



**October 9: Stewardship Kick-Off Sunday**

*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.*

## **We Gather in Christ**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

You opened your mouth and uttered a word and creation sprang forth in abundance. Let us open our mouths in praise, that we may bear fruit in every season and be satisfied by your goodness, for you, O God, are the source of all growth; your grace abounds forever. Amen.

### **PRELUDE**

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You*

arr. Hobby

*The National Spiritual Anthem of Ukraine*

(Please remain seated and reflect on the text, found on the back page)

Sally Harmon, organist

### **WELCOME & CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

The Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey

### **INTROIT**

*Peace Like a River*

K-2 choir; Erin Torpey director

Penny Andrist, guitar; Savannah Joldersma, ukulele

### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

God's creation delights and astonishes.

**Let the people pause and wonder!**

God, the Creator, has made it all.

**Let all creation shout and sing!**

**Alleluia! Let us worship God!**

### **\*HYMN 805**

*Come Sing to God*

Come sing to God, O living saints; sing praises to God's name.

God's anger is not permanent; God's love will never wane.

Though tears may tarry for the night with sighs of deepest pain,

yet joy comes with the morning sun, a peace that is not vain.

In my success I felt secure; how good you've been to me.  
I said that this is my own work, ascribing all to me.  
But when you turned aside your face, my life was filled with fears.  
I begged for help, to you I cried with loud and bitter tears.

What good is gained by my disgrace, what profit in defeat?  
My grave cannot confess your name, nor praise for you repeat.  
Now hear, O Lord, my plaintive cry; be merciful to me.  
Accept my longing heart's request and from death set me free.

You change my grief to joy filled dance; my sorrows you destroy.  
In faithfulness you hear my cry and fill my life with joy.  
And so to you my heart shall sing; my voice your goodness raise.  
You are my God, forevermore. My life shall sing your praise.

### **\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

In Christ there is no condemnation, for perfect love casts out sin. Let us confess our sins to God.

### **\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Faithful God, your word falls on hardened ground when our worldly anxiety and attachment to wealth crowd out your place in our lives. Forgive our frail and human ways and cultivate in us a spirit of trust and faithfulness, for you are our hope for deliverance. Amen.**

### **\*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, when deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, God forgives our transgressions. Be at peace, for God restores and strengthens you and waters your soul in its parched and hardened places.

### **\*RESPONSE 155**

*Raise a Song of Gladness*

Musical notation for the response "Raise a Song of Gladness". The music is written on three staves in treble clef, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 3/2. The lyrics are: "Raise a song of glad-ness, peo-ples of the earth. Christ has come, bring-ing peace, joy to ev-ery heart. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, joy to ev-ery heart! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, joy to ev-ery heart!"

### **GIFT OF MUSIC**

*With a Joyful Noise*

Schram

3-6 Choir; Pam Burns, director; Jane Ahlin, piano

### **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

Penny Andrist

# The Word

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Toby Christensen, Reader

God, your word goes out and does not return empty but prospers that for which it was sent. By your Spirit, open our minds to your word this day, that we might walk according to your ways; for the sake of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

## FIRST READING

Isaiah 55:1-13

Ho, everyone who thirsts,  
come to the waters;  
and you that have no money,  
come, buy and eat!  
Come, buy wine and milk  
without money and without price.  
Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,  
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?  
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,  
and delight yourselves in rich food.  
Incline your ear, and come to me;  
listen, so that you may live.  
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,  
my steadfast, sure love for David.  
See, I made him a witness to the peoples,  
a leader and commander for the peoples.  
See, you shall call nations that you do not know,  
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,  
because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel,  
for he has glorified you.  
Seek the Lord while he may be found,  
call upon him while he is near;  
let the wicked forsake their way,  
and the unrighteous their thoughts;  
let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them,  
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.  
For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.  
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.  
For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,  
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,  
making it bring forth and sprout,  
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,  
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;

it shall not return to me empty,  
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,  
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

For you shall go out in joy,  
and be led back in peace;  
the mountains and the hills before you  
shall burst into song,  
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.  
Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;  
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;  
and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial,  
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

May God bless the reading and hearing of this portion of the holy Word.

## **SECOND READING**

Psalm 98

O sing to the Lord a new song,  
for he has done marvelous things.  
His right hand and his holy arm  
have gained him victory.  
The Lord has made known his victory;  
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.  
He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness  
to the house of Israel.  
All the ends of the earth have seen  
the victory of our God.  
Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.  
Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre,  
with the lyre and the sound of melody.  
With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.  
Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;  
the world and those who live in it.  
Let the floods clap their hands;  
let the hills sing together for joy  
at the presence of the Lord, for he is coming  
to judge the earth.  
He will judge the world with righteousness,  
and the peoples with equity.

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

**SERMON**

*Together in Joy*

Rev. Sarah M. Bigwood

**\*HYMN 673**

*Jesus, Light of Joy*

Jesus, light of joy, surround us; let your splendid glory shine:  
source of every earthly blessing, heaven's everlasting sign.  
Alleluia, alleluia, we adore you, light divine.

Now the shadows fall around us; now the evening has begun:  
still your gracious light is with us, brighter than the morning sun.  
Alleluia, alleluia, God of glory, Three in One.

With the saints we lift our voices, God of power, God of might.  
All creation shines with glory, singing praises day and night:  
alleluia, alleluia, holy, holy, holy light.

**NEW MEMBERSHIP**

*Bill Anderson, Whitney Anderson, Tom Bigwood, Robby Bigwood, Katie Bigwood, William Cromarty, Tetteh Dottey, Carrie Miranda Dottey, Jennifer McKinnon, Sue Miller, Mimi Moreland, Eugene Robinson, Julie Robinson*

**\*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 of 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.**

**\*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.**

**Responding to the Word**



**MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP**

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

**OFFERTORY**

*Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel*

arr. Emerson

7-12 Choir; Bryan Poyzer, director; Sally Harmon, piano

**\*RESPONSE 611**

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

**Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!  
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Bearing the Word into the World**

**\*HYMN 80**

*You Shall Go Out with Joy*

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;  
the mountains and the hills will break forth before you;  
there'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field will clap, will clap their hands.

And all the trees of the field will clap their hands;  
the trees of the field will clap their hands;  
the trees of the field will clap their hands while you go out with joy.

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*Postlude on "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"*

arr. Young

*The National Spiritual Anthem of Ukraine*

Lord, oh the Great and Almighty,  
Protect our beloved Ukraine,  
Bless her with freedom and light  
Of your holy rays.

With learning and knowledge enlighten  
Us, your children small,  
In love pure and everlasting  
Let us, oh Lord, grow.

We pray, oh Lord Almighty,  
Protect our beloved Ukraine,  
Grant our people and country  
All your kindness and grace.

Bless us with freedom, bless us with wisdom,  
Guide into kind world,  
Bless us, oh Lord, with good fortune  
Forever and evermore.



**All Saints Sunday October 30:** On Sunday, Oct. 30, during worship we will name and recognize those church members who have died this past year. There will be an opportunity during worship for family members to come forward to the chancel area to light a candle in remembrance of loved ones. All are invited to participate in this meaningful time to remember either recent losses or saints who have gone before us.

**Pilgrimage: “Alternative Orthodoxy”, Final Session:** How do contemplation, mysticism, compassion, and justice inform Christianity? With Rohr’s videos facilitated by spiritual director Maren Ortmeier, this course provides new insight into age-old theology.

**When:** The last session is Oct. 11, 6:30-8:00 P.M.

**Where:** Meeting rooms #2&3 and Zoom.

Contact: Mike Wavra, wavramw@aol.com or at 701-566-1483.

**Town Hall:** The Town Hall Lecture Series continues on October 18 with actor and historian Joe Wiegand. This new season includes a new day, Tuesdays at 10:30 am, and a new location at Prairie Heights Church, 319 32nd Ave. West Fargo. Please visit [fargotownhall.org](http://fargotownhall.org) for more information.

**St. Andrew’s Society 37th Annual Dinner Program:**

The St. Andrew’s Society of the FM area will have its 37th annual dinner/program that celebrates Scottish culture and heritage, on Saturday, Nov. 5th at The Courtyard By Marriott, 1080 28th Ave. S., Moorhead, MN. Social hour will begin at 5:00pm and the dinner/program will begin at 5:30pm. The program will include performances by the Heather and Thistle Pipes and Drums Band; dancing by members of the Minnesota Celtic Dance Association; and a singer who will perform famous Scottish songs. Tickets are available through Nov. 2 by calling 402-981-2333.

**FOR EVERYONE’S PROTECTION, IT IS REQUESTED THAT ALL ATTENDEES BE FULLY VACCINATED AND BOOSTED.**

**Greetings from Chogoria:** Our team has made it safely to Chogoria! We have shared your greetings with our partners, and they are happy to hear from you. We thank you so much for your support through your prayers, supplies, and funds. *Asante Sana* (Thank You Very Much in Kiswahili)!

**Covenant Of Prayer:** Jennifer; Hannah; those who are experiencing homelessness in our community; our sister congregation in Chogoria, Kenya; the people of Ukraine; and our mission team in Kenya.

**Remembering Our Soldiers In Prayer:** Lt. Col. Dan Sundberg will return from Iraq in December. If you have a loved one in the military, please let Pastor Mary know and we’ll include his/her name.

**ManUp Bible Study for Men:** ManUp kicks off its monthly study for the program year on October 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:45 a.m., in the Jennie Roberts Room. The group meets on the second Tuesday of each month, October through May. Coffee and breakfast pastries will be served. 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 a copy from Bruce Maylath at [ring4linguist@yahoo.com](mailto:ring4linguist@yahoo.com). No advance preparation is required for each month’s study

**We Need You for All Treats, Some Trunks, and No Tricks!**

We are looking for people willing to bring and hand out candy. There will be stations set up inside for people who want to stay warm. Returning as well is “Trunk” decorating and handing out treats in the parking lot. Use the QR code above to sign up to decorate a trunk or volunteer to hand out candy from a station. Please reach out to Vicki Dawson or Carrie Lawrence with any questions.



**Kirkin’ o’ the Tartans:** Postcards to invite friends and family will be available to pick up at the Welcome desk in the foyer. More information in next week’s insert.

**We Have New Neighbors!** In the former Dawson Insurance Company building across the church parking lot is a new agency that helps unsheltered veterans. The mission committee thought a fall Holy Buckets drive would be a warm way of welcoming the Veterans Center into the neighborhood. We will be collecting items for the Veterans that are **brand new** and still have the tags on. They are in need of:

winter coats (M-3XL), cold weather hats/caps (no homemade ones at this time), insulated gloves (L or XL), insulated coveralls/bibs (L or XL), sweatpants (S-3XL), Tee-shirts (S-3XL), men’s underwear (S-2XL)

XL and XXL are the most needed sizes. Consider asking a First Pres Fargo neighbor to share the cost of a coat (or any other neighbor you might have). Cash donations will also be accepted and the Mission Committee can do the shopping. Stay tuned for a new Giving Tree this Christmas for our new neighbors.

**PW Circles:** *Please note the location changes.* Circles will meet on Oct. 11. The Naomi/Ruth Circle will meet in the Jennie Roberts Room at 9:30am, and the Rachel Circle will meet at 1pm in the Jennie Roberts Room. The Leah Circle will meet at 10am on Oct. 15 in the Jennie Roberts Room.

**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 9:15** 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, Lisa Edison-Smith, Colleen Ford-Dunker, Dick Henderson, Ryan Johnston, Kurt Kooyer, Dick Laraway, Carrie Lawrence, Brian McClure, Elaine Rudd (clerk), Scott Swanholm, Becky Trumbo, and Jeff Wilkens. **Deacons:** Brenda Deckard, Ed Deckard (treasurer), Gracia Fulwiler, Rick Herberg, Beatrice Janaka, Jane Mathew (moderator), Karen Rivers, Donna Rummens, Candy Shultz, 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*  
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**

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

### **Sunday, October 9**

*11:30* Coffee & Fellowship

### **Monday, October 10**

1:00 Bulletin Insert Articles Due

6:00 EduCon Committee Meeting

### **Tuesday, October 11**

*6:45* ManUp Bible Study

*9:30* PW Naomi/Ruth Circle

*10:30* Staff Meeting

1:00 PW Rachel Circle

5:30 Board of Deacons Meeting

6:30 "Alternate Orthodoxy" Pilgrimage (H)

### **Wednesday, October 12**

5:30 Genesis Ringers

6:15 Children / Youth Choirs

6:30 Westminster Ringers

6:30 Pilgrimage Guides

7:00 Youth Group

7:30 Sanctuary Choir

### **Thursday, October 13**

5:00 Nurturing Parenting Meal & Classes

### **Friday, October 14**

No Church Events

### **Saturday, October 15**

No Church Events

### **Sunday, October 16**

*9:15* Sunday School

*10:30* Worship (L)

*11:30* Fellowship

**Reminder:** Use the QR code found in the bulletin to access the secure giving portal on our website!

### For Your Information

October 2 Attendance: 193

173 in person;

20 households livestreamed

Contributions received: \$9,968.00



### Church Information

Office Hours:

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

Phone: 701-293-6311

[www.firstpresfargo.org](http://www.firstpresfargo.org)

