



**FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**

*preach, teach, heal, & serve*

*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.*

**August 25, 2024**

**We Gather in Christ**

**PRELUDE**

*All People That on Earth Do Dwell*  
Sally Harmon, organist

arrs. John Behnke/  
Piet Post

**WELCOME**

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

*Gracious God, help us seek Your kingdom first each day. Guide our hearts to prioritize righteousness, compassion, and Your will above all else. In Your light, may we find clarity, peace, and purpose. Amen.*

**✦ CALL TO WORSHIP**

We are gathered  
**in the presence of the Divine.**

We are gathered  
**with a sacred call to seek first the kingdom of God.**

We are gathered  
**our spirits lifted in praise.**

We are gathered  
**our lives transformed by the power of love and grace.**

We are gathered  
**as love stirred into action.**

We are gathered  
**to worship God.**

**✦ HYMN 363**

*Rejoice, the Lord is King!*

Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore!

Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore.

Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Our Savior, Jesus, reigns, the God of truth and love;  
when he had purged our stains, he took his seat above.  
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

His kingdom cannot fail; he rules o'er earth and heaven;  
the keys of death and hell are to our Jesus given.  
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope! For Christ, the Judge, shall come  
and gather all the saints to their eternal home.  
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

✧ **CONFESSION AND DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

**Forgive us for the times when our prayers have been filled with empty words, uttered without true devotion or sincerity. Grant us the grace to approach you with authenticity and integrity. Forgive us for the times when we have allowed worry and anxiety to consume us, doubting your provision and faithfulness. Help us to trust in your abundant love and care. Forgive us for the times when we have prioritized earthly treasures over the treasures of your kingdom, chasing after fleeting desires rather than seeking your righteousness. Teach us to seek first your kingdom and your righteousness above all else. May your Spirit guide us on the path of righteousness, leading us to lives of service, compassion, and love.**

✧ **RESPONSE**

*Holy Spirit, Come to Us*

Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us; kin - dle in us the fire of your love.  
Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us. Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us.

✧ **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**GIFT OF MUSIC**

*The Gospel of Grace*

arr. Mark Hayes

Rusty Bender, baritone; Sally Harmon, piano

**The Word**

**SCRIPTURE**

*Matthew 6:16-34, pp. 882*

Becky Trumbo, reader  
*Whirl Story Bible, pg. 226*

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

**SERMON**

*We Bring the Fun With Us*

Rev. Sarah M. Bigwood

✧ **HYMN 385**

*All People That on Earth Do Dwell*

All people that on earth do dwell,  
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;  
him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell.  
Come ye before him and rejoice.

Know that the Lord is God indeed;  
without our aid he did us make;  
we are his folk; he doth us feed,  
and for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise;  
approach with joy his courts unto;  
praise, laud, and bless his name always,  
for it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good;  
his mercy is forever sure;  
his truth at all times firmly stood,  
and shall from age to age endure.

✦ **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**

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

**OFFERTORY**

*Thanksgiving Canticle*

arr. Mark Hayes

Rusty Bender, baritone; Sally Harmon, piano

✦ **RESPONSE 717**

*For the Gifts that You Have Given*

For the life that you have given, for the love in Christ made known,  
with these fruits of time and labor, with these gifts that are your own:  
here we offer, Lord, our praises; heart and mind and strength we bring;  
give us grace to love and serve you, living what we pray and sing.

✦ **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

## Bearing the Word into the World

### ❖HYMN 683

*Lord of All Hopefulness*

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,  
whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy:  
be there at our waking and give us, we pray,  
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,  
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:  
be there at our labors and give us, we pray,  
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,  
your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace:  
be there at our homing and give us, we pray,  
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,  
whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:  
be there at our sleeping and give us, we pray,  
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

### ❖BENEDICTION

#### POSTLUDE

*All People That on Earth Do Dwell*  
Sally Harmon, organist

arr. Michael Burkhardt

*Thank you to the Bigwood family on livestream and soundboard, Becky Trumbo for assisting in worship, and our Welcome Team: Jeff Wilkens, Debbie Tight, Amy Wilkens, Wayne Sander, Jane & Prakash Mathew, and Dianne Connelly, for taking such good care of us this morning.*

*A special thank you to our musicians: Sally Harmon and Rusty Bender.*

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OF FARGO



## Sunday Worship

August 25, 2024

**Rally Day Produce Exchange:** Calling all gardeners! Did your garden over produce this year, or maybe it didn't do so well at all? Either way, plan to come to the 2nd annual Produce Exchange on Rally Day, Sunday, September 8th. Bring your extra veggies, fruits and herbs before worship. Go home with something new to try. *Sponsored by EduCon.*

**RALLY DAY!**

September 8 at 10:30

- ▶ Worship Band
- ▶ Balloon Twisting
- ▶ Produce Exchange
- ▶ Lunch & Fellowship after!

**Worship at the new outdoor stage!**

**Sunday School Volunteers Needed:** We are seeking volunteers that love working with children and youth to help make our Sunday School programming vibrant and impactful. Does this sound like you? Contact Rusty Bender at [rbender@firspresfargo.org](mailto:rbender@firspresfargo.org).

**Volunteering at the EFP:** First Presbyterian Church is once again going to serve the Emergency Food Pantry by volunteering the week of September 16 - 20, 2024. There are many time slots available and many jobs to do. A sign up sheet will be available during coffee time in the Social Hall all Sundays in August. Please check your calendar and stop by to sign up for a shift. You may also call **Nancy Lium** at (701) 235-0228, with any questions or to volunteer.

**Hard Copy Directories Available Now:** Stop by the office and pick up your hard copy directory! The suggested donation is \$10 to help offset the cost of printing. If you have not yet, please contact Casey in the office, as there are only enough directories printed for those who have requested one. Thank you!

**Covenant of Prayer:** Brad Schenck, son of Richard Schenck (BDPC) fighting brain cancer; Fraser Harrison, under the care of hospice.

## Music Ensembles First Rehearsal

September 4th, 2024

Genesis Ringers: 5:30pm

Children & Youth Choirs: 6:15pm

Westminster Bells: 6:30pm

Sanctuary Choir: 7:30pm

### Sunday School & Music Ensemble

**Registration:** If you have not yet already, be sure to register your child for Sunday School and the music ensembles, as the first fall rehearsal is right around the corner! You can find a link to sign up via our website on the children, youth, and music ministry pages, or you can scan the QR code above. Information regarding our Children and Youth education is available at the church. If you would like to receive a digital version of the packet that was mailed out, please contact Casey in the office. Many thanks to all the families who have already registered!



**Bible Study Kick-Off:** The kickoff of PW for the upcoming school year will be on September 10th at 10am. Pastor Mary Holtey will lead the introduction and Lesson 1 of our Bible study, *Let Justice Roll Down*. Doughnuts and coffee will be served. There will not be copies available at our meeting on September 10th. If you are in need of a Bible study book, you can order your copy by calling 800-533-4371, or online at [www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop). If you have any questions, call Paula Christensen at 701-219-5795.

### Fellowship of Frolicking Friendly Females (4 F's):

This group is for single women over 55 who want to get together for social activities. The next upcoming event is Friday, September 6th at 10:30am to see the National Quilt Exhibit at the Hjemkomst Center in Moorhead, with the potential for lunch after. Admission is \$11. Monday, September 30th at 1:00pm will be touring the exhibits at the Plains Art Museum with coffee / tea to follow. Admission is free. If you are interested, please contact Marcia Foss at 701-840-1986.

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:** Mindy Argall, Abi Carlson, Deb Dawson, Tom Dawson, Tetteh Dottey, Colleen Ford-Dunker, Jody Hudson, Kurt Kooyer, Dick Laraway, Carrie Lawrence, Bruce Maylath, Brian McClure, Elaine Rudd (clerk), Jeff Wilkens, and Steve Wonderlich. **Deacons:** Paula Christensen, Toby Christensen, Steve Dawson, Brenda Deckard, Ed Deckard (treasurer), Gracia Fulwiler, David Hoffman, Jane Mathew (moderator), Donna Rummens, Wayne Sander, Candy Shultz, Virginia Stern, Kathleen 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*

Sally Harmon-*Organist*

Pam Burns-*Music Ministry Coordinator*

Bryan Poyzer-*Adult Choir Director*

Penny Andrist-*Children's 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, August 25**

11:30 Fellowship

**Monday, August 26**

5:00 Stewardship Committee Meeting

**Tuesday, August 27**

No Church Events

**Wednesday, August 28**

No Church Events

**Thursday, August 29**

No Church Events

**Friday, August 30**

No Church Events

**Saturday, August 31**

No Church Events

**Sunday, September 1**

10:30 Worship Service & Communion (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

August 18 Attendance: 132

100 in person

32 households livestreamed

Contributions received: \$25,240.50



### 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

## MOBILE CAFÉ

@ FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF FARGO

Every Second  
Wednesday  
June - October



4:30PM - 6:00PM

# PEACE



## PANDEMONIUM

CREATING COMMUNITY IN A  
CHAOTIC WORLD



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH FARGO  
preach, teach, heal, & serve

SEPTEMBER 20 - 22, 2024

firstpresfargo.org/peace