



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 prepare ourselves for worship. Please enter the sanctuary quietly and in time to hear the welcome and announcements.

September 1, 2024

**The Lord's Supper
15th Sunday After Pentecost**

Prayer of Preparation

*Loving God, for each one who leads us in worship today, we pray that they may be so filled with your Spirit that they will clearly reflect the glory of Christ in all they say and do. We pray that everyone in this place will know you are with us and be drawn to bring you all honor and praise. **Amen.***

We Enter into God's Presence

**Please stand in body or spirit*

Prelude

Here I Am Lord

Dan Schutte
arr. Mark Hayes

Welcome / Greetings

Signing of the Friendship Pad & Prayer Cards

Pastor Bruce Mulder

Congregational Life

Tom Neal

Call to Worship from Psalm 27 and John 4

Let us worship God, our light and our salvation.

The Lord is the stronghold of our lives.

We desire to live in God's house and to seek God in his holy temple.

We have come with shouts of joy, to sing and to make music to the Lord.

Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

Teach us your ways and make straight our paths in this hour of worship and always.

People of God, worship the LORD with me.

Let us exalt God's name together! Amen.

*Opening Hymn #692

Spirit, Open My Heart

***Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love, in receiving and giving.
Spirit, open my heart.***

***God replace my stony heart with a heart that's kind and tender.
All my coldness and fear to your grace I now surrender.***

***Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love, in receiving and giving.
Spirit, open my heart.***

**Write your love upon my heart as my law, my goal, my story.
In each thought, word, and deed, may my living bring you glory.**

***Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love, in receiving and giving.
Spirit, open my heart.***

**May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of sister, brother.
In the welcome of Christ, may we welcome one another.**

***Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love, in receiving and giving.
Spirit, open my heart.***

Prayer of Confession

God of love and justice, we long for peace within and peace without.
We long for harmony in our families, for serenity in the midst of struggle.
We long for the day when our homes will be a dwelling place for your love.
Yet we confess that we are often anxious, we do not trust each other, and we harbor violence. We are not willing to take the risks and make the sacrifices that love requires.

Look upon us with kindness and grace. Rule in our homes and in all the world;
show us how to walk in your paths, through the mercy of our Savior. **Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness— from Psalm 32

While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.
For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "*I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,*"
and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

We Hear God's Word

Reading

Psalm 15; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Tom Neal

Psalm 15

Who Shall Abide in God's Sanctuary?

A Psalm of David.

¹ O LORD, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill? ² Those who walk blamelessly and do what is right and speak the truth from their heart; ³ who do not slander with their tongue, and do no evil to their friends nor heap shame upon their neighbors; ⁴ in whose eyes the wicked are despised but who honor those who fear the LORD; who stand by their oath even to their hurt; ⁵ who do not lend money at interest and do not take a bribe against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be moved.

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

The Tradition of the Elders

⁷ Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, ² they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³ (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they wash their hands,^[a] thus observing the tradition of the elders, ⁴ and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash,^[b] and there are also many other traditions that they observe: the washing of cups and pots and bronze kettles and beds.^[c]) ⁵ So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders but eat with defiled hands?" ⁶ He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; ⁷ in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.' ⁸ "You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

¹⁴ Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵ there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile."

²¹ For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: sexual immorality, theft, murder, ²² adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, debauchery, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³ All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

Anthem *Come, Follow Me* John Carter
Sermon **Cardiology 101** Pastor Bruce Mulder

We Respond to God's Word

Offertory & Doxology Pastor Bruce Mulder
Collection of Prayer Cards arr. Shari Fiore

**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.**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Song of Invitation 701 *Sanctuary*

**Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.**

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving Pastor Bruce Mulder

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Eternal God, holy and mighty, it is truly right and our greatest joy
to give you thanks ... the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

The Words of Institution

The Lord Jesus, the same night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “*Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you: do this in remembrance of me.*”

In the same way, after they had eaten, Jesus poured a cup saying, “*This cup is the new testament in my blood: do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.*”

Sharing of the Gifts of Bread & Cup

Pastor Bruce Mulder

Please come forward to receive the bread and cup when you are ready or raise your hand and you will be served where you are seated.

Communion Prayer—from Psalm 103

Pastor Bruce Mulder

Bless the Lord, O my soul;

and all that is within me, bless God’s holy name!

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

and forget not all God’s benefits,

who forgives all your iniquity,

who heals all your diseases,

who redeems your life from the Pit,

who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy.

Bless the Lord, O my soul;

and all that is within me, bless God’s holy name! Amen.

Prayers of the People

Tom Neal

Prayer of Thanksgiving & The Lord’s Prayer

Tom Neal

Lord God, friend of those in need, your Son Jesus has untied our burdens and healed our spirits. We lift up the prayers of our hearts for those still burdened, those seeking healing, those in need within the church and the world.

Almighty God, giver of Strength,

We pray, joining our voices to the great chorus of those who sing your praise and depend on you alone. We long for that day when all your children will live in your peace and praise your name. Until that day, give us sturdy patience and enduring hope.

Lord Jesus, Way of life,

We are grateful for your love for the whole world and commit ourselves to care for those around us in your name. We especially pray for those who work for the benefit of others, those who teach and those who learn, people who are poor and your Church around the world.

Breath of God

We entrust into your loving care the poor and the afflicted, the sick and the dying, prisoners and all who are lonely, the victims of war, injustice, and inhumanity, and all others who suffer from whatever their sufferings may be called.

Loving God, open our ears to hear your word and draw us closer to you, that the whole world may be one with you as you are one with us in Jesus Christ our Lord. Hear us pray what you taught us:

“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 # 738 *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*

**O Master, let me walk with thee in lowly paths of service free;
Tell me thy secret; help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.**

**Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear, winning word of love;
Teach me the wayward feet to stay, and guide them in the homeward way.**

**Teach me thy patience, still with thee in closer, dearer company,
In work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in trust that triumphs over wrong.**

**In hope that sends a shining ray far down the future’s broadening way;
In peace that only thou canst give, with thee, O Master, let me live.**

Benediction

Pastor Bruce Mulder

Postlude

Festal Trumpets

Noel Rawsthorne

Worship Liturgist

We welcome Tom Neal as today’s liturgist. Our liturgist for September 8th is Manny Sharpe. For information on serving as a liturgist to assist the pastor during worship, please contact Kari Gorman.

Food for a Cause- Food Truck coming to FPCF on September 22

Imagine enjoying tasty food from a food truck and helping CARES at the same time! On Sunday September 22nd from 11am-1pm. We will be able to buy burgers, wings, fries & street food from DC Novelty Eats, a portion of sales will go to CARES. Tell your neighbors!

Presbyterian Players want you!

Have you ever considered being an actor or actress? Here's the chance to jump in and start your acting practice! No experience necessary, you just need to feel comfortable on stage and memorize 25 lines and project your voice. Presbyterian Players is casting the Christmas play, a Christian comedy "Shepards and Kings" There are 10 in the cast in order to make this production happen we need 3 more cast members (2 men and 1 woman) Rehearsals are Monday evenings beginning September 23. The performances are the mornings of December 11 and 15. If interested please contact – Tom Neal, Sally Kirsten, Laurel Scott , Mary Carson or Sue Carlson. The show must go on!

Flu Clinic

The deacons will be hosting a Flu Clinic on September 22nd immediately following worship. We encourage all members to follow the advice of their doctor and get their yearly Flu Shot if so advised. The Visiting Nurse Association provides this no cost service as a courtesy to promote public health and well-being. Please bring your Medicare/Insurance card. The Deacons will provide extra snacks at Fellowship Hour to help the medicine go down.

Foster Closet of Michigan Current Wish List

Foster Closet of MI, located in Farmington Hills, needs hygiene products for the young people they serve. Items like shampoo, body wash, kid's toothpaste, brushes, etc. are critically needed. For a complete list of items or for more information please see the Mission Bulletin Board. There is a plastic bin on the Mission Cove for collecting items.

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://farmingtonpreschool.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

Thank you for using your 2024 CARES shopping list each month to donate. Your neighbors, the guests at CARES, appreciate the availability of a variety of food from which to choose.

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.

Join the JOY study this year!

JOY will be reading and discussing the book of Romans using a study guide written by New Testament scholar N.T.Wright. The JOY study will resume after Labor Day. Come learn from Romans with us!

Interviewing and Resume Writing: Effective Strategies

In partnership with DCDI (Danika Community Development Inc.) we will again sponsor a resume writing and practice interview workshop. Emphasis will be placed on consulting, advising and practice interviews. The workshop will take place on Sept 21,28, and October 5 in room 208/210 from 10am-1pm. If you are interested in volunteering for the practice interviews pleas reach out to Colleen Tavor

Volunteers Wanted: Mission Opportunity at Crossroads

Dust off your aprons and grab your oven mitts! We are preparing and serving lunch at Crossroads of Michigan Sunday, September 29. Some preparation is also needed on Friday, September 27. See the FYI for the sign-up link or Nancy Prieskorn will also be happy to send it to you!

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 Administrator	Carly Vivio
	Liz Labourdeth
Administrative Assistant	Amanda May Schreiber
AV Tech Intern	Jaiden Thomas



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