



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.

July 27, 2025 Seventh Sunday in Pentecost



Prayer of Preparation

Teach us your way, O Lord, that we may walk in your truth;
Give us an undivided heart to revere your name.
Psalm 86.11

We Enter into God's Presence

**Please stand in body or spirit*

Prelude

Be Thou My Vision

arr. Brent Edstrom

Welcome / Greetings

Pastor Bruce Mulder

Signing of the Friendship Pad & Prayer Cards

*Call to Worship

Liturgist

In your wisdom, O God, you call us here to worship you.

We gather, alive to the Word of God.

You call us to be fully alive with your life abundant, ready to listen and respond with heart, soul, strength, and mind.

We listen, alive to the Word of God.

You call us to be always watchful for your Word of wisdom, sometimes startling and unexpected, sometimes still and quiet, but always dwelling among us.

We watch and wait for the Word of God.

*Opening Hymn #175

Seek Ye First

1. Alleluia, Seek ye first the kingdom of God
Alleluia, and its righteousness
Alleluia, and all these things shall be added unto you.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
2. Alleluia, Ask, and it shall be given unto you;
Alleluia, seek, and you shall find;
Alleluia, knock, and the door shall be opened unto you,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
3. Alleluia, you shall not live by bread alone,
Alleluia, but by every word
Alleluia, that proceeds from the mouth of God.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayer of Confession

O Lord, our hearts are heavy with the sufferings of the ages, with the crusades and the fires of hate and rage over a thousand years. The blood of the victims is still warm, the cries of anguish still fill the night. To you we lift our outspread hands.

Lord, have mercy.

O Lord, who loves us as a father, who cares for us as a mother, who came to share our life as a brother, we confess before you our failure to live as your children, brothers and sisters bound together in love. To you we lift our outspread hands.

Lord, have mercy.

We have squandered the gift of life. The good life of some is built on the pain of many; the pleasure of a few on the agony of millions. To you we lift our outspread hands.

Lord, have mercy.

We worship death in our quest to possess ever more things; we worship death in our hankering after our own security, our own survival, our own peace, as if life were divisible, as if love were divisible, as if Christ had not died for all of us.
To you we lift our outspread hands.

Lord, have mercy.

O Lord, forgive our life-denying pursuit of life, and teach us anew what it means to be your children. To you we lift our outspread hands.

Lord, have mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Words of Assurance – Romans 8

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? God who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

We Hear God's Word

Reading

Psalm 85; Luke 11.1-13

Liturgist

Psalm 85

Lord, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob. You forgave the iniquity of your people; you pardoned all their sin. *Selah* You withdrew all your wrath; you turned from your hot anger. Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away your indignation toward us. Will you be angry with us forever? Will you prolong your anger to all generations? Will you not revive us again, so that your people may rejoice in you?

Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation. Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts. Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land. Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other. Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky. The Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase. Righteousness will go before him and will make a path for his steps.

Luke 11.1-13

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." So he said to them, "When you

pray, say: Father, may your name be revered as holy. May your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial.” And he said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.’ And he answers from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything out of friendship, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. “So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for a fish, would give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asked for an egg, would give a scorpion? If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Jesus Loves My (organ solo)

arr. Richard Blake

Sermon

“Teach Us **TO** Pray”

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

O Lord God, Creator above us, Spirit within us, Lord ahead of us, open us to yourself, that we may become transparent to ourselves. Make us masters of ourselves, that we may be the servants of others. In the name of Jesus Christ, we bless you for the gift of our lives. We bless you for the invisible fibers of loyalty and trust that bind us to the people we love and care for, for fidelity in our marriages, for care and love for our children, for the gifts you’ve allowed us to discover within ourselves, and for the gifts other people have given

us by giving of themselves. We bless you for useful jobs to do, for leisure to enjoy, for fun to have, for homes to live in, for bodies to touch, for love to share. We pray to you for our friends and the people we care about, for people whose life has somehow become boring and lusterless, whose marriages have lost their tenderness, whose health is poor, whose hope for the years ahead is dim, and whose death is near. We pray for peace. Let all who think lightly of making war be converted to think strongly of making peace. We pray for people for whom today is another day of trying to find something to eat, for people in our world for whom today is another day lived under the yoke of oppression, for people who have no friends and are desperately lonely, for people who have lost somebody so close to them that they are almost dying with grief, and for people today who are dying.

O Spirit of Christ, give us a joy that outlasts our sorrows, give us a hope stronger than the despair of our discouragement, and give us a new belief that we have reason to rejoice—to be glad for who we are because you made us and gave us life, and all we have is a gift from you. In the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior, who teaches us to pray

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 #753 Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

- 1. Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,
And where there's doubt, true faith in you.**
- 2. Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope,
Where there is darkness, only light,
and where there's sadness, ever joy.**
- 3. O, Master, grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console,
To be understood as to understand
To be loved as to love with all my soul.**
- 4. Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
In giving of ourselves that we receive,
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.**

Benediction

Pastor Bruce Mulder

Postlude

Risen Today

arr. Christina Becket

KIDS' WORSHIP BAGS

The kids' worship bags are available at the welcome desk (on the wooden tree hanger). The activities in the bags are updated each week to reflect the lectionary readings for that Sunday as well as some other fun items. The yellow bags are for kids aged preschool to 8 years old; and the white bags are for kids aged 8+ years. Kids are welcome to take a bag each Sunday to use during worship and/or to take home to enjoy. If your child forgot to pick up a worship bag before service, please let an usher know and they will get one for your child.

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.

Garden and Nutrition – every Saturday, 9:30 am – 11:30 am

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 always in the garden. We'll learn vermicomposting, making a gingerbug, and more! Bring your kids or grandkids! If you have any questions, please contact Tom Neal, Sharon Cressman, or Colleen Tavor.

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:

July 27: Last names beginning L-R

August 3: Last names beginning S-Z

August 10: Last names beginning A-D

August 17: 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 prompt just scan the QR code and follow

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



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Session met on Sunday July 20, after our Town Hall Meeting. During the Town Hall Meeting we asked for and received your input about the purchase of a new organ console. As you may recall, it would be a \$72,000 expenditure.

To that end, Session passed a motion to conduct an **anonymous** survey asking you (all) if you would be willing to contribute to a Special Fund over the next two years to offset the cost of the organ console. We'd appreciate hearing from you over the next few weeks.

Please indicate your answer (without your name) on the attached page and drop in the offering plate or mail it to the church office.

Grace and peace in Christ,

Your Session

Survey regarding purchase of new organ console

Yes, I'll help. I would pledge a total of \$ _____ over the next two years.

No, I'm sorry; I'm unable.

COMMENTS