's Spirit blows into our lives bringing new hope, new life, new words to offer. Join me as we offer our lives to God.

Prayer of Confession

You send your Spirit to rattle our windows, and we call for repairs. You long to set us free from our hiding places, but we try our best to cling to the familiar. You want to create your Beloved Community with all of us, but we hold tight to old grudges and keep highlighting our differences.

But you do not let a little thing like fear's bolt get in your way of transforming our lives, Locksmith of Love. There is no door too thick that you cannot open to be with us. There is no window which can keep your Spirit from breathing new life into us. There is no hiding place where Jesus, who promised to be with us, will not find us to place our hands, our hearts, our lives into the Spirit who is our Companion. Amen.

*Silence is kept*

Words of Assurance – based on Psalm 105:1-2; Romans 5:5; Revelation 4:8

Not with judgement, friends. The Spirit comes with forgiveness. Not with angry words, the Spirit comes with grace. Not with a sentence of shame, the Spirit comes with love.

**The Advocate comes to remind us that we are forgiven, filled with new life, and sent out to share this is the good news today and, indeed, every day. Thanks be to God! Amen**

## **We Hear God's Word**

Reading

Acts 1:1-22

Liturgist

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and teach until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers. In those days Peter stood up among the brothers and sisters (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, "Brothers and sisters, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus, for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." (Now this man acquired a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong, he burst open in the middle, and all his bowels gushed out. This

became known to all the residents of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their language Hakeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) “For it is written in the book of Psalms, ‘Let his house become desolate, and let there be no one to live in it’; and ‘Let another take his position of overseer.’ “So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Anthem                                      Every Time I Feel The Spirit                                      arr. Peter Cartwright

Sermon                                      “Come Together”

Installation of Deacons and Elders

Presentation of the Candidates                                      Dorothy Tait, Clerk of Session

**Board of Deacons - Class of 2026:** Dot Basmaji & Laurel Scott (one year each)

**Class of 2028:** Susan (Sue) Carlson & Kari Gorman

**Elders - Class of 2026:** Charlene Diehl (one year); **Class of 2027:** Lisa Hayes (two years) **Class of 2028:** Debra Hemmye, Sara (Sally) Kirsten & Nancy Prieskorn

Litany: Installation and Ordination of Officers                                      Dorothy Tait

There are varieties of gifts

**But it is the same Spirit who gives them**

There are different ways of serving God.

**But it is the same God who inspires a faithful response**

Each one is given gifts by the Spirit to use for the common good

**Together we are the Body of Christ**

Constitutional Questions of the Candidates                                      Pastor Craig Aue

1. Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

**Deacons & Elders: I do**

2. Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God’s Word to you?

**Deacons & Elders: I do**

3. Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those

confessions as you lead the people of God?

**Deacons & Elders: I do**

4. Will you fulfill your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?

**Deacons & Elders: I will**

5. Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit

**Deacons & Elders: I will**

6. Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?

**Deacons & Elders: I will**

7. Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?

**Deacons & Elders: I do**

8. Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

**Deacons & Elders: I will**

9. For ruling elders - Will you be a faithful ruling elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in councils of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

**Elders: I will**

10. For deacons - Will you be a faithful deacon, teaching charity, urging concern, and directing the people's help to the friendless and those in need, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

**Deacons: I will**

Constitutional Questions of the Candidates

Dorothy Tait

1. Do we, the members of the First Presbyterian Church of Farmington, accept these sisters and brothers as deacons and elders, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

**Congregation: We do**

2. Do we agree to pray for them, encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow them as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ who alone is Head of the Church?

**Congregation: We do**

The Laying of Hands

Pastor Craig Aue

Offertory & Collection of Prayer Cards

\*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.**

## **We Respond to God's Word**

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

Liturgist

Creator of wind as well as wonder, on this morning, we are reminded that you gather folks from scattered places, you would take our divisions and weave us into your Beloved Community.

Jesus, who calmed the wind, on this morning, speak to us in that language of grace which can transform doubts into faith, and turn ordinary people into folks filled with compassion for all.

Spirit, who breathes wonder into us, on this morning, may we find you not just in words on a page, but in the emptiness of our hearts, in our longing for hope, in the silence woven in our prayers.

On this morning, and every morning, God in Community, Holy in One, come to make us one in your Spirit, come to make us children in your love, come to make us witnesses to the One who promised the Spirit, even as we pray as we are taught

**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

This Little Light of Mine

**1 This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. This little light of mine,  
I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, oh let it shine.**

**2 Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.  
Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine. Ev'rywhere I go,  
I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, oh let it shine.**

**3 Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine.  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine. Jesus gave it to me,  
I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, oh let it shine.**

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**CARES Food Pantry**

The number of people needing assistance in providing enough food for their family continues to grow. Between 750 and 800 households are served by CARES each month. Please take home a yellow CARES shopping list, found in the pews, and take it with you on your next shopping trip. We have provided a plastic bin in the Narthex for your generous donations. Thank you for remembering your neighbors.

**Ice Cream Social & Games, June 22 after worship**

Please join us for an ice cream social in Knox Hall after worship, on Sunday June 22, from 11:00 am to 12:00 noon. We'll have chocolate and vanilla ice cream and toppings aplenty! Stay and visit with our church family! Guests and visitors are welcome! Rumor has it that there will be some games as well!

**Juneteenth 2025 at UMC Nardin Park (June 19-21)**

The 7th Annual Farmington Area Juneteenth Celebration will take place over 3 days at the FAME Church of Farmington Hills, 29887 W Eleven Mile Rd, FH, on the campus of Nardin Park United Methodist Church.

**Thursday, June 19, 5:45-8pm** – “My Coming to America Story” community dialogue (register for meal)

**Friday, June 20, 6:30 - 9pm** - Annual Family Movie Night (inside)

**Saturday, June 21,** 10am-4pm - Community Festival Day with Bike Pick-up

**Volunteers Needed:** We need volunteers to help keep things running smoothly (setting up tables & decorations, helping guests, helping vendors, clean up). **Please contact Colleen Tavor if you need more information. Website:**

<https://firstamechurchfarmingtonhills.org/upcoming-events/juneteenth/> Scroll down to see volunteer registration.

**Cereal for Summer Campaign (May 1 – July 6)**

No child should go hungry. However, many kids who rely on receiving breakfast and lunch during the school year often face long summer days without enough to eat. Join our annual CEREAL FOR SUMMER CAMPAIGN and help us feed hungry children in our presbytery. The Mission Ministry will be accepting cereal donations from May 1 until July 6. See the marked containers in the Mission Cove in the foyer. Thank you again for your continuing generosity in supporting this effort.

**DCDI's Garden and Nutrition Class (starting June 7)**

Danika Community Development Inc (DCDI) was founded to support and promote initiatives that serve underserved populations in areas where they need support the most. FPCF also sponsors DCDI's Resume Writing & Practice Interview Workshop held a couple times per year at our church.

Once again this year, FPCF is sponsoring **DCDI's Garden and Nutrition Class, every Saturday, from 9:30 am – 11:30 am.** Sometimes we'll be in the classroom (Room 208/210) and sometimes in the garden. If you would like to volunteer to help, it's a great opportunity to build community with others we don't already know while learning something new. Even if you already know a lot about gardening, there is still much to learn from others. Let's grow veggies with our neighbors! **If you have any questions, please contact Tom Neal, Sharon Cressman, or Colleen Tavor.**

### **Learn More About Freedom House Detroit**

The F/FH Optimist Club will be hosting a Zoom-only meeting with Freedom House on Thursday, June 12, 7pm. Learn about the history of Freedom House and the current dilemma with immigration. Please contact Tom Neal for Zoom info.

### **Donations Needed for Youth United (by June 22)**

The Youth United planning committee is asking each community partner to collect the following items before Youth United begins on June 23 :

- personal care items: feminine hygiene products, tissue packs, toiletries (all sizes), hand sanitizers
- baby wipes, formula, diapers, food
- new socks (adults and kids)
- clean t-shirts (sizes adult small to large)
- gently used or new books for all age groups (from birth to adult) CARES food pantry
- non-perishable food items
- toilet paper
- laundry detergent and cleaning products
- condiments (mustard, ketchup, syrup, jellies, BBQ sauce)

Place your donations in the CARES/Youth United container located in the narthex under the Welcome Table. Thank you for your generosity and participation in Youth United!

### **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:

June 8: Last names beginning S-Z

June 15: Last names beginning A-D

June 22: Last names beginning E-K

June 29: Last names beginning L-R





### **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 prompt

## **First Presbyterian Church Staff**

### **Ministers of the Church**

**Transitional Senior Pastor**

**Pastoral Care Parish Associate**

**Minister of Music**

**Office Administrator**

**Administrative Assistant**

**AV Tech Intern**

### **Members of the Congregation**

Rev. Bruce Mulder

Rev. Craig Aue

Peter Cartwright

Liz Labourdeth

Amanda May Schreiber

Lidia Neathamer