



**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.

April 21, 2024

We Gather in Christ

PRELUDE *Variations on "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"* arr. Michael Burkhardt
Sally Harmon, organist

INTROIT *I Am the Good Shepherd* Dan Kreider
Friendship (K-2) choir; Erin Torpey, director;
Sally Harmon, piano; Virginia Stern, flute

WELCOME

MOMENT OF SILENCE

We are your people, O God—the sheep of your pasture, the flock you have gathered. Lead us beside still waters; teach us the way of righteousness, and feed us at your table; through Jesus Christ, our good shepherd. Amen.

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey

The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.

He lays down his life for his sheep.

The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.

He knows us and we belong to him.

The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.

He speaks and we listen for his voice.

Listen now to the voice of our shepherd.

Let us worship God!

✦ HYMN 610

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

O for a thousand tongues to sing my dear Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of God's grace!

The name of Jesus charms our fears, and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ears, brings life, and health, and peace.

Christ speaks, and listening to his voice new life the dead receive;
the mournful waken to rejoice; the poor in heart believe.

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.


To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heaven.

✦ **CONFESSION AND DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Lord, have mercy on us. We talk about love, but our actions betray us. We talk about love, but we neglect the poor. We talk about love, but we fail to love one another. Lord, have mercy on us. Forgive us and abide in us by the power of your Spirit so that our lives may show our love for Jesus Christ, in whose body we live and in whose name we pray. Amen.

✦ **RESPONSE 473**

Shepherd Me, O God



Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -
yond my fears, from death in - to life.

✦ **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

GIFT OF MUSIC

Calling

Mark Patterson

3-6 choir, Pam Burns, director;
Virginia Stern, pianist; Cece Thorp, soloist

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Penny Andrist

The Word

SCRIPTURE

1 John 3:16-24, pp. 1111

Lisa McEvers, reader

John 10:11-18, pp. 978

Whirl Story Bible, pg. 362

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

SERMON

The Good Shepherd

The Rev. Sarah M Bigwood

GIFT OF MUSIC

Behold the Shepherd

Natalie Sleeth

7-12 choir; Shawn Neisen, director; Sally Harmon, piano

Sacrament of Baptism

PRESENTATION OF THE CHILD

Charles Vernon Pfeifer, child of Alex and Megan Pfeifer

Grandchild of David & Nanette Boe and Kent & Eileen Beilke

Abi Carlson, presiding elder

❖ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WELCOME

Charles Vernon has been received into the one holy catholic and apostolic church through baptism. God has made him a member of the household of God, to share with us in the priesthood of Christ. Let us welcome the newly baptized.

With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into Christ's church to share with us in his ministry, for we are all one in Christ.

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 *My Shepherd, The King of Love* arr. Joshua Evanovich
Westminster Ringers; Jill Post, director;
Savannah Joldersma, oboe

❖ RESPONSE 609

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known:

Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

❖ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Bearing the Word into the World

❖HYMN 821

My Life Flows On

My life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation.

I hear the clear, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.

Refrain: No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.

Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.

It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing? (Refrain)

What though my joys and comforts die? I know my Savior liveth.

What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night he giveth. (Refrain)

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!

All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing? (Refrain)

❖BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Toccata on "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"* arr. Michael Burkhardt
Sally Harmon, organist

Thank you to Tetteh Dottey, Tom Bigwood, and Lisa McEvers for assisting us in worship and to our Welcome Team: Bruce Maylath, Brenda Deckard, Ed Deckard, and Steve & Karen Wonderlich, Dave Baumgardner, and Pru Olson for taking such good care of us this morning.

A special thank you to our musicians: Sally Harmon, the Friendship Choir under direction of Erin Torpey, Virginia Stern, the Kids of the Kingdom Choir under direction of Pam Burns, the Proclamation Choir under direction of Shawn Neisen, the Westminster Ringers under direction of Jill Post, and Savannah Joldersma, playing oboe.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF FARGO

Sunday Worship

April 21, 2024

Pilgrimage Photography Course: The Pilgrimage will be taking a Contemplative Photography retreat to Medora and Theodore Roosevelt National Park at the end of August. For more information please visit www.firstpresfargo.org/adult-education, or contact Kit O'Neill at kit.oneill@outlook.com.

ALL-CHURCH ORCHESTRA

SUNDAY, MAY 5 @ 10:30 AM

FEATURING THE
HEATHER&THISTLE
PIPEBAND



ALL INSTRUMENTALISTS
ARE WELCOME

CELEBRATION Brunch

SUNDAY | 12TH MAY | 11:30 AM
in the Social Hall



What a year its been -
let's celebrate with brunch! All
are invited to join in fellowship.

We'll have fancy fruit, yogurt parfaits, eggs, and
homemade maple syrup from Perham maple
trees to top off Steve's famous pancakes!

Sponsored by EduCon



FPC Scholarship Opportunity: Our First Presbyterian Church scholarship is now available. This scholarship is open to those who will be starting their first year of college. The deadline to apply is May 1. Please contact Kayla Bones at kbones@firstpresfargo.org if you have any questions. You can find the application forms at firstpresfargo.org/scholarships.

PW Spring Meeting: The Fargo PW will be going to the spring meeting in Arvilla on Saturday April 27. The meeting starts at 10 am and we will be leaving at 8 am. The speaker will be Louella Voight, a member of the USA Mission Experience, who will share her perspective on immigration issues. We will be bringing clothing and household items for the Bdecan Church and \$10 gift cards for the Churchwide gathering in St Louis. Nancy Lium will be driving, call her if you want to ride along: 701 235-0228.

PW August Gathering: The PW is sponsoring two scholarships to the 2024 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women in St. Louis, Missouri from August 8-11. Please contact Judy Rippentrop at 701-730-1836 or jrippentrop@yahoo.com by May 1st if you are interested in more information about attending.

Informational Meetings: Next week we will continue to hold meetings to discuss a consolidation proposal. We have many meetings planned, including a Zoom option available on April 30th at 1:00pm. You can register for that meeting and see the list of dates at www.firstpresfargo.org/consolidation.



YOU ARE INVITED TO THE
PW Luncheon

TUESDAY
MAY 7, 2024

12pm in the
Jennie Roberts Room

Featuring the Noteables
directed by Jill Post

Suggested donation: \$5

May Plant Exchange: Did you have an overactive green thumb this winter and have more plants than you have space? Now is the time to divide your overgrown house plants or outdoor plants and exchange them for something new at our Spring Plant Exchange! May 12th after worship we will be coordinating a plant exchange. Much like the produce exchange last fall, we will have space for house-plants, outdoor landscaping plants, vegetable garden starter plants and herbs. If you can plant it, we will exchange it!

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*
Sally Harmon-*Organist*
Pam Burns-*Music Ministry Coordinator*
Shawn Neisen-*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

Shampoo Sunday

When you help fill our Resource Room with hygiene items, you ensure survivors have their basic needs met, allowing them to focus on their healing journey.

Amazon Wish List
<https://amzn.to/46bLD0o>

rape and abuse crisis center
advocacy, counseling, education.

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

Sunday, April 21

11:30 Fellowship

Monday, April 22

5:00 Stewardship Committee Meeting

Tuesday, April 23

12:00 Messenger Deadline

Wednesday, April 24

5:00 Wednesday Activities Dinner

5:30 St. Andrew's Brass Rehearsal

5:30 Genesis Ringers

6:15 Children & Youth Choirs

6:30 Westminster Ringers

7:00 Youth Group

7:30 Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, April 25

12:15 Centering Prayer

5:30 Nurturing Families

Friday, April 26

No Church Events

Saturday, April 27

PW Gathering in Arvilla

Sunday, April 28

9:00 Consolidation Informational Meeting

10:30 Worship Service (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

April 14 Attendance: 199

165 in person

34 households livestreamed

Contributions received: \$8,050.00



Church Information

Office Hours:

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

Phone: 701-293-6311

www.firstpresfargo.org

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