



*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.*

*Please join us outside for fellowship 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**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

God of all glory, we gather here today with the saints of every time and place to honor and praise your holy name. As you have revealed your mercy and might to your faithful people in every age, so let us glimpse—even through our tears—the mystery of your life-giving grace and the love that even death cannot destroy; through Jesus Christ, Alpha and Omega. Amen.

### **PRELUDE**

*A Mighty Fortress*  
Sally Harmon, organist

arr. Hustad

### **WELCOME & CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

#### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Fling wide the temple gates!

**Open up the ancient doors!**

The mighty and glorious one is coming.

**Who is this mighty and glorious one?**

This is the Lord for whom we have waited.

**Let us be glad and rejoice in God!**

#### **\*HYMN 275: *A Mighty Fortress***

**A mighty fortress is our God,  
a bulwark never failing.**

**Our helper he, amid the flood  
of mortal ills prevailing.**

**For still our ancient foe  
doth seek to work us woe.**

**His craft and power are great,  
and armed with cruel hate,  
on earth is not his equal.**

**Did we in our own strength confide,  
our striving would be losing,  
were not the right man on our side,  
the man of God's own choosing.  
Dost ask who that may be?**

**Christ Jesus, it is he.  
Lord Sabaoth his name,  
from age to age the same,  
and he must win the battle.**

**And though this world, with devils filled,  
should threaten to undo us,  
we will not fear, for God hath willed  
his truth to triumph through us.  
The Prince of Darkness grim,  
we tremble not for him.  
His rage we can endure,  
for lo, his doom is sure.  
One little word shall fell him.**

**That word above all earthly powers,  
no thanks to them, abideth.  
The Spirit and the gifts are ours  
through him who with us sideth.  
Let goods and kindred go,  
this mortal life also.  
The body they may kill;  
God's truth abideth still.  
His kingdom is forever.**

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

God has promised to make of us a new creation,  
laying to rest the former things, making all things new.  
Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Almighty Lord and God, in Jesus Christ you came from heaven to dwell among us, calling us to be your faithful people. Yet we remain shrouded in sin—we hurt and disgrace ourselves; we abuse and destroy one another; we dishonor your holy name. Forgive us; unbind us and let us go so that we may stand among your saints, rejoicing in your saving grace; through Jesus Christ our redeemer. Amen.**

**\*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Listen! The one who is seated on the throne says: See, I am making all things new.  
And now it is finished! Hear the good news: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**\*RESPONSE: *God Welcomes All***

God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;  
God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the response, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

## **\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

### **GIFT OF MUSIC**

*Requiem*

Gilkyson

Sanctuary Choir; Bryan Poyzer, director

Mother Mary, full of grace, awaken. All our homes are gone, our loved ones taken,  
taken by the sea. Mother Mary, calm our fears, have mercy, drowning in a sea of tears,  
have mercy, hear our mournful plea. Our world has been shaken,  
we wander our homelands forsaken. In the dark night of the soul, bring some comfort to us all.  
O Mother Mary, come and carry us in your embrace, that our sorrows may be faced.  
Mary, fill the glass to overflowing, illuminate the path where we are going,  
have mercy on us all. In funeral fires burning each flame to your mystery returning.  
In the dark night of the soul your shattered dreamers, make them whole,  
O Mother Mary, find us where we've fallen out of grace, lead us to a higher place.  
In the dark night of the soul our broken hearts you can make whole,  
O Mother Mary, come and carry us in your embrace, let us see your gentle face, Mary.

**CHILDREN'S TIME:** Penny Andrist

## **The Word**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:** reader, Jean Pladson

Almighty God, your word is life  
and your promise is trustworthy and true.  
By the power of your Holy Spirit  
write your word upon our hearts  
so that we may be your new creation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**FIRST LESSON:** Ruth 1:1-18

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons. The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. These took Moabite wives; the name of one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there for about ten years, both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons or her husband.

Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the LORD had had consideration for his people and given them food. So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, 'Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. The LORD grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband.' Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. They said to her, 'No, we will return with you to your people.' But Naomi said, 'Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more

bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the LORD has turned against me.’ Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

So she said, ‘See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.’ But Ruth said,

‘Do not press me to leave you  
or to turn back from following you!

Where you go, I will go;  
where you lodge, I will lodge;  
your people shall be my people,  
and your God my God.

Where you die, I will die—  
there will I be buried.

May the LORD do thus and so to me,  
and more as well,

if even death parts me from you!’

When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

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

**SECOND LESSON:** Revelation 21:1-6a

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

‘See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.’

And the one who was seated on the throne said, ‘See, I am making all things new.’ Also he said, ‘Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.’ Then he said to me, ‘It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

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

**SERMON:** The Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey

**IN REMEMBRANCE**

*Autumn Afternoon  
Ballroom Dance*  
Caleb Gadberry, piano

Alfred  
Miller

Harry “Tim” Henry  
Mark Holman  
Duane Peterson  
Wallace Buckingham  
Kathy Dehne

Harriet Evert  
Michael Humphrey  
Winifred Christianson  
Charles “Fred” Eisele

Lois Emerson  
Marvin Duncan  
Glenn Filipi  
Rita Miller

**\*HYMN 373: *O Day of Peace***

O day of peace that dimly shines  
through all our hopes and prayers and dreams,  
guide us to justice, truth, and love,  
delivered from our selfish schemes.

May swords of hate fall from our hands,  
our hearts from envy find release,  
till by God's grace our warring world  
shall see Christ's promised reign of peace.

Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb,  
nor shall the fierce devour the small;  
as beasts and cattle calmly graze,  
a little child shall lead them all.

Then enemies shall learn to love,  
all creatures find their true accord;  
the hope of peace shall be fulfilled,  
for all the earth shall know the Lord.

**\*PROFESSION OF FAITH: *Apostles' Creed***

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.

**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**

*Great is Thy Faithfulness*  
St. Andrew's Brass; Jill Post, director  
Sally Harmon, piano

arr. Marvin

Please join in singing when directed:

**Great is thy faithfulness, O God Creator; there is no shadow of turning with thee.  
Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not. As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.  
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning, new mercies I see.  
All I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!**

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

# Bearing the Word into the World

### \*HYMN 326: *For All the Saints*

For all the saints who from their labors rest,  
who thee by faith before the world confessed,  
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;  
thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;  
thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!  
We feebly struggle; they in glory shine;  
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,  
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,  
and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,  
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,  
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,

Alleluia! Alleluia!

### \*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*For All the Saints*

arr. Cassler



October 31, 2021

**Covenant Of Prayer:** Bella Garcia; those who are experiencing homelessness in our community; and our sister congregation in Chogoria, Kenya.

**Remembering Our Soldiers In Prayer:** If you have a loved one in the military, please let Pastor Mary know and we'll include his/her name.

**Peace & Global Witness:** Gifts to this offering will be received **through TODAY!**

**Candy! Candy!** Today after worship, we have arranged for Noah and the animals to greet you after worship WITH Halloween treats! Beware – the animals got to choose the treats. Let's hope it's not fish, worms, seeds or Meow Mix cat food.

**Because You Gave...Thank You!** Our sincerest thanks to all who have returned their estimate of giving cards for 2022! For those who have not, cards may be found in the pews, at the Front Desk Info Kiosk, the Narthex, and on our website, [www.firstpresfargo.org](http://www.firstpresfargo.org). Please give it your prayerful consideration to make financial contributions to the church.

**2021 Per Capita:** It's not too late to pay your 2021 Per Capita! In fact, we kindly ask that you do so! The office will be accepting payments through the end of the year. The rate set by the Presbytery is \$48 per confirmed member of your household. Notice that this is the same rate as 2022, so please note which year it is for when you return your payment to the office.

### **Dates to Remember!**

**November 7:** Remember to set your clocks **back an hour the night of**, so that you don't show up for church an hour early on Sunday!

**November 21:** No Sunday School or Confirmation

**November 24:** No Wednesday night activities

**November 25:** Thanksgiving Day, Office Closed

**November 28:** No Confirmation

**Hosted Concert:** The Fargo Moorhead Area Music Club's November concert, *Parade of American Music Honoring Our Veterans*, is **FREE and open to the public on November 8, at 7:00 pm**. Please join us!

**A Peek @ Next Week:** The Sanctuary Choir and Genesis Ringers will participate in worship. Communion will be served.

**All Saints Sunday:** Today we remember, with great fondness and respect, our church members who have died this past year. There will be an opportunity for family members to come forward to the chancel area to light a candle in remembrance of loved ones. All are invited to participate in this meaningful time to remember recent losses or saints who have gone before us.

**Christ the King Banner:** Alleluia! This banner celebrates Christ the King. It is completely done in white and gold. The Alpha at the top and the Omega at the bottom symbolize the eternal reign of Jesus Christ. The star beneath the Alpha is a symbol of the Chi Rho, the first two letters of the Greek word Christos. The large X shaped cross in the center is the St. Andrew's cross. The shape stands for Christ's death, resurrection, life and ministry, and coming in glory. A butterfly is hidden in the cross and represents resurrection—final victory over death. Rays of light shine downward to us and symbolize Christ, the light of the world.

**Adult Sunday School:** Join local author, and fellow congregant, Prakash Mathew, in a two part Sunday school series: *Doing the Right Thing in the Decision Making Process on November 7*, and *But that's the way we've always done it!* on **November 14, at 9:15 am, in the Social Hall.**

Prakash will be signing his book, *We are Called to Do the Right Thing*, at 9:00 am and again after worship those two Sundays. The cost of the book is \$24.95, and proceeds go to the Dakota Medical Foundation.

**When Tears Sing: Lament as a Path to the Heart of God.** On **November 7 & 21, from 2:00-4:00 pm**, all church members are invited to the Social Hall to explore the storied Christian tradition of lament. Led by psychologist Kit O'Neill, we will become more attuned to grief and trauma and experience deeper conversations with one another.

**PW News:** PW will be collecting any sized **garbage bags for the month of November**. These items can be placed in the YWCA bin in the West Coat Room.

The **PW Board will meet via ZOOM on Tuesday, November 9, at 10:00 am**. There is no general meeting this month.

**Circles will meet on Tuesday, November 16 at 2:00 pm**, for lesson 3 of our Bible Study led by Pastor Mary. 21 people ZOOMed with us last lesson! **Esther Circle will meet at 9:30am the same day.**

**PW Praises:** Maxine Mattson was presented with an "Honorary Life Membership" pin on Sunday October 24, for her dedication to our church and PW by Pastor Holtey, from the PW.

**ManUP:** ManUP meets next on **November 9 at 6:45 am via ZOOM**. Intended to help men understand what the Bible says in relation to what is expected of a Christian man, the study this year examines the Epistle to the Hebrews. A copy of the study guide can be obtained at [Hebrews: An Open Door to God | Presbyterian Mission Agency](#) or you can request a copy and ask for a Zoom invitation from Bruce Maylath at [ring4linguist@yahoo.com](mailto:ring4linguist@yahoo.com). No advance preparation is required for each month's study.

**Kirkin' o' the Tartans:** Join us for our annual Kirkin' o' the Tartans worship on **Sunday, November 21, 9:00 & 11:00 am** to celebrate the Scottish heritage of the Presbyterian church! Due to our need for social distancing, in-person seating is limited, and online registration through the website is required. 140 tickets are available for each service (participants in the service do not need tickets). If you don't have access to a computer or smart phone, a few paper tickets remain available through the church office. The service will also be livestreamed!

**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 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)

### **Church Staff**

Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey-*Head of Staff, Associate Pastor*

Sally Harmon-*Music Coordinator & Organist*

Bryan Poyzer-*Adult Choir Director*

Jan Lundgren-*Business Manager*

Monica Gelinske-*Administrative Assistant*

Penny Andrist-*Children's Ministry Coordinator*

Kayla Bones-*Youth & Young Adult Ministry Coordinator*

Rick Fiebiger-*Facilities Manager*

Drew Brovold-*Custodian*

**All staff emails are:**

**(first initial and last name of person)@firstpresfargo.org**

### **FPC Officers**

**Session:** Kim Carter, Tom Clusiau, Lisa Edison-Smith, Colleen Ford-Dunker, Bruce Furness, Dick Henderson, Ryan Johnston, Kurt Kooyer, Elaine Rudd (clerk), Scott Swanhholm, Paula Thomas, and Kevin Tobosa, Becky Trumbo, and Jeff Wilkens.

**Deacons:** Brenda Deckard, Ed Deckard, Rick Herberg, Beatrice Janaka, Jane Mathew (moderator), Bob Morton, Karen Rivers, Andrea Smith, Kathleen Thomas, Debbie Tight, and Amy Wilkens.

**Treasurer:** Sherri Stern

**L: Live Stream Option, H: Hybrid, Z: Zoom**

### **Sunday, October 31**

12:00 Confirmation

### **Monday, November 1**

5:30 B&G Cmt. / Personnel Cmt.

### **Tuesday, November 2**

8:30 Bulletin Articles Due

5:30 Worship Cmt.

7:00 Mission Cmt.

### **Wednesday, November 3**

5:30 Genesis Ringers / St. Andrew's Brass

6:15 Youth Choirs / Westminster Ringers

6:30 Pilgrimage Guides

7:00 Youth Group

7:30 Sanctuary Choir

### **Thursday, November 4** *No Church Events*

### **Friday, November 5** *No Church Events*

### **Saturday, November 6** *No Church Events*

### **Sunday, November 7** **COMMUNION**

9:15 Sunday School for ALL

10:30 Worship Service (L)

11:30 ZOOM Coffee Hour (Z)

12:00 Confirmation

### **For Your Information**

October 24 Worship Attendance:

135 in person, 28 Livestreamed

Contributions Received: \$18,759.00



### **Church Information**

Office Hours:

M-TH, 8:30am-4:00 pm

Phone: 701-293-6311

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