



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.

September 15, 2024

We Gather in Christ

PRELUDE

Lord, What a Parade!
Sally Harmon, organist

arrs. Alex Wyton &
David Cherwien

WELCOME

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Living Lord, you meet us in unexpected places and surprise us with the abundance of your love. Feed us by your Word and fill us with your Spirit so that we may follow you this day, and always; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. Amen.

COME INTO GOD'S PRESENCE

Come into God's presence singing "Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia."

✧ CALL TO WORSHIP

Corday Goddard

O Lord our God, we praise you. We cried to you for help
and you answered us.

You have restored our lives;

you have rescued us from the grave.

To the one who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb

be blessing and honor and glory and might

forever and ever!

Let us worship God!

✧ HYMN 15

All Creatures of Our God and King

All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing, Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother sun with golden beam, O sister moon with silver gleam,
sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother wind with clouds and rain, you nurture gifts of fruit and grain. Alleluia! Alleluia!

O sister water, flowing clear, make music for your Lord to hear.

Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother fire, so warm and bright, chase off the shadows of the night. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Dear mother earth, who day by day unfolds such blessings on our way,
sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

All who for love of God forgive, all who in pain or sorrow grieve, Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ bears your burdens and your fears; so, even in the midst of tears,
sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

And you, most gentle sister death, waiting to hush our final breath: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom, fair is the night that leads us home.
Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O sisters, brothers, take your part, and worship God with humble heart. Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One!
Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

✧ CONFESSION AND DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Lord God, in the light of your glory we see the evil we have done, the suffering we have caused, the good we have refused, and the truth we have denied. Heal us of our sin, wash us in your mercy, and feed us with your grace, so that we may follow your way and tell the good news of the gospel. Amen.

✧ RESPONSE 276

Sing a New Song unto the Lord

Refrain

Sing a new song un - to the Lord; let your song be sung from moun - tains
high. Sing a new song un - to the Lord, sing - ing hal - le - lu - jah! _____
Glad my soul for I have seen the glo - ry of the Lord. _____ The
trum - pet sounds; the dead shall be raised. I know my Sav - ior lives. _____
to refrain

✧ PASSING OF THE PEACE

GIFT OF MUSIC

Wonderful, Merciful Savior

arr. Marty Parks

Sanctuary Choir; Bryan Poyzer, director; Sally Harmon, piano

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

PRESENTATION OF THE CHILD

Isaac Theodore Zietz, child of Benjamin & Kendra Zietz. Grandchild of Brad & Shelley Zietz, Dave & Michelle Ahlquist, and Kim & Dean Anderson. Jim & Kaytlin Ahlquist, sponsors. Corday Goddard, 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.

BAPTISM

WELCOME

...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!

The Word

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 95:1-7, pp. 539

Revelation 5:6-14, pp. 1120

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

SERMON

Extravagant Praise

Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey

❖HYMN

Lord, What a Parade!
words by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

Lord, what a par-ade! The crowd quick-ly grew; What noise they all made in
They wel-comed you in, a con-quer-ing king, Yet what kind of reign would
Did those in that crowd ex-pect some-thing more than one who reached out in
Lord Je-sus, it's true-we give you glad praise, yet liv-ing for you will
wel-com-ing you. "Ho-san-na" they shout-ed. "It's Da-vid's own son! Ho-
you real-ly bring? It was-n't a war horse you rode on that day; A
love to the poor? Did they think a sa-rior with arm-ies was best, or
chal-lenge our ways. So may we be o-pen and wel-come your reign. Ho-
san-na! Come save us! God's reign has be-gun!"
crea-ture of peace car-ried you on your way.
did they re-mem-ber: the peace-ful are blessed?
san-na! Come save us! Re-new us a-gain!

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



MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP

Benjamin Zietz

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

OFFERTORY

Morning-mood

Edvard Grieg

Andy Froelich and Sally Harmon, piano duet

❖**RESPONSE 634**

To God Be the Glory

To God be the glory; great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory: great things he has done!

❖**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Bearing the Word into the World

❖HYMN 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.

All thy works with joy surround thee; earth and heaven reflect thy rays;
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.

Mortals, join the happy chorus which the morning stars began.
Love divine is reigning o'er us, joining all in heaven's plan.
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife.
Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

❖BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee
Sally Harmon, organist

arr. Gordon Young

Thank you to Tom Bigwood and our high school Youth on livestream and soundboard, Corday Goddard for assisting in worship, and our Welcome Team: Tom Dawson, Amy Wilkens, Kathleen Thomas, Benjamin Zietz, Tom Bigwood, David Hoffman, and Wayne Sander for taking such good care of us this morning.

A special thank you to our musicians: Sally Harmon, the Sanctuary Choir under the direction of Bryan Poyzer, and Andy Froelich.



Town Hall Lecture Series: The Town Hall Lecture Series begins its season on Tuesday, September 17, with Jocelyn Hagen. Originally from Valley City, she now lives in Minneapolis where she is a composer, publisher and a world wide performer. She is president of Graphite Publishing and founder of acapella band, *Nation*. Her husband, Timothy Takach, who is a composer, professional choral singer and soloist, part of *Nation* and owner of Graphite Publishing will perform with her at the Town Hall Lecture. Lectures begin at 10:30 a.m. at Prairie Heights Community Church in West Fargo. A Q & A session will follow at 11:30 a.m. Doors open for seating at 10:00 a.m. Individual tickets may be purchased at the door. All are welcome to attend. Visit fargotownhall.org for more info.

Celebrating Penny Andrist! Please plan to join us for a celebration of Penny's ministry on Sunday, September 29th during worship, with an ice-cream reception to follow! All are welcome to attend. If unable to do so, consider sending a card of thanks to Penny in care of the church. If you are attending, consider bringing a card wishing her well to give her in-person. Penny has been a member of First Presbyterian for over 30 years. Her energy has been contagious, and we will miss her as she enjoys a well-earned retirement! But don't worry; it's not goodbye, it's just "see ya later"! Penny (and her ukelele) will continue to participate in the music ministry, give free hugs, and she's even agreed to deliver a children's sermon now and then. Hugs and ice cream - what could be better?!

Dinners for 8-ish: Dinner for 8ish is an opportunity for adults (*singles or couples*) to share a meal with other church members just for fun and fellowship. When you sign up, the questions you answer will help us create groups of 7-9 who share similar preferences. *The mystery is part of the excitement!* For more information, or to sign up, scan the QR code; you can also find a link on our website.



Fellowship of Frolicking Friendly Females (4 F's): This group is for single women over 55 who want to get together for social activities. The next upcoming event is Monday, September 30th at 1:00pm, to tour the exhibits at the Plains Art Museum, with coffee / tea to follow. Admission is free. If you are interested, please contact Marcia Foss at 701-840-1986.

Covenant of Prayer: Brad Schenck, son of Richard Schenck (BDPC) fighting brain cancer; Fraser Harrison, under the care of hospice.



Meal Train set up for Jan and Fraser Harrison: Jan and Fraser's family has set up a "meal train" for their folks. Scan the QR code if you're able to sign up to bring them a meal. Contact Pastor Mary if you are in need of assistance.

Holy Buckets: Our congregation's Holy Buckets need to be filled with winter outerwear for children at Bdecan Church on the Spirit Lake Reservation. Winter coats, hats, and gloves or mittens are needed for school kids of all ages. Winter boots are also desperately needed. If they are not suitably clothed for the weather, they are not even allowed to board their school buses. Please bring new or lightly used winter gear to the tubs near the volunteer signup board by Sunday, Oct. 20th. A team from 1st Pres will deliver them to Bdecan. This annual clothing drive is conducted with congregations across the Presbytery of the Northern Plains.



Peace Summit: Our Peace Summit will feature a soothing sound immersion, keynote speakers Jenessa Fillipi and Laetitia Mizero Hellerud, guided meditations, service projects, worship, and fellowship. Come together and explore ways to build a supportive network in the midst of pandemonium. You can find more information, the schedule, and a link to register at www.firstpresfargo.org/peace.

Hard Copy Directories Available Now: Stop by the office and pick up your hard copy directory! The suggested donation is \$10 to help offset the cost of printing. If you have not yet, please contact Casey in the office, as there are only enough directories printed for those who have requested one. Thank you!

Hearing devices, as well as **large print copies of today's bulletins and 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: Mindy Argall, Abi Carlson, Deb Dawson, Tom Dawson, Tetteh Dottey, Colleen Ford-Dunker, Jody Hudson, Kurt Kooyer, Dick Laraway, Carrie Lawrence, Bruce Maylath, Brian McClure, Elaine Rudd (clerk), Jeff Wilkens, and Steve Wonderlich. **Deacons:** Paula Christensen, Toby Christensen, Steve Dawson, Brenda Deckard, Ed Deckard (treasurer), Gracia Fulwiler, David Hoffman, Jane Mathew (moderator), Donna Rummens, Wayne Sander, 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*

The Rev. Cathie Bishop-*Parish Associate*

Rusty Bender-*Director of Church Life*

Sally Harmon-*Organist*

Pam Burns-*Music Ministry Coordinator*

Bryan Poyzer-*Adult Choir Director*

Penny Andrist-*Children's Ministry Coordinator*

Carrie Lawrence-*Sunday School 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**

Contribution Statements: Contribution statements through August 31st were sent via email September 3rd. If you can't find it, remember to search your spam/junk email folder. Please look them over carefully. It is much easier (and less stressful) to make any corrections to your offerings now rather than at year end. If you need a hard copy sent to you, or if you just need to know your balance, contact Jan Lundgren in the church office. If you did not receive a statement and have an email on file with the church, please make sure we have your correct email address.

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

Sunday, September 15

11:30 Fellowship

Monday, September 16

6:30 Session Meeting (H)

Tuesday, September 17

10:30 Town Hall Lecture Series @ Prairie Heights

5:00 Legacy Steering Committee

Wednesday, September 18

5:00 Wednesday Activities Dinner

5:30 St. Andrew's Brass

5:30 Genesis Ringers Rehearsal

6:15 Children & Youth Choir Rehearsals

6:30 Westminster Ringers Rehearsal

7:00 Youth Group

7:30 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 19

5:30 Nurturing Families Class

Friday, September 20

6:00 Peace Summit—Day 1

Saturday, September 21

8:00 Peace Summit—Day 2

Sunday, September 22

10:30 Worship Service (L)

11:30 Fellowship

11:45 Peace Summit—Day 3

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

September 8 Attendance: 217

173 in person

44 households livestreamed

Contributions received: \$11,069.00



Church Information

Office Hours:

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

Phone: 701-293-6311

www.firstpresfargo.org

650 2nd Ave. N.

Fargo, ND 58102

Lost and Found: If you are missing a tube of lipstick, an earring, a water bottle, tumbler, or more, please visit the Lost and Found box in the Foyer coat room. Items that are not collected in a timely manner are subject to being donated or disposed. Thank you!