



The Session and members of First Presbyterian Church Fargo extend a sincere welcome to you. We are grateful for your presence today! We welcome all persons regardless of race, nationality, disability, gender or sexual orientation. This includes an open invitation to membership, the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper, marriage, funerals, memorial services and to serve as an officer of the church.

Everyone is invited for coffee and fellowship in the Gathering Space after worship.

We recycle! If you are not taking your bulletin, please drop it in the blue bin at the door as you leave.

**Please rise in body or spirit.*

January 08, 2023 – Baptism of the Lord

We Gather in Christ

PRELUDE

Suite from Water Music

arr. Handel

Isabel Munson, guest organist; Dordt University

WELCOME & CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

The Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey

MOMENT OF SILENCE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

The brightness of God's light shines upon all the nations.

All are welcomed to the brightness of God's dawn.

God gathers us from far away and carries us.

With radiant eyes, with rejoicing hearts,

we receive the abundance God gives.

We respond in praise.

With our gifts and with our very selves. Let us worship God!

***HYMN #10**

Sing Glory to the Name of God

Sing glory to the name of God, whose holy splendor shines abroad. Alleluia, alleluia!

Enthroned above the crashing waves, the God of grace and glory saves.

Alleluia, alleluia! alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The name of God is full of might: resounding thunder, flashing light. Alleluia, alleluia!

The wilderness cannot contain the echoes of the great refrain:

Alleluia, alleluia! alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The name of God is wild and free, a-whirl in holy mystery. Alleluia, alleluia!

A secret wrapped in smoke and fire, still chanted by the temple choir:

Alleluia, alleluia! alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

May God forever be our peace; may hymns of glory never cease: Alleluia, alleluia!

Let all the faithful people come; sing praise to God, the Three-in-One:

Alleluia, alleluia! alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*CONFESSION AND DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

God of justice, we confess that our actions are evil whenever we remain passive while others are oppressed; whenever we guard our own prosperity at the expense of those who are poor; or when we ignore the cries of those in need of help. Forgive us, we pray, for hiding in the darkness of this world, more than loving the light of your righteousness made known to us in Jesus Christ. Judge us with mercy, we pray, and extend your grace to us. Strengthen our faithfulness to you and to all who are precious in your sight. We pray in the name of Christ, our Light. Amen.

We declare the good news of the Gospel: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free to live a new life in him.**

*RESPONSE

Love Has Come!



Love has come and nev-er will leave us! Love is life ev-er-last-ing and free.



Love is Je-sus with-in and a-mong us. Love is the peace our hearts are seek-ing.



Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christ-mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!—

The Word

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 3:13-17, pp. 879

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Beloved Children

The Rev. Sarah M. Bigwood

*HYMN

Crashing Waters at Creation

Musical notation for the first system of the hymn, featuring a grand staff with treble and bass clefs, a key signature of one flat, and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Crash - ing wa - ters at cre - a - tion, or - dered by the Spi - rit's breath,
Part - ing wa - ter stood and tremb - led as the cap - tives passed on through,
Clean - sing wa - ter once at Jor - dan closed a - round the One fore - told,
Liv - ing wa - ter; nev - er end - ing, quench the thirst and flood the soul.

Musical notation for the second system of the hymn, continuing the grand staff and lyrics.

first to wit - ness day's be - gin - ning from the bright - ness of night's death.
wash - ing off the chains of bond - age chan - nel to a life made new.
o - pened to re - veal the glo - ry ev - er new and ev - er old.
Well - spring, Source of life e - ter - nal, drench our dry - ness; make us whole.

Responding to the Word

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

PRESENTATION OF THE CHILD

Meyer Thomas McKinnon, child of Jennifer McKinnon
Grandchild of Ginger and Frank Deitz and Paul and Nancy McKinnon
Colleen Ford-Dunker, presiding elder

*PROFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

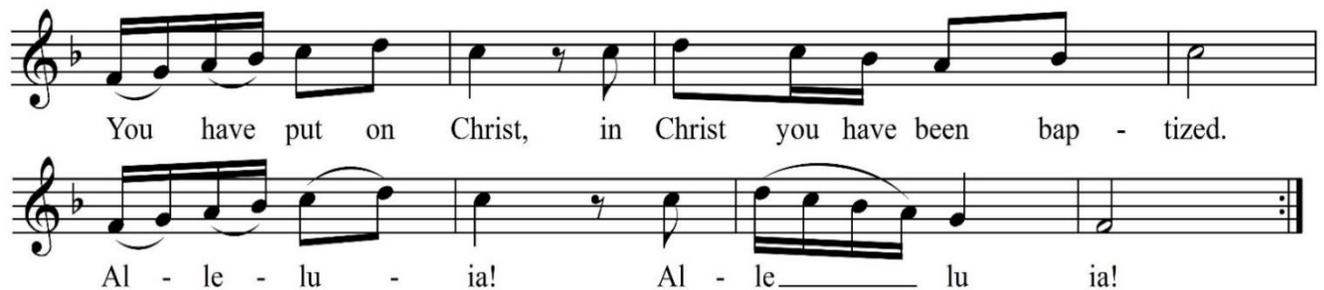
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WELCOME

Elder to Congregation: Meyer Thomas has been received into the one holy catholic and apostolic church through baptism. God has made him a member of the household of God, to share with us in the priesthood of Christ. Let us welcome the newly baptized.

With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into Christ's church to share with us in his ministry, for we are all one in Christ.

BAPTISMAL RESPONSE 491



You have put on Christ, in Christ you have been bap - tized.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.



Use the QR code to
access the secure
giving portal on our
website!

OFFERING

CHORAL RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Jubilate Deo

Christ the Apple Tree

Be Still and Know

I Will Rise

Behold Now Praise the Lord

Ain't Got Time to Die

Gabrieli

Stanford Scriven

Mark S. Campbell

arr. Courtney

Everett Titcomb

Hall Johnson

Provided by Dordt University Concert Choir, Sioux Center, IA

Dr. Rob Hobgood, Conductor

Bearing the Word into the World

SUNG BENEDICTION

Praise to the Lord

F. Melius Christiansen

Dordt University Concert Choir

POSTLUDE

The People Respond – Amen!

arr. Locklair

Isabel Munson, organ

Isabel Munson is a junior at Dordt University from Lakeville, Minnesota. She has been studying the organ for six years and is currently pursuing a degree in Organ Performance, studying with Dr. Carrie Groenewold. Isabel has performed in Minnesota, Iowa, the Netherlands, and Austria.

Dr. Rob Hobgood is currently the Interim Director of Choral Activities at Dordt University. Originally from Raleigh, NC, Rob received a Bachelor of Music degree in Church Music and Organ Performance from Covenant College in Lookout Mountain, GA and a Master of Music degree in Sacred Music from Westminster Choir College of Rider University. In 2021, Rob received a DMA in Church Music with concentrations in choral conducting and organ performance at the University of Kansas. Additionally, Rob has studied choral conducting in Oxford, UK, and organ in Haarlem. Rob has over a decade of experience working in churches as a director of vocal and instrumental ensembles, and as an organist and pianist in both traditional and contemporary worship settings.

First Presbyterian Church has been blessed to have Dordt Professor, **Ryan Smit**, worshipping and performing with us for the past few months as he receives his Doctorate in Choral Conducting from NDSU. Ryan is a native of Churchill, Montana and has served as Director of Choral Activities at Dordt University, his alma mater, since 2017. He holds a master's degree in Choral Music Education from Arizona State University. Previously Ryan has taught 7-12 choir in Arizona and Washington state and has sung tenor professionally with the Phoenix Chorale and Male Ensemble Northwest. He has been invited to direct choral festivals and clinics in Washington, Alaska, Thailand, South Dakota, Minnesota, and Iowa. Ryan lives in Sioux Center, Iowa with his wife Amie and two children, Caleb and Emily.



Serving at Micah's Mission continues: Thank you to those who have been preparing and serving meals at Micah's Mission (part of Churches United for the Homeless). Our commitment continues every second Thursday of the month. A sign up sheet is on the Volunteer Opportunities Board if you wish to help Jan. 12 and Feb. 9. We need 4 meal preparers from 3-5pm and 4 servers from 5-7pm. Consider forming a team, or being part of a team. See Pastor Mary if this is for you! Come and be a part of this longstanding partnership.

CHILI COOK OFF

January 22 after worship



Sign up on the Volunteer Opportunities Board or here: <https://subspla.sh/rd2w7pd/>

Perfect your chili today!

PW Bible Study Leaders: On Jan. 11 Pastor Mary Holtey will present the Bible Study on Lesson 5 in the office conference room at 2:00pm.

PW Circles: Circles will meet Jan. 17 in the Social Hall; Naomi/Ruth Circles will meet at 9:30am and the Rachel Circle will meet at 1:00pm.

Men's Bible Study: The men's Bible study convenes for the new year on January 10th at 6:45 a.m., in the Jennie Roberts Room. The group meets on the second Tuesday of each month, October through May. Egg-bake, pastries, and coffee will be served this winter. Intended to help men understand what the Bible says in relation to what is expected of a Christian man, the study this year examines the Book of Job. A copy of the study guide can be obtained by requesting one from Bruce Maylath at ring4linguist@yahoo.com. No advance preparation is required for each month's study.

Covenant Of Prayer: Don Brummond, son of Joyce Brummond, with serious medical concerns; Jennifer; those without shelter who have died this past year; our sister congregation in Chogoria, Kenya; and the people of Ukraine.

Though our mission trees have been put away for another year, there's still time to make a donation to help assist the Vets Center, Emergency Food Pantry, local shelters with winter gear, and the people of Chogoria with food insecurities. Members of the Mission Committee will be in the Gathering Space to help you. Thank you for your generosity with this year's Festival of Mission Trees!



1:00 - 4:00 in the Social Hall

CRAFTERNOON!

Sign up on the Volunteer Opportunities Board

Sunday Morning Bible Study: Sunday morning Bible study is currently on break until late January. You are encouraged to bring your own Bible. Although classes will relate to the same topic, each class is designed to be complete on its own, so feel free to jump in when you can. We are not meeting every Sunday, so please mark your calendars. The Bible study will start up again January 22 at 9:15am, continuing January 29, February 5, February 12, February 26, March 5, March 12, March 26, April 2, April 16, April 30, and May 7.

Arts & Crafts Donations Needed! Our upcoming "Crafternoon" needs your help to be a success! We are looking for gently-used or leftover craft supplies, specifically items used for wool felting, macrame, bath bombs, leather tooling, and paper quilling. Please contact Carrie Lawrence if you would like to donate! (701) 361-6162 or carrieL@outlook.com.

Dropping a Check? If you are dropping off a check when the office is closed please put it in the drop box across from the Welcome Desk next to the office door.

Hearing devices and large print copies of today's hymns are available, please ask an usher for assistance.

Nursery: Staff will be present **beginning at 8:45** for infants-3 years, in the nursery complex on the 1st floor.

Activity Bags for Children: Fun-filled tote bags are located at both doors.

Restrooms: Restrooms are located in the Gathering Space and on the lower level.

Prayer Request Cards: Cards are in pew racks for your use. Prayers will be committed to God along with the other offerings and also lifted up in prayer by the staff.

Peace Candles: The candle burning on the chancel symbolizes peace. We ask guests to take a candle back to your church as a gift from us. Peace candles can be found at the Welcome Center, near the west doors.

Wi-Fi: Wi-Fi is available throughout the church. (password: community650)

FPC Officers

Session: Abi Carlson, Kim Carter, Deb Dawson, Tom Dawson, Tetteh Dottey, Colleen Ford-Dunker, Jody Hudson, Kurt Kooyer, Dick Laraway, Carrie Lawrence, Bruce Maylath, Brian McClure, Elaine Rudd (clerk), Becky Trumbo, and Jeff Wilkens. **Deacons:** Paula Christensen, Toby Christensen, Steve Dawson, Brenda Deckard, Ed Deckard (treasurer), Gracia Fulwiler, Beatrice Janaka, Jane Mathew (moderator), Karen Rivers, Donna Rummens, Candy Shultz, Virginia Stern, Kathleen Thomas, Debbie Tight, and Amy Wilkens.

Church Treasurer: Sherri Stern

Church Staff

Rev. Sarah M. Bigwood-*Head of Staff, Pastor*
Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey-*Associate Pastor*
Rev. Daniel Billings-*Parish Associate*
Sally Harmon-*Music Coordinator & Organist*
Bryan Poyzer-*Adult Choir Director*
Penny Andrist-*Children's Ministry Coordinator*
Kayla Bones-*Youth & Young Adult Ministry Coordinator*
Jan Lundgren-*Business Manager*
Casey LeMier- *Communications & Admin Assistant*
Rick Fiebiger-*Facilities Manager*
Drew Brovold-*Custodian*

**Staff emails are: (first initial and last name of person)
@firstpresfargo.org**

Looking for University of Jamestown Alumni! If you have a connection to the University of Jamestown, we would love to have you help us welcome the UJ Concert Choir and serve them lunch on Sunday, February 26 after they sing in worship. Needed are funds to pay for the lunch, and servers to set up and clean up in the Social Hall. For more information or to volunteer, contact Casey in the church office at clemier@firstpresfargo.org.

L: Live Stream Option, H: Hybrid, Z: Zoom
Times shown in italics indicate am.

Sunday, January 8

11:30 Fellowship

Monday, January 9

6:00 EduCon Committee Meeting

Tuesday, January 10

6:45 Men's Bible Study

5:30 Worship Committee Meeting (H)

Wednesday, January 11

2:00 PW Bible Study Leaders

5:30 St. Andrews Brass

5:30 Genesis Ringers

6:15 Children / Youth Choirs

6:30 Westminster Ringers

7:00 Youth Group

7:30 Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, January 12

No Church Events

Friday, January 13

No Church Events

Saturday, January 14

No Church Events

Sunday, January 15

9:15 Sunday School

10:30 Worship & Installation of Officers (L)

11:30 Fellowship

Reminder: Use the QR code found in the bulletin to access the secure giving portal on our website! Also, like us on Facebook and follow us on Instagram!

For Your Information

January 1 Attendance: 137

103 in person;

34 households livestreamed

Contributions received: \$9,042.00



Church Information

Office Hours:

M-TH, 9:00 am-4:00 pm

Phone: 701-293-6311

www.firstpresfargo.org

Say Hello: We stress to our desk volunteers during the week, *not to open the door for anyone* unless they are sure that person has reason to be here. Also, they may not recognize you on the monitor. When asked to identify yourself and state why you are at the church, please don't take offense, as safety is our paramount concern.