



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

The flowers for today's service were given in celebration of Dr. Erynn Millard
by Elbert Ma & David Sisco.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Triune God, shepherd of your people Israel, you provide for us far more than we expect or imagine possible. Calm our fears; speak peace to us; lead us beyond ourselves. Gather us with all the saints in the church to glorify you for your mighty deeds. We pray in the strong name of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

PRELUDE

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether
Sally Harmon, organist

arr. Maxwell

WELCOME & CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

God created all things visible and invisible; none other.

God provides food for your stomach and spirit; none other.

**God is able to accomplish abundantly
far more than all we can ask or imagine.**

Let us worship the Trinity, and none other.

Let us worship God!

***HYMN 509: All Who Hunger**

**All who hunger, gather gladly;
holy manna is our bread.**

Come from wilderness and wandering.

Here, in truth, we will be fed.

**You that yearn for days of fullness,
all around us is our food.**

Taste and see the grace eternal.

Taste and see that God is good.

**All who hunger, never strangers,
seeker, be a welcome guest.**

Come from restlessness and roaming.

Here, in joy, we keep the feast.

We that once were lost and scattered
in communion's love have stood.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, sing together;
Jesus Christ is living bread.
Come from loneliness and longing.
Here, in peace, we have been led.
Blest are those who from this table
live their days in gratitude.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Atheists are not the only people
who act as if there is no God.
Even in the midst of the miracles of life,
we often do not acknowledge God's presence.
And yet the Spirit is with us as the source of life.
Therefore, let us confess our sins and receive Christ's mercy.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of wonder, Lord of King David and of the Son, the Messiah, David's greater son, we
confess our sins and pray for your help so that we can truly repent and turn from evil.
Deliver us from the temptation to hide from you, to lie to you, or to excuse ourselves because
of the harm we have done to others. Forgive us for the curse we have brought upon the
earth. Restore your creation to full health and feed the multitudes from the abundance of
your merciful power. Grow in us a deeper desire to love Christ with the fullness of your
love, and to glorify him, along with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

The river of God's mercy runs deeper and wider than our sin.
God removes our sins as far as the heavens are above the earth.
Beloved in the risen Christ, we are forgiven. **Amen.**

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

In Meeting We are Blessed
Summer Choir; Dr. Erynn Millard, director

Robertson

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION: reader, Claudia Hansen

O Holy Spirit, creative power of God,
strengthen us to the depths of our humanity.

Help us to overcome temptations to abuse our neighbors.
fill us with the love of Christ.
Feed us the bread of heaven
so that we will share with the world
the saying that is true,
I am with us.
We pray in the name of Jesus Christ,
Son of God, Savior. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Psalm 14

Fools say in their hearts, 'There is no God.'

They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds;
there is no one who does good.

The LORD looks down from heaven on humankind
to see if there are any who are wise,
who seek after God.

They have all gone astray, they are all alike perverse;
there is no one who does good,
no, not one.

Have they no knowledge, all the evildoers
who eat up my people as they eat bread,
and do not call upon the LORD?

There they shall be in great terror,
for God is with the company of the righteous.
You would confound the plans of the poor,
but the LORD is their refuge.

O that deliverance for Israel would come from Zion!
When the LORD restores the fortunes of his people,
Jacob will rejoice; Israel will be glad.

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

SECOND READING: John 6:1-21

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?' He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, 'Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, 'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?' Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, 'Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.' So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, 'This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.'

When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

When evening came, his disciples went down to the lake, got into a boat, and started across the lake to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The lake became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the lake and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, 'It is I; do not be afraid.' Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land towards which they were going.

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

SERMON: The Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey

***HYMN 529:** *Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether*

**Draw us in the Spirit's tether,
for when humbly in your name
two or three are met together,
you are in the midst of them.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Here we touch your garment's hem.**

**As disciples used to gather
in the name of Christ to sup,
then with thanks to God the giver
break the bread and bless the cup,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
so now bind our friendship up.**

**All our meals and all our living
make as sacraments of you,
that by caring, helping, giving,
we may be disciples true.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
We will serve with faith anew.**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: Taken from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: Preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. 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

En Réve, Nocturne, S. 207
Kyle Kempel, piano

Liszt

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Bearing the Word into the World

GOD'S SPEED AND FAREWELL TO DR. ERYNN MILLARD

*HYMN 641: *When in Our Music God is Glorified*

When in our music God is glorified,
and adoration leaves no room for pride,
it is as though the whole creation cried:
Alleluia!

How often, making music, we have found
a new dimension in the world of sound,
as worship moved us to a more profound
Alleluia!

So has the church, in liturgy and song,
in faith and love, through centuries of wrong,
borne witness to the truth in every tongue:
Alleluia!

And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night
when utmost evil strove against the light?
Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight:
Alleluia!

Let every instrument be tuned for praise!
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
And may God give us faith to sing always:
Alleluia!

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

When in Our Music God is Glorified

arr. Hobby