



**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.*

**March 1, 2026  
Second Sunday in Lent  
We Gather in Christ**

**PRELUDE**

Matthew Pechtl, organ

**WELCOME**

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

*God of new beginnings, you meet us in our questions and curiosity. Give us courage to receive what we cannot manufacture. Teach us to trust the gift as it is given and to step into the life you offer, again and again. Amen.*

**OPENING WORDS**

Toby Christensen

✧ **HYMN 666**

*O Splendor of God's Glory Bright*

✧ **CONFESSION AND DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

**Holy God, we confess that in a world marked by war, division, and relentless change, we often cling to what feels familiar. We long for renewal yet hesitate when it asks us to release old patterns or imagine a different way forward. Surrounded by political tension, economic anxiety, and constant information, we reach for certainty. Worn down by conflict, climate disasters, and suffering we cannot fix, we grasp for control rather than resting in your steady presence. Forgive us for the ways fear narrows our compassion and exhaustion limits our hope. Create in us room for wonder, courage, and transformation. Hold us gently as we are made new. Amen.**

...Friends, believe in the good news of the gospel,  
**in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.**

❖ **RESPONSE 701**

*Sanctuary*

Lord, pre - pare me to be a sanc - tu - ar - y, pure and  
 ho - ly, tried and true. With thanks - giv - ing,  
 I'll be a liv - ing sanc - tu - ar - y for you.

❖ **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**The Word**

**SCRIPTURE**

*Genesis 1:1-5, pp. 1*

*John 3:1-17, pp. 968*

*Whirl Story Bible pg. 354*

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

**SERMON**

Rev. Sarah M. Bigwood

❖ **HYMN 817**

*We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight*

**The Sealing of the Word**

**INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

**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.**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

*The words spoken by the pastor bless the bread and cup on the table and all the elements that are an extension of this table.*

**HYMN OF APPROACH 517** *Here, O Our Lord, We See You (vs. 1-2)*

**COMMUNION MUSIC**

*It Is Well with My Soul*

arr. Bender/Pechtl

Matthew Pechtl, organ;

Rusty Bender, piano

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

# Responding to the Word



## OFFERING MESSAGE

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

## OFFERTORY

*Give Me Jesus*

arr. Anna Laura Page

Westminster Ringers; Jill Post, director

## ✦ RESPONSE 702

*Christ Be Beside Me (vs. 1)*

Christ be beside me; Christ be before me;  
Christ be behind me, King of my heart.  
Christ be within me; Christ be below me;  
Christ be above me, never to part.

## ✦ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Bearing the Word into the World**

## ✦ HYMN 679

*Let the Whole Creation Cry*

## ✦ BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

Matthew Pechtl, organ

*Thank you to the Trumbo family on livestream and soundboard, Toby Christensen for assisting in worship, and our Welcome Team: Dick Laraway, Kevin Thomas, Gracia Fulwiler, Taaren Haak, Rick & Shirley Herberg, and Chuck & Geri Munro for taking such good care of us this morning. A special thank you to our musicians: Matthew Pechtl, Rusty Bender, and the Westminster Ringers directed by Jill Post.*



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OF FARGO

# Sunday Worship

March 01, 2026

## HOLY BUCKETS FOR THE NEW LIFE CENTER

- \* MEN'S T-SHIRTS (MEDIUM & LARGE),
- \* MEN'S BOXERS (M, L, 1XL, & 2XL),
- \* WHITE BATH TOWELS, \* DISPOSABLE RAZORS,
- \* SHAVING CREAM (TRAVEL-SIZE), \* Q-TIPS,
- \* LOTION (TRAVEL-SIZE), \* DEODORANT (TRAVEL-SIZE),
- \* SINGLE-DOSE PACKS OF DAYQUIL / NYQUIL CAPSULES  
(ALCOHOL FREE),
- \* SINGLE-USE PACKS OF ORAL PAIN RELIEF GEL,
- \* SINGLE-USE PACKS OF NEOSPORIN



Sponsored by the Mission Committee

## Easter Flowers

Easter Lilies \* Tulips\*  
Hydrangea\*



Orders and payments  
received no later than noon  
Tuesday, March 17th.

**Easter Flowers:** 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. Order forms can be found at the Info Kiosk and online on our website. **Orders and payments should be delivered to the office no later than noon on Tuesday, March 17th.** Thank You!



**PW Circles :**  
The Presbyterian Leaders Board Meeting will be on March 11th, at 10am in the office meeting room. If you have any questions, please contact Judy Rippen-trop at (701) 730-1836.

**Covenant of Prayer:** Sue Andrews, death of husband, Mark; David Hoffman, infection; Sherri Stern, back surgery; AnnMarie Blamoh, eye surgery; Jan Kenien, blood pressure; Monna Rae Morse died 02-14 (Linda Haak); Mike Nelson, hospice (Casselton); Bill Kooyer, aortic valve replacement (Kurt Kooyer); Don Laird, emerging health issues (Dorothy McClure); Richard Schenk, hip/heart; Jeff and Tammy Olson, death of daughter Rina; Wayne Sander, heart bypass; Connie Weed, knee infection; Rick Greener, pain management; Jan Harrison, ankle & radiation; Sharon Dvorak, died 02-25.



## 3rd Grade Bibles

Here at FPC we gift our 3rd graders a Bible of their own. If you know of a child who missed their third grade year here at FPC or has never received a Bible from us for any reason, please contact [Carrie Lawrence](#) by March 4<sup>th</sup> and we will add them to this year's class happening this spring on April 19th.



*Hand made*

A CARD MAKING AND STAMPING STATION WILL BE AVAILABLE TO TRY!

AFTER WORSHIP  
MARCH 1

## SOUP AND CARDS



Come enjoy hot soup and  
good conversation with friends!

## Holden Evening Prayer Services



Every Wednesday in Lent, starting February 25, join us from 7:05pm to 7:30pm in the Jennie Roberts Room for Holden Evening Prayer.

**Hearing devices** 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, Tom Dawson, Glen Deeton (BD), Colleen Ford-Dunker, Kurt Kooyer, Dick Laraway, Brian McClure, Jim McEvers, Carolyn Peloubet (BD), Wayne Sander, Jeana Scheffler, Kathy Scheffler (BD), Troy Schmidt, Sharon Secor, Paula Thomas (Clerk), Erin Torpey, Jeff Wilkens, Steve Wonderlich.

**Deacons:** Jan Carlsen, Toby Christensen, Dianne Connelly, Aubrey DeCoteau, Gracia Fulwiler, Sydney Goddard, Taaren Haak, David Hoffman, Gayla McGoldrick, Brian Peterson, Mary Peterson (BD), Candy Shultz, Virginia Stern, Kathleen Thomas, Kevin Thomas, Debbie Tight, Sandy Ystenes (BD).

**Church Treasurer:** Sherri Stern.

### Church Staff

Rev. Sarah M. Bigwood: *Senior Pastor*

Rev. Daniel Billings: *Parish Associate*

Rev. Cathie Bishop: *Parish Associate*

Rev. Nancy Emerson: *Parish Associate*

Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey: *Pastor Emeritus*

Rusty Bender: *Director of Church Life*

Bryan Poyzer: *Adult Choir Director*

Carrie Lawrence: *Sunday School Coordinator*

Jan Lundgren: *Business Manager*

Rick Fiebiger: *Facilities Manager*

Drew Brovold: *Custodian*

Val Anderson: *Admin & Communications*

admin.assistant@firstpresfargo.org

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



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

### **Sun, Mar 1**

#### **Communion**

9:15 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship Service - Fargo Site (L)

11:30 AM Soup & Games Activity - EduCon

11:30 AM Fellowship

### **Mon, Mar 2**

12:30 PM Nancy & Virginia Piano Practice

1:00 PM FM Music Club Program

### **Tue, Mar 3**

12:15 PM S&E

4:30 PM Heart-n-Soul Meal

5:30 PM EduCon Committee Meeting

5:30 PM Worship Cmt. (H)

5:30 PM Personnel Meeting

5:30 PM Mission Cmt. Meeting

### **Wed, Mar 4**

5:00 PM Wednesday Meals

5:30 PM St. Andrew's Brass

5:30 PM Genesis Ringers

5:30 PM Building & Grounds meeting

6:15 PM Children's Choirs

6:15 PM Youth Choir

6:30 PM Westminster Bells

7:00 PM Youth Group

7:30 PM Sanctuary Choir

### **Thu, Mar 5**

12:15 PM Centering Prayer

1:00 PM Cleaning in the Sanctuary

5:30 PM Nurturing Families

7:00 PM FM Camera Club

**Fri, Mar 6** No Church Events

**Sat, Mar 7** No Church Events

### **Sun, Mar 8**

9:15 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship Service - Fargo Site (L)

11:30 AM Fellowship

### For Your Information

February 22, 2026

Attendance: 128 in person &

105 households livestreamed

Contributions received: 23,512.99



### Church Information

Office Hours:

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

Phone: 701-293-6311

www.firstpresfargo.org

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