



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, you created the world and all that is in it. The wind and the sea obey your Son. You are the source of our strength, and our confidence is in you. All praise be to you, our stronghold and savior. Amen.

PRELUDE

Eternal Father, Strong to Save
Sally Harmon, organ

arrs. Wyton/Johnson

WELCOME & CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

How very good and pleasant it is
when sisters and brothers live together in unity!
It is like the precious oil on the head,
like the dew that falls on the mountains of Zion.
Together, let us worship God.
Thanks be to God!

HYMN 318: *In Christ There is No East or West

**In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.**

**In Christ shall true hearts everywhere
their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord
close-binding humankind.**

**Join hands, disciples of the faith,
whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God
are surely kin to me.**

**In Christ now meet both east and west;
in him meet south and north.**

**All Christly souls are one in him
throughout the whole wide earth.**

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

We strive to be strong and self-sufficient,
but in truth we are in constant need of grace.
In penitence and faith,
let us confess our weakness to God and to one another.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Most merciful God, forgive us. We imagine that we can live without you when you give us our very breath. We seek control over others rather than strive to live in unity. We allow fear to overtake us, even though our lives are in your hands. Draw us back into your steadfast love and shape us into the likeness of your Son, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, the good news is this:
grace is poured out like water;
mercy flows like a never-ending stream,
bathing us in goodness and love.
Live, then, as those who have received new life,
rejoicing in your baptism.

RESPONSE: *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**

GIFT OF MUSIC

Meditation

Massenet

Lauren Bontje, violin; Wanda Wavra, piano

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION: reader, Bruce Maylath

God of eternity,
by the power of your Spirit,
speak your Word to us this day,
that hearing, we may know your truth
and live ever more faithfully for you.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

FIRST READING: Job 38:1-11

Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind:
'Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?
Gird up your loins like a man,
I will question you, and you shall declare to me.
'Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have understanding.
Who determined its measurements—surely you know!
Or who stretched the line upon it?
On what were its bases sunk,
or who laid its cornerstone
when the morning stars sang together
and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?

‘Or who shut in the sea with doors
when it burst out from the womb?—
when I made the clouds its garment,
and thick darkness its swaddling band,
and prescribed bounds for it,
and set bars and doors,
and said, “Thus far shall you come, and no farther,
and here shall your proud waves be stopped”?’

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

SECOND READING: Mark 4:36-41

And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great gale arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, ‘Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?’ He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, ‘Peace! Be still!’ Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, ‘Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?’ And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, ‘Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?’

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

SERMON: The Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey

***HYMN 819:** *Be Still, My Soul*

**Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side.
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.
Leave to thy God to order and provide,
who through all changes faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heavenly Friend
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.**

**Be still, my soul: thy God doth undertake
to guide the future surely as the past.
Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake;
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
his voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.**

**Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on
when we shall be forever with the Lord;
when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
sorrow forgot, love’s purest joys restored.**

**Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.**

***AFFIRMATION 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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

OFFERTORY

In Whatever Time We Have

Schwartz

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Bearing the Word into the World

***HYMN 8:** *Eternal Father, Strong to Save*

**Eternal Father, strong to save,
whose arm has bound the restless wave,
who bade the mighty ocean deep
its own appointed limits keep:
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.**

**O Savior, whose almighty word
the winds and waves submissive heard,
who walked upon the foaming deep,
and calm amid its rage did sleep:
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.**

**O Holy Spirit, who did brood
upon the chaos wild and rude,
and bade its angry tumult cease,
and gave, for fierce confusion, peace:
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.**

**O Trinity of love and power,
all travelers guard in danger's hour;
from rock and tempest, fire and foe,
protect them wheresoe'er they go;
thus evermore shall rise to thee
glad praise from air and land and sea.**

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Be Still My Soul

arr. Janzer