

26165 Farmington Road
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 474-6170
www.farmington-pres.org



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF FARMINGTON

Church of the Open Hands

WELCOMING ALL SHARING CHRIST SERVING OTHERS

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 28, 2025

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

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

It Is Well

arr. Teresa Wilhelmi

Welcome / Greetings

MJ Floreno

Signing of the Friendship Pad & Prayer Cards

*Call to Worship

(Psalm 91:15)

One: When they call to me, I will answer them, says the Lord.

All: I will be with them in trouble.

One: I will rescue and honor them.

All: With thanksgiving and praise, let us worship God.

*Opening Hymn #43 You Who Dwell In The Shelter of the Lord

1. You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in his shadow for life,
Say to the Lord, "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!" *Refrain*

*Refrain: And he will raise you up on eagles' wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.*

2. The snare of the fowler will never capture you, and famine will bring you no fear:
Under his wings, your refuge, his faithfulness your shield. *Refrain*

3. You need not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day;
Though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come. *Refrain*

4. For to his angels he's given a command to guard you in all of your ways;
Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone. *Refrain*

*Prayer of Confession (standing)

Rev. Susan Mozena

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

Gracious God, we are people with many privileges, and we know that scores of others, near and far, live without. We know what the Lord requires of us, that we do justice, love mercy and walk humbly in God's presence. We confess that, despite what we know is the good and loving response to those in need, in response to God's saving love in Jesus Christ, we often fail to fight for justice, to be merciful, to walk with a humble posture. Forgive us, God of steadfast love, for the ways in which we ignore what you have commanded us to do.

(Silent confession)

*Words of Assurance (standing)

Rev. Susan Mozena

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

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*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

MJ Floreno

All: 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.

Epistle Reading

1 Timothy 6:6-19

MJ Floreno

Listen now to the Word of the Lord

Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment, for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it, but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Dry Bones
(Choir)

arr. Gerald Custer

Gospel Reading

Luke 16:19-31 (NRSV)

Rev. Susan Mozena

“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.’ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house— for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ He said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’ He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”

Sermon

“Mind the Gap”

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 #269

Lead On, O King Eternal!

**1 Lead on, O King of Eternal! The day of march has come;
Hence forth in fields of conquest your tents shall be our home.
Though days of preparation your grace has made us strong,
And now, O King eternal, we lift our battle song.**

**2 Lead on, O King eternal! Till sin's fierce war shall cease;
And holiness shall whisper the sweet amen of peace;
For not with swords' loud clashing, nor roll of stirring drums;
With deeds of love and mercy the heavenly kingdom comes.**

**3 Lead on, O King eternal: we follow, not with fears,
For gladness breaks like morning where'er your face appears;
Your cross is lifted o'er us; we journey in its light.
The crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might!**

Benediction

Rev. Susan Mozena

Postlude

Christ For The World We Sing

arr. Lani Smith



"Your comments and shares on Facebook (FB) help us share the Good News of Jesus AND all the good that is happening at First Pres. Please take the time to leave a short comment on our FB posts, then share to your FB feed. 😊"



Prayers for the Laboureth family: A prayer of joy and thanksgiving for the birth of Zara Jade Labourdeth, daughter of our Office Administrator Liz and her husband Manuel, on August 31, 2025, 11:59 a.m, 6lbs. 13oz, 19in.

Amanda May Schreiber, our administrative assistant, will be in the office on Monday mornings, Wednesdays, and working from home on Thursdays. Clerk of Session Dorothy Tait will be covering on Mondays as well. The office will continue to be closed on Fridays. During this time of transition, you may wish to call or email ahead to make sure staff will be available to assist you.



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.

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!

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.

Stewardship 2026 – Living Our Vision: Welcoming All, Sharing Christ, Serving Others

As we move through our process of change and transition toward a permanent pastor, what better way to move forward than by “living our vision” – Welcoming All, Sharing Christ, Serving Others. This Stewardship season, may we all draw closer to each other and God as we follow the Holy Spirit into living our vision!

SAVE THE DATE: Congregational Retreat on Saturday, October 11, 10 am – 3:00 pm

Our entire congregation is invited to an all-day (10:00 am – 3:00 pm) retreat to be held at Holy Cross Lutheran Church located on 30650 Six Mile Rd. in Livonia, between Middlebelt and Merriman Roads. Holy Cross has a prayer labyrinth that we'll incorporate into our agenda. Our theme is “Living Our Vision: Welcoming All, Sharing Christ, Serving Others” and we'll have special speakers for you to enjoy. A light lunch will be provided and refreshments will be available throughout the day. A donation of \$20 per person is recommended. Sign up through this link <https://tinyurl.com/FPCF-Congregational-Retreat> or on the sign up sheet on the kiosk in the foyer.

Peace and Global Witness Offering (September 7 – October 5)

A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. The offering will be split among Mission Agencies, mid-council, and local peace activities. You can use the appropriate envelopes located in the pews or inside the friendship pad for your offering. Thank you for your gift for peace.

JOY Study Resumes Tuesday, September 16 at 7:15 pm! We will be reading and discussing *Sermon on the Mount* by Amy-Jill Levine. We meet via Zoom Tuesdays, 7:15-8:30pm for a lively and thoughtful discussion that helps us to understand and strengthen our faith. See Sharon Cressman for the Zoom credentials (and zoom coaching!) We'd love to have you join us!

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:

October 5: Last names beginning A-D

October 12: Last names beginning E-K

October 19: Last names beginning L-R

October 26: Last names beginning S-Z



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

Pastoral Care Parish Associate

Minister of Music

Office Administrator

Administrative Assistant

AV Tech Intern

Members of the Congregation

Rev. Craig S. Aue

Peter Cartwright

Liz Labourdeth

Amanda May Schreiber

Lidia Neathamer