



*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.*

**July 13, 2025**

## **We Gather in Christ**

### **PRELUDE**

*I. Vivace  
II. Largo  
III. Allegro*

*Sonata No. 1 in F Major*

*Georg Philipp Telemann*

*Krista Clusiau, flute; Elliot Sander, piano*

### **WELCOME**

### **MOMENT OF SILENCE**

*God of justice and mercy, in a world where power so often overlooks pain, help us walk in your ways. Open our eyes to the needs we pass by and soften our hearts to respond with love. As we rise, work, rest, and pray today, may we know your truth and live it out with courage and compassion. Amen.*

### **✧CALL TO WORSHIP**

*The Rev. Sarah M. Bigwood*

**Come and worship the God who stands among the mighty,**

**who holds court over heaven and earth.**

**God calls for justice and mercy,**

**for the defense of the weak and the care of the vulnerable.**

**Come and listen to the voice of truth,**

**and let us learn again what it means to be a neighbor.**

**Let us worship the Lord with open hearts and willing hands.**

**Let us worship God!**

❖ **HYMN 707**

*Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord*

Take thou our minds, dear Lord, we humbly pray;  
give us the mind of Christ each passing day;  
teach us to know the truth that sets us free;  
grant us in all our thoughts to honor thee.

Take thou our hearts, O Christ; they are thine own;  
come thou within our souls and claim thy throne;  
help us to shed abroad thy deathless love;  
use us to make the earth like heaven above.

Take thou our wills, Most High! Hold thou full sway;  
have in our inmost souls thy perfect way;  
guard thou each sacred hour from selfish ease;  
guide thou our ordered lives as thou dost please.

Take thou ourselves, O Lord, heart, mind, and will;  
through our surrendered souls thy plans fulfill.  
We yield ourselves to thee: time, talents, all;  
we hear, and henceforth heed, thy sovereign call.

❖ **CONFESSION AND DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

**God of wisdom and mercy, we confess that we often pass by suffering without pause. We avert our eyes from injustice. We hesitate to speak truth when silence feels safer. We limit “neighbor” to those who look like us, think like us, or agree with us. Forgive us. Unbind our hearts from fear and indifference. Give us courage to cross to the other side of the road and compassion to act with mercy. Shape us into people who do not just know your word but live it. Amen.**

❖ **RESPONSE 48**

*Rain Down*

Rain down; rain down;  
rain down your love on your people.  
Rain down; rain down;  
rain down your love, God of life.

❖ **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**GIFT OF MUSIC**

*Deep River*

arr. Mark Hayes

Krista Clusiau, flute; Elliot Sander, piano

# The Word

## SCRIPTURE

*Psalm 82, pp. 531      The Rev. Sarah M. Bigwood*  
*Luke 10:25-37, pp. 946*

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

**SERMON**      *The Great Command & The Good Samaritan*      Elder Brian McClure

✦ **HYMN 771**      *What Is the World Like*

What is the world like when God's will is done?

Mustard seeds grow more than we can conceive:

roots thread the soil; branches reach for the sun.

This is how God moves us each to believe.

What is the world like when God's will is done?

Witness the wandering child coming home;

watch as the parent breaks into a run.

This is how God longs for us when we roam.

What is the world like when God's will is done?

No more is neighbor just ally or friend;

peace thrives in places where once there was none.

This is how God works when rivalries end.

What is the world like when God's will is done?

Ready for feasting, we watch through the night,

tending our lamps till the new day's begun.

This is how God readies us for the light.

These are the stories that Jesus imparts,

filled with the Spirit who joins us as one.

Born through our voices, our hands, and our hearts,

this is a new world where God's will is done.

✦ **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

*The Confession of 1967, 9.17*

**God has created man in a personal relation with himself that man may respond to the love of the Creator. He has created male and female and given them a life which proceeds from birth to death in a succession of generations and in a wide complex of social relations. He has endowed man with capacities to make the world serve his needs and to enjoy its good things. Life is a gift to be received with gratitude and a task to be pursued with courage. Man is free to seek his life within the purpose of God: to develop and protect the resources of nature for the common welfare, to work for justice and peace in society, and in other ways to use his creative powers for the fulfillment of human life.**

*Background: The Confession of 1967 was the first new confession of faith to be added to the body of creeds we profess as Presbyterians in over three centuries. It was developed around a single passage of Scripture from Second Corinthians: "In Christ God was reconciling the world to himself..." (5:19, NRSV). The confession addresses the church's role in the modern world, how the church ought to approach scripture, social problems, discrimination, nationalism, and class conflict. It calls upon Christians to be reconciled to God and to one another.*

## 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 MESSAGE

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

### OFFERTORY

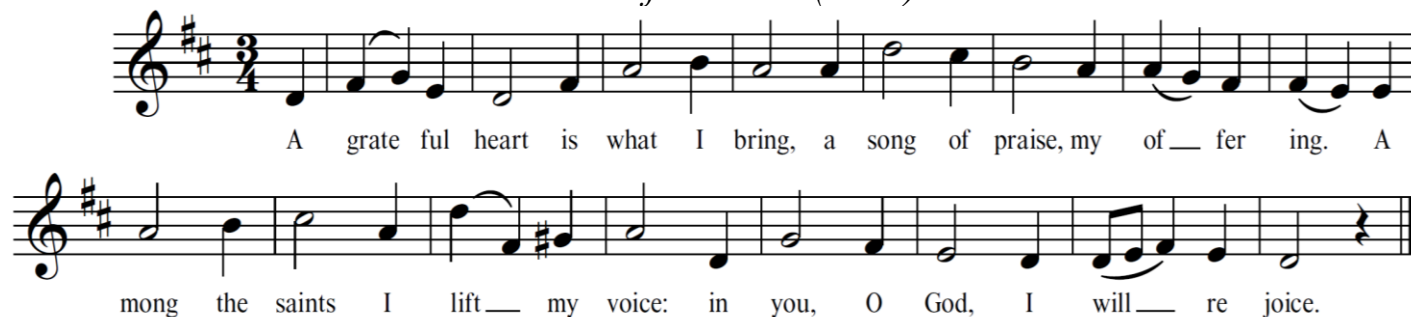
*In the Garden*

arr. Michele Murray

Krista Clusiau, piano

### ✦RESPONSE 652

*A Grateful Heart (vs. 1)*



A grate ful heart is what I bring, a song of praise, my of \_ fer ing. A  
mong the saints I lift \_ my voice: in you, O God, I will \_ re joice.

### ✦PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## Bearing the Word into the World

### ✦HYMN 340

*This Is My Song*

*We dedicate this beloved hymn in honor of The Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey's retirement at the end of 2025, a hymn that has touched her heart throughout her ministry.*

This is my song, O God of all the nations,  
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.  
This is my home, the country where my heart is;  
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;  
but other hearts in other lands are beating  
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,  
and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine.  
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,  
and skies are everywhere as blue as mine.  
So hear my song, O God of all the nations,  
a song of peace for their land and for mine.

This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's kingdoms:  
thy kingdom come; on earth thy will be done.  
Let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him,  
and hearts united learn to live as one.  
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations:  
myself I give thee; let thy will be done.

✧ **BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*Arise My Soul, Arise*  
Elliot Sander, organ

arr. Sander

*Thank you to the Trumbo family on livestream and soundboard, Elder Brian McClure for leading us in worship, and our Welcome Team: Dick Laraway, Steve Dawson, Virginia Stern, Chuck & Geri Munro, Gracia Fulwiler, and Mark Danielson for taking such good care of us this morning.*

*A special thank you to our musicians: Krista Clusiau and Elliot Sander.*





**Heart-n-Soul is looking for Volunteers!** HnS is looking for a variety of volunteers throughout the summer to help out with cooking, prepping, serving, and greeting for their Mobile Cafés. If you are interested in helping out, please visit their website at <https://heartsoulcafe.com/volunteer/>, or you can contact Leola at [heartsoulcc@gmail.com](mailto:heartsoulcc@gmail.com).



#### **4 F's Group Outings:**

- Monday, July 28th at 10am— Bonanzaville - Cost is \$10.50 and then lunch at Deaner's Diner in West Fargo. RSVP by July 24th.
- Thursday, Aug. 7th at 11:30am — Lunch at Nova Eatery on Broadway, 1 block north of Fargo Theatre. RSVP by August 4th.

Any single women 55+ are welcome to join this informal social group. Please let Marcia or Elaine know if you will be attending, so that tables can be reserved

Marcia: 701-840-1986, [ndmomfoss@gmail.com](mailto:ndmomfoss@gmail.com)

Elaine: 701-793-6614, [elainerudd1@hotmail.com](mailto:elainerudd1@hotmail.com)



**Help Us Share Comfort and Care This Summer!** These simple items offer protection and dignity to those spending time outdoors without consistent shelter. *Thank you for your compassion!*

**Serving meals at Micah's Mission.** We will continue to serve at Micah's Mission throughout the summer on the second Thursday of every month. Signup sheets are at the Volunteer Opportunities Board in the west foyer for August, September, and October. We are still looking for a couple people to help serve the meal this week! Thank you for your continued support of and generosity to this mission.

**Covenant of Prayer:** Church member, Richard "Dick" Emerson, died on July 9th. His memorial service will be Tuesday, July 15, in the church sanctuary at 2:00pm, with visitation starting at 1:00. The service will be livestreamed on our website at [www.firstpresfargo.org/live-stream](http://www.firstpresfargo.org/live-stream). Dick's ashes will be buried on Wednesday in Warren, MN. Please continue to lift up in prayer: Beatrice Janaka's husband, James; Brad Schenck, son of Richard Schenck (BD) fighting brain cancer.

**Emergency Food Pantry:** Items placed in the large tote box in the coat room go directly to the FM Food Pantry each week. They are currently in need of peanut butter; they are also short of canned frostings for birthday bags, which people request for their children who are celebrating a birthday in the next 2 months. There is a great need for personal care items, such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, conditioner, laundry soap, dish soap, deodorant, cleaning supplies, feminine products, shavers, and shaving cream. As food is purchased with the funds they receive, these items must be donated voluntarily. If you can help out this summer, be assured it will go to those in need. Starting in August, school supply bags will be made for children.



**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:** Curt Brickman, Kathryn Byrd, Deb Dawson, Tom Dawson, Colleen Ford-Dunker, Jody Hudson, Kurt Kooyer, Dick Laraway, Bruce Maylath, Brian McClure, Jim McEvers, Sharon Secor, Paula Thomas (clerk), Jeff Wilkens, and Steve Wonderlich. **Deacons:** Paula Christensen, Toby Christensen, Dianne Connelly, Steve Dawson, Brenda Deckard, Sydney Goddard, David Hoffman, Gayla McGoldrick, Wayne Sander, Candy Shultz, Virginia Stern, Kathleen Thomas, Kevin 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*

Pamela Andrist-Burns: *Music Ministry Coordinator*

Bryan Poyzer: *Adult Choir Director*

Elliot Sander: *Interim Organist*

Carrie Lawrence: *Sunday School Coordinator*

Jan Lundgren: *Business Manager*

Casey LeMier: *Communications & Admin Assistant*

Rick Fiebigler: *Facilities Manager*

Drew Brovold: *Custodian*

**Staff emails are: (first initial and last name of person)**  
**@firstpresfargo.org**

**Before you head to the lake this summer...**

Now is a great time to start an automatic payment, or consider paying your summer month's pledges in advance.



**Help us avoid the 'Summer Slump'!** With so many congregants "at the lake", we historically see donations decrease during the summer months. Contact Jan Lundgren in the church office if you have any questions.

**L: Live Stream Option, H: Hybrid, Z: Zoom**  
**Times shown in italics indicate am.**

**Sunday, July 13**

*11:30 Fellowship*

**Monday, July 14**

*5:30 CPMT Meeting (H)*

**Tuesday, July 15**

*2:00 Dick Emerson Funeral Service*

**Wednesday, July 16**

*No Church Events*

**Thursday, July 17**

*9:00 Presbytery Leadership POD (H)*

**Friday, July 18**

*No Church Events*

**Saturday, July 19**

*No Church Events*

**Sunday, July 20**

*10:30 Worship Service*

*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

June 29, 2025 Attendance: 133

102 in person

31 households livestreamed

Contributions received: \$6,949.01

July 6, 2025 Attendance: 114

85 in person

29 households livestreamed

Contributions received: \$9,924.34



### Church Information

Summer Office Hours:

M-TH, 9:00 am-3:00 pm

Phone: 701-293-6311

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

650 2nd Ave. N.

Fargo, ND 58102

**Elliot Sander Summer Organ Recital:** This music-filled evening starts at 7pm and will serve as a fundraiser benefit for the Red River Chapter of the American Guild Of Organists. Works from Bach, Beethoven and Haydn will be featured. Guest performers, Alex Swanson and Organist Emeritus Sally Harmon will be joining Elliot for the performance. The star of the show is our church's exquisite 59 rank Schantz pipe organ. There will be a reception following the recital Friday, August 15th; we hope to see you there!