



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.

July 27, 2025

We Gather in Christ

PRELUDE

Blessed Assurance

arr. Pechtl

He Leadeth Me

He Hideth My Soul

Matthew Pechtl, guest organist

WELCOME

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Gracious God, each morning we rise on the gift of your steadfast love. Teach us today to ask with boldness, to seek with trust, and to knock with hope. Make us persistent in prayer, patient in waiting, and joyful in receiving your good gifts. Amen.

✧CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Sarah M. Bigwood

Come, you who long for restoration,

For God is already at work renewing the earth.

Come, you who search for hope,

For God's promises are steadfast and sure.

Come, you who hunger for the Spirit,

For God gives generously to all who ask.

Let us worship the God who meets us with mercy.

Let us worship God!

❖ **HYMN 14**

For the Beauty of the Earth

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:

Refrain: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light: **(Refrain)**

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight: **(Refrain)**

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild: **(Refrain)**

For thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely given;
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven: **(Refrain)**

❖ **CONFESSIO AND DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Holy God, We confess: sometimes we forget how much we are loved. We hesitate to knock, assuming the door is closed. We whisper our prayers, uncertain you will hear. We doubt the goodness of your gifts. Forgive us for the ways we let fear shape our faith. Teach us again to seek with courage, to ask with boldness, and to live as those who trust in grace. Restore us, O God. Hear our prayers. Amen.

❖ **RESPONSE 48**

Rain Down

Rain down; rain down;
rain down your love on your people.
Rain down; rain down;
rain down your love, God of life.

❖ **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

GIFT OF MUSIC

Like a Tree

arr. Lon Beery

Mike Wavra, Penny Andrist, and Pam Andrist-Burns, vocals;
Wanda Wavra, piano

The Word

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 85, pp. 532

Luke 11:1-13, pp. 947

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

SERMON

Haven't Got a Prayer

Elder Corday Goddard

✧HYMN 175

Seek Ye First

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek, and you shall find;
knock, and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

You shall not live by bread alone, but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of God. Allelu, alleluia!

✧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.

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



OFFERING MESSAGE

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

OFFERTORY

The King of Love My Shepherd Is
Matthew Pechtl, guest organist

arr. Pechtl

✧RESPONSE 652

A Grateful Heart (vs. 1)

A grate ful heart is what I bring, a song of praise, my of— fer ing. A
mong the saints I lift— my voice: in you, O God, I will— re joice.

❖PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Bearing the Word into the World

❖HYMN 41 *O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!*

O worship the King, all glorious above!

O gratefully sing God's power and God's love:
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

O tell of God's might; O sing of God's grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space,
whose chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form;
and bright is God's path on the wings of the storm.

The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, your power has founded of old;
established it fast by a changeless decree,
and round it has cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Your bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills; it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end,
our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.

❖BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

To God Be the Glory
Matthew Pechtl, organ

arr. Pechtl

Thank you to Tom Bigwood and Tetteh Dottey on livestream and soundboard, Elder Corday Goddard for leading us in worship, and our Welcome Team: Kurt Kooyer, David Hoffman, Dianne Connelly, Steve & Karen Wonderlich, Becky Trumbo, and Rick & Shirley Herberg for taking such good care of us this morning.

A special thank you to our musicians: Matthew Pechtl, Mike Wavra, Penny Andrist, and Pam Andrist-Burns.



Heart-n-Soul is looking for Volunteers! HnS is looking for a variety of volunteers throughout the summer to help out with cooking, prepping, serving, and greeting for their Mobile Cafés. If you are interested in helping out, please visit their website at <https://heartsoulcafe.com/volunteer/>, or you can contact Leola at heartsoulcc@gmail.com.



4 F's Group Outings:

- Thursday, Aug. 7th at 11:30am — Lunch at Nova Eatery on Broadway, 1 block north of Fargo Theatre. RSVP by August 4th.

Any single women 55+ are welcome to join this informal social group. Please let Marcia or Elaine know if you will be attending, so that tables can be reserved

Marcia: 701-840-1986, ndmomfoss@gmail.com

Elaine: 701-793-6614, elainerudd1@hotmail.com

NYK Returns to FPC Fargo Aug. 10! The New York Kammermusiker is a professional double-reed ensemble (oboes, bassoons, English horns) which has traveled extensively throughout the world. Members of the non-profit ensemble will play during worship on Sunday, August 10th! In addition, they will present a free public concert in our Sanctuary that evening at 7:00pm. Sally Harmon will be joining them for their Fargo concerts!

Covenant of Prayer: Beatrice Janaka's husband, James; Brad Schenck, son of Richard Schenck (BD) fighting brain cancer.

Handbell Ringer Concert—Hosts Needed! STRIKEPOINT will present a handbell concert in our sanctuary on Sunday, August 3rd at 7 PM. Strikepoint is an adult community/professional handbell ensemble based at United Methodist Church in Duluth, MN. **We are looking for hosts to provide overnight housing to the ringers!** Following the concert, the hosts will take the guests home overnight and then provide a simple breakfast before returning the ringers back to the church on Monday morning by 8:30 AM. If you are interested in hosting, or if you have questions, please talk to Pam Andrist-Burns after worship or email pburns@firstpresfargo.org. Thanks for the hospitality!

Emergency Food Pantry: Items placed in the large tote box in the coat room go directly to the FM Food Pantry each week. They are currently in need of peanut butter; they are also short of canned frostings for birthday bags, which people request for their children who are celebrating a birthday in the next 2 months. There is a great need for personal care items, such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, conditioner, laundry soap, dish soap, deodorant, cleaning supplies, feminine products, shavers, and shaving cream. Starting in August, school supply bags will be made for children.

Elliot Sander Summer Organ Recital: This music-filled evening starts at 7pm and will serve as a fundraiser benefit for the Red River Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. Works from Bach, Beethoven and Haydn will be featured. Guest performers, Alex Swanson and Sally Harmon will be joining Elliot for the performance. The star of the show is our church's exquisite 59 rank Schantz pipe organ. There will be a reception following the recital Friday, August 15th; we hope to see you there!

Help Us Share Comfort and Care This Summer! These simple items offer protection and dignity to those spending time outdoors without consistent shelter. *Thank you for your compassion!*

Serving meals at Micah's Mission. We will continue to serve at Micah's Mission throughout the summer on the second Thursday of every month. Signup sheets are at the Volunteer Opportunities Board in the west foyer for August, September, and October.

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: Curt Brickman, Kathryn Byrd, Deb Dawson, Tom Dawson, Colleen Ford-Dunker, Jody Hudson, Kurt Kooyer, Dick Laraway, Bruce Maylath, Brian McClure, Jim McEvers, Sharon Secor, Paula Thomas (clerk), Jeff Wilkens, and Steve Wonderlich. **Deacons:** Paula Christensen, Toby Christensen, Dianne Connelly, Steve Dawson, Brenda Deckard, Sydney Goddard, David Hoffman, Gayla McGoldrick, Wayne Sander, Candy Shultz, Virginia Stern, Kathleen Thomas, Kevin 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*

Pamela Andrist-Burns: *Music Ministry Coordinator*

Bryan Poyzer: *Adult Choir Director*

Elliot Sander: *Interim Organist*

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

Come to one or all four nights!

Mon: Bruce Maylath

Translating the Bible: Risks and Pitfalls

Tues: Brian McClure

The Scottish Covenanters - Part of Our Heritage - an Inspiration

Wed: Lisa McEvers

Faith Through Failure

Thurs: Scott Holdman

Holdman Brothers Evening

Join us for Bible Lessons and hymn singing, with refreshments to follow

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

Presbyterian Youth Triennium in Kentucky all week

Sunday, July 27

11:30 Fellowship

Monday, July 28

7:00 Adult Vacation Bible School — Day 1

Tuesday, July 29

4:00 Adult Vacation Bible School — Day 2

Wednesday, July 30

12:00 Adult Vacation Bible School — Day 3

Thursday, July 31

Adult Vacation Bible School — Day 4

Friday, August 1

No Church Events

Saturday, August 2

No Church Events

Sunday, August 3

10:30 Worship Service, Communion (L)

11:30 Fellowship

7:00 Strikepoint Handbell Choir Concert

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

July 20, 2025 Attendance: 142

107 in person

35 households livestreamed

Contributions received: \$3,435.37



Church Information

Summer Office Hours:

M-TH, 9:00 am-3:00 pm

Phone: 701-293-6311

www.firstpresfargo.org

650 2nd Ave. N.

Fargo, ND 58102

Church Event Parking: If you are frequently at the church during workday hours, please stop by the office for a "church event" parking permit rear view mirror hang tag, or you can call the church office and we'll leave one for you to pick up on Sunday. Occasionally, there is a walk-through done in the parking lot to identify those who should not be parking here. If you do receive a yellow warning ticket, don't panic, call the church office to let us know.