



March 12, 2023
Third Sunday 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

Healer of Our Every Ill
Sally Harmon, organist

arr. Kolander

WELCOME & CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

The Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Lord God, Great I AM, you are living water. As we worship you this day, show us who we are: channels of your love and vessels of your grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Come, you who are thirsty

here is living water.

Come, you who are weary

here is the fount of eternal life.

Let us drink from the well of grace.

Let us worship the Lord!

***HYMN 65**

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.

I am weak, but thou art mighty. Hold me with thy powerful hand.

Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more;

feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow.

Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.

Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield;

be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside.

Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.

Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to thee;

I will ever give to thee.

*CONFESSION AND DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Lord, time and again, you defy our expectations. You cross barriers of culture and creed and look into the eyes of a stranger, and we are astonished. We confess that we are not keen to do the same. While you teach inclusion, we preserve division; while you model hospitality, we default to suspicion. Open our eyes to see your mission for what it is – the healing of the world. Astonish us with your grace, O God, that we might move from surprise to service, and from doubt to faithfulness. By your Spirit, inspire and empower us to proclaim your good news in word and deed.

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

Jesus, the Very Thought of You

arr. Besig & Price

Sanctuary Choir; Jill Post, directing; Krista Clusiau, flute

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Penny Andrist

The Word

SCRIPTURE

John 4:5-42, pp. 969

Eve Niyomuchamanza, reader

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

SERMON

Living Water

The Rev. Sarah M. Bigwood

*HYMN 795

Healer of Our Every Ill

Refrain: Healer of our every ill, light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.

You who know our fears and sadness,
grace us with your peace and gladness;
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. [Refrain]

In the pain and joy beholding
how your grace is still unfolding,
give us all your vision, God of love. [Refrain]

Give us strength to love each other,
every sister, every brother;
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide. [Refrain]

You who know each thought and feeling,
teach us all your way of healing;
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart. [Refrain]

*PROFESSION OF FAITH

PC(USA) Brief Statement of Faith, partial

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. 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!"

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

Blessed Assurance

arr. Raney

Nancy Norris & Virginia Stern, piano duo

*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.

Words: From The Book of Common Prayer, Canticle 9 (Is. 12:2-6)

Music: Jack Noble White

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*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Bearing the Word into the World

*HYMN 666

O Splendor of God's Glory Bright

O Splendor of God's glory bright, from light eternal bringing light;
O Light of Light, light's living spring, true Day, all days illumining:

Come, Holy Sun of heavenly love, rain down your radiance from above,
and to our inward hearts convey the Holy Spirit's cloudless ray.

O joyful be the passing day with thoughts as clear as morning's ray,
with faith like noontide shining bright, our souls unshadowed by the night.

O Lord, with each returning morn, your image to our heart is born;
O may we ever clearly view our Savior and our God in you.

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

arr. Paxton

Easter Flower Order Form

To help us celebrate Easter, the Sanctuary will be adorned with spring flowers. You are invited to contribute to this enhancement of our worship space by purchasing a flower to be used for Easter Sunday.

Please PRINT: Choose the number of plants you would like, and if you would like to offer this plant in memory/honor of someone special or to the Glory of God. If ordering more than one plant, and need more space to write, please use the back of this form.

Orders and payments should be delivered to the office **no later than noon on Monday, March 20.** Thank You!

Type of flower	Price per plant	# of plants	Total cost
Easter Lilies	\$12.00 each	x	=
Tulips	\$14.00 each	x	=
Hydrangeas	\$33.00 each	x	=

You may take your plant home following the 11:00 am worship on Easter Sunday, or pick it up any time the following week.

In loving Memory of:

In honor of:

To the Glory of God

By (your name):



Easter Flower Orders To help us celebrate Easter, the Sanctuary will be adorned with spring flowers. You are invited to contribute to this enhancement of our worship space by purchasing a flower to be used for Easter Sunday. Flowers available this year are Easter lilies, Hydrangeas, and Tulips. Order forms can be found on the Welcome Desk and in the Office, or you can order online via our website! You may take your plant home following the 11:00am worship on Easter Sunday, or pick it up any time the following week. Orders and payments should be delivered to the office **no later than noon on Monday, March 20.** Thank you!

Wacky Games Donations: We are looking for clean 5-gallon pails and buckets for some of our Wacky Festival Games. If you would like to donate, items can be dropped off in the coat room. Thank you!

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.

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 March 26; 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

WEDNESDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES UPDATE

There will be no
Children's or Youth
activities and no
evening meal
on March 15 due to
spring break

Thanks for understanding!

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

Sunday, March 12

11:30 Fellowship & Pie!

Monday, March 13

6:00 EduCon Committee Meeting

Tuesday, March 14

10:30 Staff Meeting

Wednesday, March 15

2:00 PW Bible Study Leaders Meeting

5:30 St. Andrews Brass

6:30 Westminster Ringers

7:00 Lenten Vespers

7:30 Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, March 16

5:30 Nurturing Parenting Classes

Friday, March 17

No Church Events

Saturday, March 18

No Church Events

Sunday, March 19

9:15 Sunday School

9:15 Sunday Morning Bible Study

10:30 Worship & Communion (L)

11:30 Fellowship

2:00 Organ Concert

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 5 Attendance: 162

123 in person;

39 households livestreamed

Contributions received: \$13,485.00



Church Information

Office Hours:

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

Phone: 701-293-6311

www.firstpresfargo.org