



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

PRELUDE

Theme and Trio on "We Know That Christ Is Raised"
Sally Harmon, organist

arr. Burkhardt

WELCOME & CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

The Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey

MOMENT OF SILENCE

God of signs and wonders, you have revealed to us that Jesus Christ is your son and our Savior. Strengthen our faith, that we may have life in Christ's name. Amen.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Blessed be the God of our Savior, Jesus Christ!

God has given us an inheritance that is imperishable and unfading.

In this we rejoice, even when we suffer trials.

For although we have not seen Jesus, we love him;

and although we have not seen him, we believe in him.

For the outcome of our faith is abundant life.

Let us worship God!

***HYMN 254**

That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright

That Easter day with joy was bright; the sun shone out with fairer light
when, to their longing eyes restored, the apostles saw their risen Lord.

He bade them see his hands, his side, where yet the glorious wounds abide,
the tokens true which made it plain their Lord indeed was risen again.

From every weapon death can wield, your own redeemed forever shield;
O Lord of all, with us abide in this our joyful Eastertide.

***CONFESSION AND DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

God, you have made known to us the ways of life. Yet, too often we put other things above you and turn away from the ways of life and toward the ways of death. Forgive us and guide us back into your presence, that we may know the fullness of joy. Amen.

***RESPONSE 240**

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the ris - en Lord. Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give praise to His — Name.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Penny Andrist

The Word

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 16, pp. 485

Sue Van Osdel, reader

John 20:19-31, pp. 988

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

SERMON

Believing is Seeing

The Rev. Sarah M. Bigwood

***HYMN 817**

We Walk by Faith

We walk by faith and not by sight; with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."

We may not touch your hands and side, nor follow where you trod;
but in your promise we rejoice and cry, "My Lord and God!"

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound
to call on you when you are near and seek where you are found.

And when our life of faith is done, in realms of clearer light
may we behold you as you are, with full and endless sight.

***PROFESSION OF FAITH**

Adapted from the Confession of 1967

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong. The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord.

Background: The Confession of 1967 was the first new confession of faith to be added to the body of creeds we profess as Presbyterians in over three centuries. It was developed around a single passage of Scripture from Second Corinthians: "In Christ God was reconciling the world to himself..." (5:19, NRSV). The confession addresses the church's role in the modern world, how the church ought to approach scripture, social problems, discrimination, nationalism, and class conflict. It calls upon Christians to be reconciled to God and to one another.

PASTORAL PRAYER

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



BLESSING OF THE FOOD BAGS

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

OFFERTORY *Pastorale on "We Know That Christ Is Raised"*

arr. Burkhardt

Sally Harmon, organ

*RESPONSE 609

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessing flow. Praise God, all creatures high and low.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Bearing the Word into the World

*HYMN 485

We Know That Christ Is Raised

We know that Christ is raised and dies no more. Embraced by death he broke its fearful hold,
and our despair he turned to blazing joy. Alleluia! Alleluia!

We share by water in this saving death. Reborn we share with him an Easter life
as living members of a living Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life. The Spirit's power shakes the church of God.
Baptized we live with God the Three in One. Alleluia! Alleluia!

A new creation comes to life and grows as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.
The universe, restored and whole, will sing: Alleluia! Alleluia!

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Finale on "We Know That Christ Is Raised"

arr. Burkhardt



A Note from Joyce Brummond: Our heartfelt thanks to the friends at Fargo Presbyterian Church for the prayers, thoughts and calls. Things are a little better – but Donald has a long serious time ahead of him and we would appreciate your continued prayers – and support. Thank you, Joyce & Donald Brummond.

Bryan Poyzer Resignation: Sadly, we have received the news that Bryan Poyzer is resigning from his position at First Presbyterian Church of Fargo effective immediately because of health issues. Ryan Smit will be conducting the Adult choir through mid-May and Josh Argall will be directing the 7-12 Choir through the end of the school year. Our music coordinator, Sally Harmon, is working with the Personnel Committee to find a replacement. A card for Bryan is available for people to sign in the main entrance off the parking lot. It will be delivered after today.

Sunday Morning Bible Study: Sunday morning Adult Bible Study is reading through Genesis. All levels of background are welcome. Each class is designed to be complete on its own, so please feel free to come when you are available. The last study for this season is April 30th. **May 7th's study has been canceled.**

PW: Better Together, Tied Together With Love: The Presbyterian Women of the Northern Plains Presbytery are having their 2023 Spring Gathering on Saturday, April 29th at Mendenhall Presbyterian Church in East Grand Forks, Minnesota. Marsha Odom, Crookston PW & *Blessed Tomorrow Climate Ambassador* will talk about why climate issues matter to her as a Christian and share research-based information about climate concerns. Registration is \$15 from 9:45am to 10:15am. If you would like to attend, contact Nancy Lium at (701) 235-0228.

Per Capita: If you have not yet paid Per Capita for 2023, it's not too late! We will be accepting payments through the end of the year. Your contribution will be reflected on your giving record and will be greatly appreciated to help offset the Per Capita Apportionment payment sent to the Presbytery. The rate for 2023 is \$50.00 per confirmed member.

Covenant Of Prayer: Children in abusive situations; the victims and families of the shootings in Nashville and Louisville; the people of Missouri and Mississippi; Bryan Poyzer; the Bdecan Presbyterian Church in Tokio, ND; Don Brummond; Jennifer; our sister congregation in Chogoria, Kenya; and the people of Ukraine, Syria, and Turkey.

PW Circles: Circles will meet Apr. 18 in the Jennie Roberts Room; Naomi/Ruth Circles will meet at 9:30am and the Rachel Circle will meet at 1:00pm. The Leah circle meets via Zoom on April 15 at 10:00am. All women of the church are invited to attend. If you are interested or have any questions, please call Jan Kenien at (701) 280-2391.

Town Hall Lecture Series: The Town Hall Lecture Series continues its season on Tuesday, April 25, with pianist and lecturer Orin Grossman. Lectures begin at 10:30am at Prairie Heights Community Church in West Fargo. A Q & A session will follow at 11:30am. Doors open for seating at 10:00am. Individual tickets may be purchased at the door for \$30. All are welcome to attend. Visit fargotownhall.org for more info.

STELLAR
SHINE JESUS' LIGHT

VBS **JUNE 5 - 8**
5:30 - 8 PM

First Presbyterian, Fargo

Get ready to launch an out-of-this-world adventure! A meal will be provided each night.

REGISTER TODAY!
www.firstpresfargo.org/children

Emergency Food Pantry: FPC is once again going to commit to serving the Pantry through our volunteering mission. We need volunteers for the week of Monday April 24th through Friday April 28th. We have mornings on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:30 to 12:00 and afternoons on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 1:00 to 4:00. There are many different jobs to do. There will be a signup sheet at church on Sundays in April, except Easter Sunday. Contact Marcia Foss at (701) 840-1986 to sign up or for more information.

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

The Rev. Sarah M. Bigwood-*Head of Staff, Pastor*
The Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey-*Associate Pastor*
The Rev. Daniel Billings-*Parish Associate*
Sally Harmon-*Music Coordinator & Organist*
Ryan Smit-*Interim 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



**CHILDREN
YOUTH**
Worship Service
May 7 at 10:30
A day celebrating the growth
of our youngest members!

Hooray Buffet!
Join us in the Social Hall for a meal
of pulled pork and all the sides!
Sponsored by EduCon

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

Sunday, April 16

11:30 Fellowship

Monday, April 17

5:30 Session — Meeting with Confirmands

Tuesday, April 18

9:30 PW Circles

10:30 Staff Meeting

1:00 PW Circle

7:00 Moms Demand Action

Wednesday, April 19

5:30 Genesis Ringers

5:30 St. Andrews Brass

6:15 Children & Youth Choirs

6:30 Westminster Ringers

7:00 Youth Group

7:30 Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, April 20

5:30 Nurturing Parenting Classes

6:00 Kenya Pre-Trip Education

Friday, April 21

No Church Events

Saturday, April 22

No Church Events

Sunday, April 23

9:15 Sunday School

10:30 Worship Service (L)

11:30 Fellowship

12:00 Messenger Deadline

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

April 7 & 9 Attendance: 569

517 in person

52 households livestreamed

Contributions received: \$20,621.00



Church Information

Office Hours:

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

Phone: 701-293-6311

www.firstpresfargo.org