



**February 05, 2023**  
**Fifth Sunday After Epiphany**

*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**

*Improvisation on 'Ar Hyd y nos'*  
Kathleen Thompson, guest organist

Todd Wilson

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

### **MOMENT OF SILENCE**

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

We are called to follow – to walk in the way of justice and righteousness,  
**for we are children of God!**

We are called to serve – to be Christ with and for one another,  
**for we are the salt of the earth!**

We are called to shine – to be beacons of hope and witnesses to truth,  
**For we are the light of the world!**

Come, you who are claimed as children of God, salt of the earth and light of the world.

**Let us worship God!**

#### **\*HYMN #401**

*Gather Us In*

Here in this place the new light is streaming;  
now is the darkness vanished away;  
see in this space our fears and our dreamings  
brought here to you in the light of this day.  
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;  
gather us in, the blind and the lame;  
call to us now, and we shall awaken;  
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young; our lives are a mystery.  
We are the old who yearn for your face.  
We have been sung throughout all of history,  
called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;  
gather us in, the proud and the strong;  
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly;  
give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water;  
here we will take the bread of new birth.  
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,  
call us anew to be salt for the earth.  
Give us to drink the wine of compassion;  
give us to eat the bread that is you;  
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion  
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,  
not in some heaven, light years away:  
here in this place the new light is shining;  
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.  
Gather us in and hold us forever;  
gather us in and make us your own;  
gather us in, all peoples together,  
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

#### **\*CONFESSION AND DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

**Lover of justice, Giver of mercy, you call us to share our bread with the hungry and to open our homes to the homeless, to care for the poor and to satisfy the needs of those who suffer. Some of your commandments are easy to follow; others require so much of us! How can we break the chains of injustice and untie the cords of oppression? When we consider the brokenness of our world, it is easy to feel overwhelmed. Forgive us when we use our sense of helplessness as an excuse. Remind us, we pray, that you are at work in and through us to bring about your reign. Free us from fear and stir our hearts toward a greater generosity, that we might be the salt and light you called us to be.**

Friends, believe in the Good News of the Gospel. **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.**

#### **\*RESPONSE 581**

*Gloria Patri*

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be.**

**World without end. Amen, Amen.**

#### **\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

### **The Word**

#### **SCRIPTURE**

*Isaiah 58:6-12, pp. 674*

Bruce Maylath, reader

*Matthew 5:13-20, pp. 880*

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

#### **SERMON**

*Every Jot and Tittle*

#### **\*HYMN 767**

*Together We Serve*

Together we serve, united by love,  
inviting God's world to the glorious feast.

We work and we pray through sorrow and joy,  
extending God's love to the last and the least.

We seek to become a beacon of hope,  
a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet.  
We learn, year by year, to let love shine through  
until we see Christ in each person we meet.

We welcome the scarred, the wealthy, the poor,  
the busy, the lonely, and all who need care.  
We offer a home to those who will come,  
our hands quick to help, our hearts ready to dare.

Together, by grace, we witness and work,  
remembering Jesus, in whom we grow strong.  
Together we serve in Spirit and truth,  
remembering love is the strength of our song.

## Responding to the Word



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

### OFFERTORY

*You Shall Go Out with Joy*

Drennan

Sanctuary Choir; Ryan Smit, directing; Wanda Wavra, piano

### \*RESPONSE

*We All Are One in Mission*



We all are one in — mis - sion; we all are one in call, our var - ied gifts u -  
nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all. A sin - gle great com - mis - sion com -  
pels us from a - bove to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.

Text: Rusty Edwards; music: Finnish folk melody  
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## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

#### 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.

**HYMN OF APPROACH 503** *Lord, We Have Come (vs. 2&3)*

Here, at your table, confirm our intention;  
give it your seal of forgiveness and grace;  
teach us to serve without pride or pretension,  
Lord, in your kingdom, whatever our place.

When, at your table, each time of returning,  
vows are renewed and our courage restored,  
may we increasingly glory in learning  
all that it means to accept you as Lord.

**COMMUNION MUSIC**

*Thy Holy Wings*  
Westminster Ringers  
*The Gift of Love*

arr. Moglebust

arr. Brown

St. Andrew's Brass; Jill Post, director

**Bearing the Word into the World**

**\*HYMN 545**

*Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace*

Lord, bid your servant go in peace;  
your word is now fulfilled.  
These eyes have seen salvation's dawn,  
this child so long foretold.

This is the Savior of the world,  
the Gentiles' promised light,  
God's glory dwelling in our midst,  
the joy of Israel.

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

Kathleen Thompson, organ

Get In Touch

# Presbytery of the Northern Plains

*A vibrant, informed, Presbyterian Community that  
nourishes ministry and joins in Christ's Mission*



**Phone Number**  
701-772-0783



**E-mail Address**  
pnpooffice@gmail.com



**Mailing Address**  
5555 South Washington Street  
Grand Forks, North Dakota 58201



*Presbytery of the Northern Plains*

“ Per capita is like  
everyone contributing  
a dish to the potluck  
meal

“ it's like everyone  
chipping in for gas  
when we're all on a  
trip together in the  
same vehicle

*Do not neglect to do good  
and to share what you have,  
for such sacrifices  
are pleasing to God.*

Hebrews 13:16



Understanding your

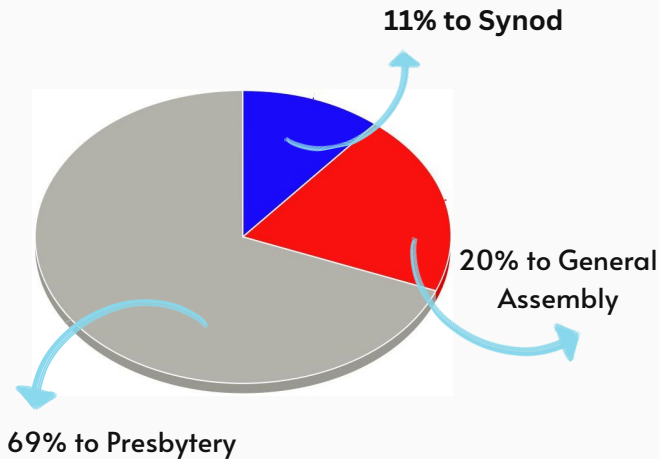
## Per Capita Giving

Per capita exists as a way for all  
Presbyterians to share costs that belong  
to the whole church.

Members share equitably the costs required  
to connect and coordinate over 8000+  
churches together into one larger body  
so we can further the mission of  
Jesus Christ around the world.

Where your money goes

## Per Capita Breakdown



### 2023 Per Capita

GA \$9.85

Synod \$5.50

Presbytery \$34.65

**\$50 per member**

*Per capita apportionment for a given year is based on church memberships two years prior.*

Every church's Session is encouraged to understand their church's share to help fund the greater work of the Presbyterian Church (USA).



226th General Assembly (2024)

June 29 - July 6, 2024

Salt Lake City, UT

## examples of dollars at work at the General Assembly Level

- ✓ Expenses related to holding the GA meeting
  - The GA Meeting
    - reviews the work of synods
    - resolves controversies in the church
    - is responsible for matters of common concern for the whole church
    - protects the church from errors in faith and practice
    - assures the church's expression of theology remains true to the biblical standards in our historic confessions
    - serves as a symbol of unity for the church
- ✓ Publish & distribute the Book of Order, The Book of Confessions, and other General Assembly publications
- ✓ Provide a Presbyterian presence at ecumenical groups and gatherings in this country and worldwide – extending our mission efforts and our work for peace and justice far beyond what we can do by ourselves!

*The Presbytery of the Northern Plains pays 100% of each member's Per Capita share to the General Assembly and Synod as required by the Book of Order.*

## examples of dollars at work at the Synod Level

- ✓ Presbytery staff and mission support
- ✓ Synod school & clergy seminars
- ✓ Disaster & emergency assistance for churches



## examples of dollars at work at the Presbytery Level

- ✓ Pods, committees, & task forces
- ✓ Ministry team administrative expenses
- ✓ Education & inspirational events
- ✓ Presbytery meetings
- ✓ Presbytery personnel & administrative expense
- ✓ ...and so much more!

Per Capita is the main source of funding used to make investments back into the local churches





**New Pilgrimage Class: The Way of Discernment:** We make decisions constantly--some with careful reflection, some without much thought. What if we understood these decisions, minor as well as major, as matters of faithful Christian living? Join Paul Campbell, Commissioned Ruling Elder, in exploring the role of discernment in our lives.

**Recommended reading:** *The Way of Discernment: Spiritual Practices for Decision Making* by Elizabeth Liebert.

Feb. 16 & 23 at 7:00 pm; hybrid format. For more information contact Mike Wavra at [wavramw@aol.com](mailto:wavramw@aol.com).

**Sunday Morning Bible Study:** Sunday morning Adult Bible Study is reading through Genesis. This is your opportunity to explore the details and themes of the first book of the Bible. All levels of background are welcome. The class is lecture based with some audience participation. Each class is designed to be complete on its own, so please feel free to come when you are available. The dates are February 5, 12, & 26; March 5, 12 & 26; April 2, 16, & 30; May 7.

**Winter VBS!** This Sunday was the first of two days where we are transforming the Sunday School hour to give kids a taste of what is coming in future months! The programming is taking us through one popular bible story using drama, music, games, cinema, and science. Join us next Sunday, Feb. 12 for the second part of Winter VBS!

**Servers needed for February 9<sup>th</sup> meal at Micah's Mission:** We have the necessary volunteers for the February 9th meal at Micah's Mission. The signup sheet for March 9th and April 13th has been posted on the Volunteer Opportunities Board. Check your calendars for these early spring dates! Micah's Mission is part of the larger organization, Churches United for the Homeless.

**Pillows:** As we have done in the past, we are eager to shower the YWCA shelter with new pillows that each person staying at the shelter gets to keep when they leave. May these women and children always have a safe and soft place to lay their heads at night. Bring your pillows to the West Coat Room.

**Covenant Of Prayer:** Beatrice Janaka's Family; Don Brummond, son of Joyce Brummond, with serious medical concerns; Jennifer; those in the FM-Area who are homeless; our sister congregation in Chogoria, Kenya; and the people of Ukraine.

**Remembering Our Soldiers In Prayer:** If you have a loved one in the military, please let Pastor Mary know and we'll include their name.

**University of Jamestown Concert Choir-Postponed:** Due to scheduling conflicts, the University of Jamestown Concert Choir will be joining us in worship later this spring. The performance follows their Spring tour, which this year takes them across the Western United States. If you are interested in helping to set up and serve a lunch for the students after Worship that Sunday, please contact Casey in the office at [clemier@firstpresfargo.org](mailto:clemier@firstpresfargo.org).

**Church Directory:** First Presbyterian Church of Fargo is looking to update the Directory! If you have a new picture you would like to use, or an update of phone number, email address, or mailing address, contact the church office at [admin.assistant@firstpresfargo.org](mailto:admin.assistant@firstpresfargo.org) with the updated photo and/or information, or bring a hard copy photo into the office to be scanned.



**Pancake Dinner:** The AOHF Confirmation Team will be hosting, as their final project, a Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner in preparation for the Lenten season. From 5:30 - 7:00 pm on Tuesday, February 21st, you are invited to join us for a dinner of pancakes, eggbae and sausage and learn about the history of the Fat Tuesday tradition. There will be a free will offering that will go towards an in-house, local mission. If you are planning on joining us, please sign up at <https://subspla.sh/84kyhdy/> by Friday, February 17th.

**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**

Rev. Sarah M. Bigwood-*Head of Staff, Pastor*  
Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey-*Associate Pastor*  
Rev. Daniel Billings-*Parish Associate*  
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, February 5**

*11:30 Fellowship*

### **Monday, February 6**

5:30 Personnel Committee Meeting

5:30 Building & Grounds Meeting

### **Tuesday, February 7**

*10:30 Staff Meeting*

5:30 Worship Committee Meeting (H)

7:00 Mission Committee Meeting

### **Wednesday, February 8**

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, February 9**

5:30 Nurturing Parenting Classes

### **Friday, February 10**

7:30 Youth Lock-In

### **Saturday, February 11**

No Church Events

### **Sunday, February 12**

*9:15 Sunday Morning Bible Study*

*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! Also, like us on Facebook and follow us on Instagram!

### **For Your Information**

January 29 Attendance: 189

136 in person;

53 households livestreamed

Contributions received: \$18,266.00



### **Church Information**

Office Hours:

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

Phone: 701-293-6311

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