



**March 26, 2023
Fifth Sunday in Lent**

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

Simple Gifts

arr. Shapiro

All Church Orchestra; Jill Post, directing

WELCOME & CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

The Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Lord God, Great I AM, you are resurrection and life. As we worship you this day, show us who we are: bearers of good news, messengers of resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Thus says the Lord: "I will put my breath within you, and you shall live."

In gratitude, we praise the Giver of Life.

Jesus says: "I am the resurrection and the life."

In gratitude, we praise the Source of our Being.

We gather to worship the One who frees us from the grave and stirs dry bones to life.

Spirit, come and enliven our worship!

***HYMN 415**

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy (verses 1 & 4)

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore;

Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love, and power

I will arise and go to Jesus; he will embrace me in his arms.

In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.

Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream;

all the fitness he requireth is to feel your need of him.

I will arise and go to Jesus; he will embrace me in his arms.

In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.

***CONFESSION AND DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Holy One, we have set our minds on wrong things – on selfish gain, not generous service; on pursuits that distract, not inspire; on tasks that diminish life, rather than give life. We long to set our minds on eternal things – on your way of mercy and compassion; on paths that lead to justice

and peace; on living as people of hope. Spirit of God, dwell in us. Give us grace when we fall short. Transform our hearts and renew our minds. Set us free to follow you faithfully. Amen.

Friends, believe in the Good News of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

***RESPONSE**

Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights



1. Through out these Len - ten days and nights we turn to walk the in - ward way, where,
meet - ing Christ, our guide and light, we live in hope till Eas - ter day.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

GIFT OF MUSIC

Shepherd Me, O Lord

Haugen/arr. Hayes

Sanctuary Choir; Ryan Smit, director

Lauren Bontje, violin; Alyssa Miller, cello

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Penny Andrist

The Word

SCRIPTURE

John 11:1-6, 17, 30-45, pp. 978

Lisa McEvers, reader

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

SERMON

Unbind Him

The Rev. Sarah M. Bigwood

***HYMN 298**

Lord, You Give the Great Commission (vs. 1, 3, 5)

Lord, you give the great commission: "Heal the sick and preach the word."

Lest the church neglect its mission, and the gospel go unheard,

help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity:

with the Spirit's gifts empower us for the word of ministry.

Lord, you make the common holy: "This, my body; this, my blood."

Let us all, for earth's true glory, daily lift life heavenward,

asking that the world around us share your children's liberty:

with the Spirit's gifts empower us for the word of ministry.

Lord, you bless with words assuring: "I am with you to the end."

Faith and hope and love restoring, may we serve as you intend,

and, amid the cares that claim us, hold in mind eternity:

with the Spirit's gifts empower us for the word of ministry.

***PROFESSION OF FAITH**

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the

right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Background: The church began in an era of persecution. In 312 CE, Constantine won control of the Roman Empire attributing his victory to Jesus Christ and elevating Christianity to favored status in the empire. To counter the theological disputes that fractured Christianity, Constantine convened a council in Nicaea in 325 CE which drafted a creed. In 381 CE it was revised and expanded to what we know today as the Nicene Creed. It is the most ecumenical of creeds even though eastern and western churches still maintain unresolved differences in the wording regarding the Holy Spirit.

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



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

OFFERTORY

Siyahamba

arr. Wagner

All Church Orchestra; Jill Post, directing

***RESPONSE**

Surely It Is God Who Saves Me



Sure-ly, it is God who saves me; I will trust in God and not be a - fraid. For the
Lord is my strong hold and my sure de - fense, and God will be my Sav - ior.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Bearing the Word into the World

***HYMN 264**

At The Name of Jesus (vs. 1-2, 4)

At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow, every tongue confess him King of glory now;
'tis the Father's pleasure we should call him Lord, who from the beginning was the mighty Word.

Humbled for a season to receive a name from the lips of sinners unto whom he came,
faithfully he bore it spotless to the last, brought it back victorious, when from death he passed;

Christians, this Lord Jesus shall return again, with his Father's glory o'er the earth to reign;
for all wreaths of empire meet upon his brow, and our hearts confess him King of glory now.

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

At the Name of Jesus
Sally Harmon, organ

arr. Cherwien

If you ordered flowers for Easter Sunday, please review the information below. If any corrections need to be made, please contact Casey in the office at clemier@firstpresfargo.org.

In Loving Memory of...	By...
Chester & Myrna Ahlin; L.J. & Virginia Boekelheide	Thomas & Jane Ahlin & Family
Ashley & Lucas Anderson	Nikki & Jon Anderson
My parents, Russel and Marjorie Borkhuis; my brother, Roger Borkhuis	Marlys Borkhuis
Elaine Andrist	Pam Burns
William Carter	Kim Carter
Doug Hamilton & my sister Patti Gordon	Debra Dawson
Jacob Dawson	Steve & Vicki Dawson Family
Thomas Drayton	Polly Drayton
Our parents, John & Elaine Andrist and David & Karen Edison	Lisa Edison-Smith
Glenn Filipi	Pat Filipi, David Filipi, Jane Filipi
Bob, Edith, and Chuck Dawson	Kathy Fox Family; Tom & Georgia Dawson Family; Steve & Vicki Dawson
Ross & Peg Robson; Sandy Mathew; Joel & Vivian Broberg; Edith Dawson; Loran Guenther; Our parents	Bruce & Lorraine Furness
The Hansen & Vosper family members that are no longer with us	Helen & Claudia Hansen
Paul Gulbrandson; Do & Tod Gunkelman	David & Sally Harmon
John Harnish; John Charton; Peggy Gaynor; Margaret Meany; Maurice & Roberta Petitmaire; Robert &	Roberta & Douglas Harnisch
Our parents; our nephew Brian	Fraser & Jan Harrison
Mark Holman; Robert Aspelund; Oliver & Inez Holman; Jim Rosendahl	Bobbie Holman
Tim & Family Members	Nancy Johnson
Alan Kenien	Jan Kenien, Julie, Susan & families
Andrew J. & Mildred Parsons Larew	Donald E. Larew
Phil Martin	Gwen Martin
Clyde & Carroll Maylath; Frank & Jayne Turk	Bruce & Anne Marie Turk Maylath
Our parents, Wilson & Reba Laird and Neal & Luella McClure	Dorothy & Brian McClure
Jayne Blackwell Neary & her son James; Albert & Mildred Blackwell	Jay Neary

John & Jennifer Resell	Resell Family
Our Parents-Ila & Harvey Coon; Jean & Gerry Shultz	Candy & David Shultz
Tom Tight; Abbie & Bob Peterson; Marjorie & Fred Tight	Debbie & Bob Tight
Our Parents	Sue & Tom Van Osdel

In Honor of...	By...
Our grandchildren, Elizabeth & Erik Anderson	Ed & Marion Anderson
Our children & grandchildren	Bruce & Lorraine Furness
Children, grandchildren, & great-grandchildren	Fraser & Jan Harrison
Lori Billings & Marilyn Olson	Joel Hagen

To the Glory of God...	By...
	Debra Dawson
	Richard & Vicki Laraway
	Ron & Sue Miller
	Jeff & Amy Wilkens

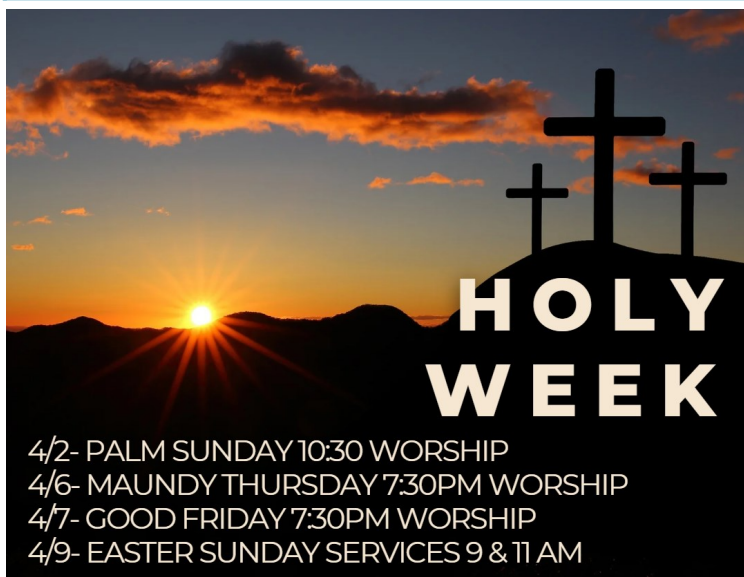


Minnesota FoodShare: The Emergency Food Pantry is once again participating in the March Campaign! All food and funds raised between now and April 7th will be reported to Minnesota FoodShare. The EFP will receive a proportional match to all participating food shelves. Even though the EFP is in Fargo, it serves Clay County, and therefore qualifies for this amazing opportunity. Please bring your donated items to the church up until April 7th and put in the tote in the coat room. All non-perishable items and hygiene/cleaning products are appreciated. Monetary donations may also be made online or by check. There are envelopes at the Welcome Desk. If you have any questions, please contact Jan Harrison at 701-371-1855.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

In this annual offering of the PC USA, donations are used to provide relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed! From the initial disaster response, like in Turkey and Syria, to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. We will receive your gifts to OGHS throughout the season of Lent and dedicate them on Palm Sunday. Envelopes are in the pew racks, the Narthex and the Welcome Desk Info Kiosk. You may also give online through our website, under special offerings.



Covenant Of Prayer: Bryan Poyzer; the family of Steve Scott, who recently died of cancer; the Bdecan Presbyterian Church in Tokio; 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, Syria, and Turkey.



Calling All Singers! Our Sanctuary choir is preparing anthems for Holy Week and Easter worship and could use more voices! If you can sing, you are welcome to join the choir for this short-term opportunity! If you have questions, please contact Sally Harmon at sharmon@firstpresfargo.org.

Sunday Morning Bible Study: Sunday morning Adult Bible Study is reading through Genesis. 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 April 2, 16, & 30; May 7.



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

The Rev. Sarah M. Bigwood-*Head of Staff, Pastor*
The Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey-*Associate Pastor*
The Rev. Daniel Billings-*Parish Associate*
Sally Harmon-*Music Coordinator & Organist*
Bryan Poyzer-*Adult Choir Director*
Ryan Smit-*Interim 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, March 26

11:30 Fellowship

Monday, March 27

10:00 P.E.O. Meeting

5:00 Stewardship Committee Meeting

Tuesday, March 28

10:30 Staff Meeting

Wednesday, March 29

5:30 Genesis Ringers

5:30 St. Andrews Brass

6:15 Children & Youth Choirs

6:30 Westminster Ringers

7:00 Lenten Vespers

7:00 Youth Group

7:30 Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, March 30

5:30 Nurturing Parenting Classes

Friday, March 31

No Church Events

Saturday, April 1

No Church Events

Sunday, April 2

9:15 Palm Sunday Family Event

9:15 Sunday Morning Bible Study

10:30 Palm Sunday 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

March 19 Attendance: 163

118 in person;

45 households livestreamed

Contributions received: \$11,352.00



Church Information

Office Hours:

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

Phone: 701-293-6311

www.firstpresfargo.org

Per Capita: If you have not yet paid Per Capita for 2023, it's not too late! We will be accepting payments through the end of the year. Your contribution will be reflected on your giving record and will be greatly appreciated to help offset the Per Capita Apportionment payment sent to the Presbytery.
2023 rate = \$50.00 per confirmed member.