



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.

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

*Appalachian Morning
Shannon Falls*

Sheldon
Ford

Kirkin' Orchestra; Jill Post, director

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Sovereign God, come to us now in silent, holy power. Still our distracted minds, our bruised hearts, our longing bodies. Then speak the power of Jesus' name in such a way that we might hear it, in such a way that we might bear it into the world—as a people who seek not to preserve what we know but to make palpable who you are—for we move and pray by the gift of your breath within us. Amen.

PROCESSIONAL

*Skye Boat Song
Heather & Thistle Pipe Band*

Trad. Scottish

WELCOME & CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Grace to you and peace from the one who is
and who was and who is to come,
**and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness,
the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.**
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.
**The whole earth is full of God's glory.
Let us worship God!**

HYMN 37: *Let All Things Now Living

**Let all things now living
a song of thanksgiving
to God our Creator triumphantly raise;
who fashioned and made us,
protected and stayed us,
by guiding us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us;
pure light goes before us,**

a pillar of fire shining forth in the night:
till shadows have vanished,
all fearfulness banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.

By law God enforces,
the stars in their courses,
the sun in its orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains,
the rivers and fountains,
the depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing
our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration, a song let us raise,
till all things now living
unite in thanksgiving:
to God in the highest, hosanna and praise!

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Trusting in the power of God not only to fashion the world
but to mend and refashion our hearts,
let us say how it is with us.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Holy One, we dare to call you Lord, but yield to you only fragments of our lives. You had nowhere to lay your head; we surround ourselves with comfort. We expect to serve you with what remains after we have indulged our desires. Forgive our greed, our lack of trust, our desire to pick the times and places we will respond to our call. In your abundant mercy teach us what it means to follow, even at the cost of our lives. Amen.

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Beloved of God, the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting—
it cannot be contained but must be poured out.
Believe this good news: in Jesus Christ, our sin is forgiven.
Live as a people set free.

***RESPONSE:** *Celtic Alleluia*



***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; Nought be all else to me. Save that thou art.
Thou my best thought by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my great Father, I thy true son; Thou in me dwelling and I with thee one.
Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise. Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and thou only, first in my heart, High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.
High King of heaven, my victory won. May I reach heavens joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Spirit of truth,
move now in ancient words and cluttered hearts
that we might hear your voice and live,
for we long to be glad servants
of your hidden, holy reign.
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON: 2 Samuel 23:1-7

Now these are the last words of David:

The oracle of David, son of Jesse,
the oracle of the man whom God exalted,
the anointed of the God of Jacob,
the favorite of the Strong One of Israel:

The spirit of the LORD speaks through me,
his word is upon my tongue.
The God of Israel has spoken,
the Rock of Israel has said to me:
One who rules over people justly,
ruling in the fear of God,
is like the light of morning,
like the sun rising on a cloudless morning,
gleaming from the rain on the grassy land.

Is not my house like this with God?
For he has made with me an everlasting covenant,
ordered in all things and secure.
Will he not cause to prosper
all my help and my desire?
But the godless are all like thorns that are thrown away;
for they cannot be picked up with the hand;
to touch them one uses an iron bar
or the shaft of a spear.
And they are entirely consumed in fire on the spot.

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

SECOND LESSON: John 18:33-37

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, ‘Are you the King of the Jews?’ Jesus answered, ‘Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?’ Pilate replied, ‘I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?’ Jesus answered, ‘My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.’ Pilate asked him, ‘So you are a king?’ Jesus answered, ‘You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.’

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

SERMON: The Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey

***HYMN 265:** *Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun*

**Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.**

**(choir only) To him shall endless prayer be made,
and praises throng to crown his head;
his name, like sweet perfume, shall rise
with every morning sacrifice.**

**(Treble voices) People and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.**

**(Low voices) Blessings abound where'er he reigns:
the prisoners leap to loose their chains;
the weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blest.**

**Let every creature rise and bring
honors peculiar to our King;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud Amen!**

***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.

Responding to the Word

OFFERING



A reminder that offering plates are at the west & north doors of the sanctuary to receive your offering and yellow attendance cards, before and after worship.

OFFERTORY

Highland Cathedral
Kirkin' Orchestra, Heather & Thistle Pipe Band

arr. Hunter

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSION

We come laden with the bounty of your benevolence, O gracious Creator, as the recipients of all your nurture and care.

You cause the earth to spring forth abundantly with harvests that nourish us.

All creation looks to you for its food in due season.

You open up your hands and satisfy the desires of every living thing.

Not a day passes without your providence providing the necessities to sustain us through our earthly journey.

May the offerings we now bring continue to spread your love abroad and the good news of your persistent mercy.

To all your people give grace to hear and receive your word,

And to bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.

Bless and defend all who strive for our safety and protection,

And shield them in all dangers and adversities.

To all nations grant unity, peace, and concord,

And to all people give dignity, food, and shelter.

Come to the help of all who are in danger, necessity, and trouble;

Protect all who travel by land, air, or water; and show your pity on all prisoners and captives.

Heal those who are sick in body, mind or spirit,

And give skill and compassion to all who care for them.

Grant us true repentance, forgive our sins,

And strengthen us by your Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to your Holy Word.

All this we pray in the name of the one who taught us to pray...

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.

The Kirkin' o' the Tartans

INTRODUCTION

CALLING OF THE CLANS AND PRESENTATION OF THE TRAYS

Clan Caller: Mark Gealy

Tray Bearers: Cynthia Sillers & Pat Torgeson

Those bringing tartans may come forward by way of the center aisle and return to the pew by the aisles on either side. Please pick up tartans outside the West doors following the service.

MUSIC

Ye Banks and Braes o' Bonnie Doon
Kirkin' Strings

arr. Conley

BLESSING OF THE TARTANS

Bearing the Word into the World

*HYMN 649

Vs. 1-All

Amazing Grace

Vs. 2-Women; Vs. 3-Men

There will be short interludes after Vs. 3&4

Vs. 4&5-All

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come.
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me;
his word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

*BENEDICTION

*****Please be seated*****

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Celtic Blessing

Watson

3 CHIMES

RECESSIONAL

Scotland the Brave
Heather & Thistle Pipe Band

Trad. Scottish

POSTLUDE

Festival Postlude on Now Thank We All Our God
Sally Harmon, organist

arr. Kerr



November 21, 2021

Covenant Of Prayer: Hannah; Bella Garcia; those who are experiencing homelessness in our community; and our sister congregation in Chogoria, Kenya.

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

Dates to Remember!

November 24: No Wednesday night activities

November 25: Thanksgiving Day, Office Closed

November 28: No Confirmation

Attention Snow Birds: Please make sure you notify the office of your winter address **along with the start and end date** for using that address. We need all of that info to keep the system (and thus, the communication) in working order. Most items are mailed at special non-profit rates and those items are not forwarded even if you have a forward order at the post office. Your help keeps the lines of communication open and we thank you for helping us with this task.

Thanksgiving Volunteers Needed! We are partnering with Heart-n-Soul to prepare 200 meals for Thanksgiving this year. Drivers will be needed the Wednesday before to deliver meals (around noon). We need 3 or 4 meal packers, as well, on Tuesday, **the 23rd at 1:00 pm**. Signups can be found at the Welcome Desk.

PW News: PW will be collecting any sized **garbage bags for the month of November**. These items can be placed in the YWCA bin in the West Coat Room.

FPC Website: Missed a weekend? Here are some of the things available on our church website:

- Contact info for Staff
- Past bulletins and worship services
- Forms that can be filled out online and emailed to the office (check requests, room requests, etc.)
- Online giving
- A pdf version of our church directory
- The Messenger & Church Calendar

A Peek @ Next Week: We kick off the season of Advent with the Hanging of the Greens! Enjoy music from several soloists, the Sanctuary Choir, and a piano duo.

A Request from B&G and Personnel: Please consider **NOT** bringing beverages and food into the Sanctuary—to respect this sacred space, protect our pew cushions, and avoid spills and cleanup. This request does *not* apply to bottles and Cheerios for young children. There is no need to reprimand anyone who is not aware of this preference.

When Tears Sing: Lament as a Path to the Heart of God. This class meets **today at 2:00 pm** in the Social Hall. What does it mean to share one another's tears? What would happen in our church community if we became more attuned to undercurrents of grief and trauma by making space for lament? All adults are invited to explore these questions through reflection and conversation.

Hanging of the Greens: At worship **next Sunday**, we celebrate the *Hanging of the Greens*, which is a well-loved tradition in many churches around the country. Readings will focus on the meaning and symbolism of the different decorations that are used to adorn our worship space and/or homes during the seasons of Advent and Christmas. The Advent Wreath will be lighted for the beginning of Advent.

Fill a Home with Hope! The Sunday School class is collecting basic household items to provide to YWCA families who are transitioning from the shelter to a home of their own. The items needed can be found on the Volunteer Opportunities Board. As you are able and willing, please take a card item and document it on the clipboard for tracking. **Items can be returned to the green Holy Buckets anytime before December 1.**

Unique Boutique: Due to First Link not doing the Giving Tree this year, we are going to use this opportunity to support a similar program at the YWCA called the Unique Boutique. We have eighty \$25 tags that need to be purchased. This will be a donation reflected on your giving statement. Our 80 tags will provide 20 families with Christmas gifts this season. If you would like to do your own shopping for the Unique Boutique, we encourage you to sign up to adopt a family on the YWCA website, but if not, the youth will do the shopping and wrapping for you! **Tags are available for purchase in the Gathering space after worship today and next Sunday.**

Calling all Bakers: On Sunday, December 12, the youth will be hosting our annual cookie walk! To take COVID precautions, we ask that you prepackage your cookies/goodies in groups of 3-6 items in clear baggies. Please **deliver your cookies to the Jennie Roberts Room by noon on Saturday, December 11**. If you do not have a FOB to West doors, please drop off your items during office hours.

Poinsettias: It's not too early to order your Christmas Poinsettia! You can find order forms online, at the Info Kiosk, and in the December Messenger. Orders and payments should be delivered to the office **no later than noon on December 13**. *Please write a separate check for your poinsettia; do not include with your offering.*

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)

Church Staff

Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey-*Head of Staff, Associate Pastor*

Sally Harmon-*Music Coordinator & Organist*

Bryan Poyzer-*Adult Choir Director*

Jan Lundgren-*Business Manager*

Monica Gelinske-*Administrative Assistant*

Penny Andrist-*Children's Ministry Coordinator*

Kayla Bones-*Youth & Young Adult Ministry Coordinator*

Rick Fiebiger-*Facilities Manager*

Drew Brovold-*Custodian*

All staff emails are:

(first initial and last name of person)[@firstpresfargo.org](mailto: @firstpresfargo.org)

FPC Officers

Session: Kim Carter, Tom Clusiau, Lisa Edison-Smith, Colleen Ford-Dunker, Bruce Furness, Dick Henderson, Ryan Johnston, Kurt Kooyer, Elaine Rudd (clerk), Scott Swanholm, Paula Thomas, and Kevin Tobosa, Becky Trumbo, and Jeff Wilkens.

Deacons: Brenda Deckard, Ed Deckard, Rick Herberg, Beatrice Janaka, Jane Mathew (moderator), Bob Morton, Karen Rivers, Andrea Smith, Kathleen Thomas, Debbie Tight, and Amy Wilkens.

Treasurer: Sherri Stern

L: Live Stream Option, H: Hybrid, Z: Zoom

Sunday, November 21

12:00 Confirmation

2:00 Pilgrimage: When Tears Sing

Monday, November 22

5:00 Stewardship Cmt.

Tuesday, November 23

8:30 Bulletin Articles Due

12:00 Messenger Article Due

Wednesday, November 24

5:30 St. Andrew's Brass

6:30 Westminster Ringers

Thursday, November 25 Thanksgiving Day

OFFICE CLOSED

Friday, November 26 No Church Events

Saturday, November 27

10:00 Leah Circle (Z)

Sunday, November 28

9:15 Sunday School for All

For Your Information

November 14 Worship Attendance:

139 in person, 44 Livestreamed

Contributions Received: NA



Church Information

Office Hours:

M-TH, 8:30am-4:00 pm

Phone: 701-293-6311

www.firstpresfargo.org