



**October 30: Stewardship Commitment &  
Remembering the Saints 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**

Loving Father, thank you for your gift of joy and for the fruit of rejoicing. Help me to reject those thoughts that steal away from me the heavenly gift of joy that is mine in Christ which is a heavenly balm that strengthens my trust in you and in your ways. May I never cease to rejoice in you nor step from the path you have called me to travel. In Jesus' name I pray. AMEN.

### **PRELUDE**

*Variations on "Shall We Gather at the River"*

arr. Lovelace

Sally Harmon, organist

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

The Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey

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

We rejoice in the One who leads us beside still waters,  
**and gives us refreshment of soul.**

Christ our Shepherd shows us the way we should go,  
**so that the name of God will be glorified.**

Though all manner of evil befall us, we will not be afraid,  
**for the Great Shepherd of our souls is with us.**

We are never away from the love and mercy of the Lord,  
**and we shall be with him for ever and ever. Let us worship God!**

### **\*HYMN #326**

*For All the Saints*

For all the saints who from their labors rest,  
who thee by faith before the world confessed,  
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou was their rock, their fortress, and their might;  
thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;  
thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!  
We feebly struggle; they in glory shine;  
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,  
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,  
and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,  
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,  
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

We say the 23rd Psalm prayerfully in seasons of sorrow; recite its comforting words in periods of uncertainty; and rehearse the assurance it offers for times of trial. But are we continually guided by its promises in our day-to-day living? Let us confess our sins.

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

**Great Shepherd, there are days when we don't really believe that you will provide us with everything we need. We worry about church budgets and program numbers and what the church down the street is doing. Instead of allowing you to restore our souls, we exhaust ourselves with our own plans and purposes. We forget that you are with us wherever we go, so we look elsewhere for comfort and protection. But, you are a God of overflowing cups and strong sticks. Help us to trust in you more fully, lean on you more completely, and live confident that your goodness and mercy do pursue us, and let our actions prove to those around us that your goodness and mercy also pursue them. Amen.**

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

The words are sure and true: the Lord is our Shepherd and provides for us everything we need. Know that God is with you now, forgiving you, rejoicing to be in your presence and willing to transform you by the power of the Holy Spirit into true and full disciples of the Son, Jesus, the Crucified and Resurrected One. Amen.

**\*RESPONSE 155**

*Raise a Song of Gladness*

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!

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**GIFT OF MUSIC**

*O Love*

Hagenberg

Sanctuary choir; Bryan Poyzer, director; Paul Kim, cello; Jessica Poyzer, piano

*This anthem was purchased by the choir in memory of long-time member Mary Bohnenblust*

O Love, that will not let me go, O Love, I rest my weary soul in Thee;  
I give thee back the life I owe, that in thy ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.

O Joy, that seeks me through the pain, O Joy, I cannot close my heart to thee;

I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain That morn shall tearless be.

O Love, that will not let me go, O Love, I rest my weary soul in thee;  
I give thee back the life I owe, and in thy ocean depths its flow shall richer, fuller be.

O Love, that will not let me go.

**REMEMBERING THE SAINTS**

We recall with affection and great gratitude the saints of God who have run the race, finished the course and kept the faith, and who have received the heavenly prize of being put right with God.

*Jill Blazek, Mary Bohnenblust, Joyce Cole, Douglas Froelich, Edythe Grover, Robert Henderson, Donald Lamb, Michael Lochow, Ann Luchsinger, Philip Martin, Maxine Mattson, Bonnie Pollock, Ryan Weed*

The handbell responses quoting *For All the Saints* were written by Sally Harmon & Jill Post.

## The Word

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Sue Van Osdel, Reader

God of goodness and mercy, send your Holy Spirit among us this day, that our thoughts might be turned towards what is pure and pleasing to you, and that our actions might bear the fruits of peace, love, and justice for all. Amen.

**FIRST READING**

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures;

he leads me beside still waters;  
he restores my soul.  
He leads me in right paths  
for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley,  
I fear no evil;  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff—  
they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord  
my whole life long.

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

## **SECOND READING**

Philippians 4:1-9

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

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

## **SERMON**

*The Gravity of Joy*

The Rev. Sarah M. Bigwood

### **\*HYMN #803**

*My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

My shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is his name.  
in pastures fresh he makes me feed, beside the living stream.  
He brings my wandering spirit back when I forsake his ways,  
and leads me, for his mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death your presence is my stay;  
one word of your supporting breath drives all my fears away.  
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my table spread;  
my cup with blessings overflows; your oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;  
O may your house be my abode, and all my work be praise.  
There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come;  
no more a stranger, or a guest, but like a child at home.

## **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**

Sherri Stern

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

*DID YOU KNOW? If you are 72 or over, you generally must withdraw an amount from your retirement accounts every year (the required minimum distribution). This amount can be paid directly to a charity (like the church). Amounts distributed this way count towards the minimum distribution and are excluded from your taxable income. Contact the church for more details.*

### **OFFERTORY**

*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*  
Westminster Ringers; Jill Post, director

arr. Childers

### **\*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 #275**

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing.  
Our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe.  
His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.  
Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,  
were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.

Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he.  
Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same, and he must win the battle.  
And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,  
we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.  
The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him.  
His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure. One little word shall fell him.  
That Word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth.  
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.  
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also.  
The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still. His kingdom is forever.

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE + PARADE**                      *Toccata and Fugue in D Minor*                      J. S. Bach  
(as recorded on our Schantz organ by Sally Harmon in 2019. The organ will play by itself.)



**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.**



**ManUp Bible Study for Men:** The ManUp Bible study returns to the Jennie Roberts Room on Tuesday, Nov. 8th, 6:45-7:45 a.m. Intended to help men understand what the Bible says in relation to what is expected of a Christian man, the study this month takes up the 2nd lesson in the study guide to the Book of Job. You can request a copy of the study guide from Bruce Maylath by e-mail at ring4linguist@yahoo.com. No advance preparation is required for each month's study. Coffee and breakfast pastries will be served. New participants may join at any time.

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

**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.

**Kirkin' o' the Tartans:** We will observe our traditional celebration of the origins of the Presbyterian Church in Scotland on Sunday, November 6 at 9am and 11am. The Kirkin' Choir, orchestra, Heather & Thistle Pipe Band, Celtic Dancers and the familiar Calling of the Clans will all be part of the service. The 9am service will be livestreamed on the church website for those who cannot attend in person.



**Delivering Thanksgiving Meals / Hope Blooms:** Again this year, we are partnering with Heart n' Soul to deliver 300 Thanksgiving meals. **NEW THIS YEAR** – we will be assembling bouquets of flowers to deliver with the meals through Hope Blooms, a local non-profit that repurposes flowers into small bouquets to give to people in need; all with the message “You matter.” **IN THE MEANTIME**, we are collecting small glass jars for vases. Clean them out, please! (We can handle stubborn labels!) Meals and bouquets will be delivered on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. More details in upcoming bulletins and the website for signing up in early November.

**Piano for Sale \$200:** Do you know a young musician starting piano lessons this year? The church has an extra piano that could use a new home! This Everett spinet piano, with bench, is in good condition. The buyer will need to have it moved. For further information, contact Sally Harmon, sharmon@firstpresfargo.org.

**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 30**

*11:30* Fall Celebration

5:30 Confirmation

### **Monday, October 31**

1:00 Bulletin Insert Articles Due

### **Tuesday, November 1**

*10:30* Staff Meeting

5:30 Worship Committee Meeting (H)

7:00 Mission Committee Meeting

### **Wednesday, November 2**

5:30 Kirkin' Orchestra

6:15 Children / Youth Choirs

6:30 Westminster Ringers

7:00 Youth Group

7:30 Sanctuary Choir

### **Thursday, November 3**

5:00 Nurturing Parenting Meal & Classes

### **Friday, November 4**

No Church Events

### **Saturday, November 5**

*9:30* Kirkin' Rehearsal

### **Sunday, November 6**

*9:00* Kirkin' Service (L)

*10:00* Celtic Dancers

*10:00* Fellowship

*11:00* Kirkin' Service

*12:00* Fellowship

5:30 Confirmation

**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

October 23 Attendance: 173

149 in person;

24 households livestreamed

Contributions received: \$7,843.00

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12**

# **BISON WATCH PARTY**



**FOOD, FOOTBALL AND FUN**

Bring your lawn chairs and favorite game day snacks to share with others. "Tailgating" starts at 12:30 - complete with corn hole and other games.

*See you in the Social Hall!*



### Church Information

Office Hours:

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

Phone: 701-293-6311

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