



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.

August 31, 2025

12th Sunday in Pentecost

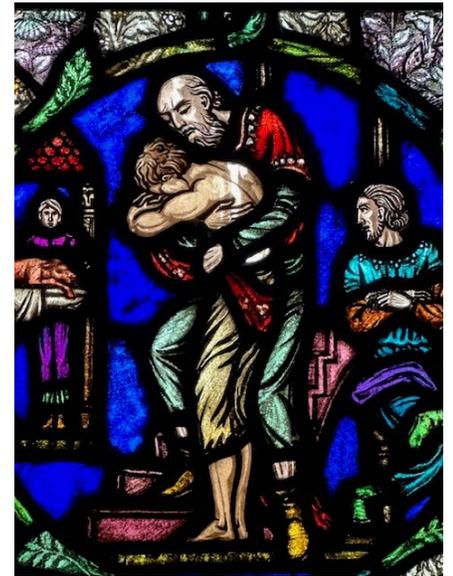


Photo by Rev. Dr. Lynne Alcott Kogel

Prayer of Preparation

"Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of the unjust and cruel. For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O LORD, from my youth."

We Enter into God's Presence

**Please stand in body or spirit*

Prelude

Forlana

Gerald Finzi

Welcome / Greetings

Jim Tubbs

Signing of the Friendship Pad & Prayer Cards

*Call to Worship from Psalm 32 (standing)

Jim Tubbs

Happy is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered over.

Happy is the one whom the Lord does not hold guilty, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

Let every faithful one of us pray to you upon discovering our sin, that the rushing mighty waters not overtake us.

You are my shelter; you preserve me from distress; you surround me with the joyous shouts of deliverance.

Come, let us worship the Lord in whose steadfast love we trust.

*Opening Hymn #667 When Morning Guilds the Sky

1. When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries:
 May Jesus Christ be praised!
 Alike at work and prayer to Jesus I repair:
 May Jesus Christ be praised!
2. Does sadness fill my mind? A solace here I find:
 May Jesus Christ be praised!
 Or fades my earthly bliss? My comfort still is this:
 May Jesus Christ be praised!
3. Let earth's wide circle round in joyful notes resound:
 May Jesus Christ be praised!
 Let air and sea and sky from depth to height reply:
 May Jesus Christ be praised!
4. Be this, while life is mine, my canticle divine:
 May Jesus Christ be praised!
 Be this the eternal song through all the ages long:
 May Jesus Christ be praised!

*Prayer of Confession (standing)

Rev. Susan Mozena

Our prayer of confession is followed by a time for silent confession.

All: God from the very beginning, God of all the generations, we read about our ancestors in the faith who were not perfect. We confess that we are not perfect, either. There are times when we waver in our trust in your steadfast love, doubting even your presence, doubting your love and your mercy. We confess that when we are lost, burdened by problems that seem impossible to solve, we forget to bring them to you in trusting prayer, relying on ourselves alone to make things right. Forgive us, gracious Lord, for our pride and lack of trust in you. Merciful God, help us to ask for help

*Words of Assurance (standing)

Rev. Susan Mozena

Amen. For every age and generation, God's mercy is endless. This is the good news:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

Thanks be to God.

*Passing of the Peace (standing)

Rev. Susan Mozena

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

We Hear God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Jim Tubbs

Loving God, remove from our hearts and minds the concerns we carry with us to this time of worship. Fully open us to receiving the richness of your word, as it is read, sung and preached by us and for us today. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

First Reading

2 Corinthians 5:16 – 21

Jim Tubbs

2 Corinthians 5:16 – 21

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we no longer know him in that way. So, if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So, we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the one who knew no sin to be sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Prayer of St Francis

Allen Pote

Gospel Reading

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Rev. Susan Mozena

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

So he told them this parable:

“There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the wealth that will belong to me.’ So he divided his assets between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant region, and there he squandered his wealth in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that region, and he began to be in need. So, he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that region, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to his senses he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ So, he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate, for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

“Now his elder son was in the field, and as he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf because he has got him back safe and sound.’ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command, yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your assets with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

Sermon

“Lost and Found”

Rev. Susan Mozena

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

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

Rev. Susan Mozena

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 #435

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

- 1. There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea.
There is a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven.
There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given.**
- 2. For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind.
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's Word,
And our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.**

Benediction

Rev. Susan Mozena

Postlude

Allegro from Autumn, The Four Seasons Opus 8, No. 3

Antonio Vivaldi

Today's flowers are presented by Dwight Kish in loving memory of Marilyn Kish





Fall Fest Next Sunday!

Please join us for food, fun, music, and games next Sunday, September 7, after the service, 11am - 1pm! Bring your friends, neighbors, kids, and grandkids!

PRESBYTERIAN PLAYERS WANT YOU

Yes, it's still summer, but we are starting to prepare for the Christmas play. If you have not been part of this before but you might like to take a role in the play, please let Sue Carlson know today or very soon. We need to choose a play with the right number of cast members. The main requirements for acting in the play are feeling comfortable on stage and being able to project your voice with good volume. There may be a couple of very small walk-on roles too. Also, let Sue know if you can help with props, set decoration, scenery, or costumes.

Rise Against Hunger: Mission Opportunity for young and old!

We have the opportunity to join our Mission partners at Faith Community Presbyterian Church in Novi to help pack 10,000 meals on October 4, 2025 at FCPC 44400 W. 10 Mile Road in Novi. The event lasts about 2 hours and some jobs can be done while sitting. Please sign-up using the SignUp Genius link: <https://tinyurl.com/FPCF-Rise>

Or see the sign-up sheet on the Kiosk in the foyer. Any questions? See Nancy Prieskorn

CALLING ALL EUCHRE PLAYERS for a fun afternoon!

Formerly known as "Women's Euchre", we're including men and women. We'll meet the first **Friday** of each month from **2 to 4 pm** in the Church Library. If you are new to the game, we can teach you. Depending on the number of players, we may play a different game. Mark these dates on your calendar: **Sept. 5, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, and Dec. 5**. Please see the sign-up sheet on the kiosk in the foyer!

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 ginger bug, 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:

August 31: Last names beginning S-Z

September 7: Last names beginning A-D

September 14: Last names beginning E-K

September 21: 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 just scan the QR code and follow
