



*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**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God of promise, creator of the cosmos, you are the first light breaking through the void and the final light we shall eternally enjoy. Keep our hearts ever vigilant as we wait to welcome you, that you would find us clothed in love, dressed for action, and eager to receive you. Amen.

### **PRELUDE**

*Andante and Adagio from Sonata*  
William Weilgus, oboe; Sally Harmon, piano

Mison (1727-1766)  
arr. Mendoza

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

The Rev. Sarah M. Bigwood

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

The heavens declare the righteousness of God.

**The earth declares God's beauty.**

From the rising of the sun to its setting

**God's word shines forth in glory.**

**Let us worship God!**

### **\*HYMN 401**

*Here in This Place*

Here in this place the new light is streaming; now is the darkness vanished away;  
see in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day.  
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us in, the blind and the lame;  
call to us now, and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery. We are the old who yearn for your face.  
We have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race.  
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty; gather us in, the proud and the strong;  
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly; give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water; here we will take the bread of new birth.  
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth.  
Give us to drink the wine of compassion; give us to eat the bread that is you;  
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away:  
here in this place the new light is shining; now is the kingdom, and now is the day.  
Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and make us your own;  
gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

My friends, remember that God loves us; therefore, by the mercy of God, let us cease to do evil and learn to do good.

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Holy God, you call us to do good, seek justice, and care for those in need, yet how often we place our own comforts above compassion for others. Forgive us, we pray, and cleanse us from these and all our offenses through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**\*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

God is merciful and kind; though our sins are like scarlet, they become like snow. Be at peace, for your sins are washed clean by the goodness of God.

**\*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**

## **The Word**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Scott Swanholm, Reader

God of Hope, by faith we know that you created the world, and that what is seen is made by things that are not visible. Open our eyes to your presence among us that we may hear your word with clarity and a sureness of hope, as we follow you in all righteousness. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**FIRST READING**

*Luke 12:32-40*

‘Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailling treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

‘Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those servants.

‘But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.’

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

## **SECOND READING**

*Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16*

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, ‘as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.’

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

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

## **SERMON**

*Things Hoped For*

### **\*HYMN 515**

*I Come with Joy (vs. 1-3)*

I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved and free,  
the life of Jesus to recall, in love laid down for me,  
in love laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed,  
the new community of love in Christ's communion bread,  
in Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud division ends.  
The love that made us, makes us one, and strangers now are friends,  
and strangers now are friends.

## **Responding to the Word**

### **OFFERING**



GIVE

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

**OFFERTORY**

*Incipe Menalios Mecum Mea KV89*

Mozart

Richard Kravchek, Joseph Shalita,  
William Weilgus, oboe trio

**\*RESPONSE 717**      *For the Life that You Have Given*

**For the life that you have given, for the love in Christ made known,  
with these fruits of time and labor, with these gifts that are your own:  
here we offer, Lord, our praises; heart and mind and strength we bring;  
give us grace to love and serve you, living what we pray and sing.**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Sacrament of Baptism**

Liam Rene Arabeity,  
child of Ignacio and Heather Arabeity  
Lisa Edison-Smith, presiding elder

**Presentation**

*Parents:* Do you desire that Liam Rene be baptized?

**I do.**

Relying on God's grace, do you promise to live the Christian faith, and to teach that faith to your child?

**I do.**

*Sponsors:* Do you promise, through prayer and example, to support and encourage Liam to be a faithful Christian?

**I do.**

*Congregation:* Do we, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture Liam by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging him to know and follow Christ and to be a faithful member of his church?

**We do.**

**Profession of Faith**

**\*Renunciations** (*parents and congregation*)

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

**I do.**

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love?

**I do.**

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love?

**I will, with God's help.**

## **\*Profession**

*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.**

### **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.**

We give you thanks, Eternal God,...

### **The Baptism**

#### **Laying On of Hands**

#### **Welcome**

Liam 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.**

#### **Baptismal Response 491**

*You Have Put On Christ*

You have put on Christ; In Christ you have been baptized. Alleluia! Alleluia!

You have put on Christ; In Christ you have been baptized. Alleluia! Alleluia!

## **SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

### **INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER**

#### **HYMN OF APPROACH 515**      *I Come with Joy (vs. 4-5)*

The Spirit of the risen Christ, unseen, but ever near,  
is in such friendship better known, alive among us here,  
alive among us here.

Together met, together bound by all that God has done,  
we'll go with joy, to give the world the love that makes us one,  
the love that makes us one.

## PASTORAL PRAYER

Call and Response: O God of hope, **increase our faith.**

## 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

**Communion Music**

*Gabriel's Oboe from "The Mission"*  
Dr. Richard Kravchek, oboe; Sally Harmon, organ

arr. McMurty

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Eternal God, creator of the world and giver of all good, we thank you for the earth, our home, and for the gift of life. We praise you for your love in Jesus Christ, who came to heal this broken world, who died rejected on the cross and rose triumphant from the dead. Because he lives, we live to praise you, our God forever.

**Gracious God, who called us from death to life, we give ourselves to you; and with the church through all the ages we thank you for your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Bearing the Word into the World

**\*HYMN 772**

*Live into Hope*

Live into hope of captives freed, of sight regained, the end of greed.  
The oppressed shall be the first to see the year of God's own jubilee!

Live into hope! The blind shall see the insight and the clarity;  
removing shades of pride and fear, a vision of our God brought near.

Live into hope of liberty, the right to speak, the right to be,  
the right to have one's daily bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.

Live into hope of captives freed from chains of fear or want or greed.  
God now proclaims our full release to faith and hope and joy and peace.

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*Presto from Sonata*  
William Weilgus, oboe; Sally Harmon, piano

Mison (1727-1766)  
arr. Mendoza



August 7, 2022

**Covenant Of Prayer:** Bruce, (Charlotte Sailor's son in law); John Stern; Jennifer; Hannah; Mary Bohnenblust; those who are experiencing homelessness in our community; our sister congregation in Chogoria, Kenya; and the people of Ukraine.

**Remembering Our Soldiers In Prayer:** Lt. Col. Dan Sundberg has been deployed to Iraq for 9 months. If you have a loved one in the military, please let Pastor Mary know and we'll include his/her name.

**Update Your Information:** To help Pastor Sarah get to know our members and friends, we want to make sure everyone's information and communication preferences are up to date. If you have moved or have a new email address, please let the office know or use this form: <http://www.firstpresfargo.org/infoupdate> If you would like to receive eblasts from the church with information about upcoming events, the Messenger, and In Remembrances, please use the information update form or let the office know.

**Nametag Blitz:** Do you have a church nametag? If you have never had one, you may receive one free. If you need to replace a lost nametag, we ask for a donation of \$10 to cover the cost. The standard nametag will have a magnetic back. If for any reason you would like a nametag with a pin back, please indicate that after your name. Students in 5<sup>th</sup> grade and above are welcome to order a nametag.

**Chogoria Bike-a-thon:** This fall, our partners in Chogoria, Kenya are celebrating their Centennial. We have been partners with them for ¼ of those 100 years. As a part of their celebrations, they are hosting a 100 km bike-a-thon to raise money to restore the old Chogoria Church Building. The Chogoria Partnership Ministry Team has committed to sponsoring 5 teams. The suggested sponsor is \$1 per kilometer or \$100 per team but donations of any size are welcome! If you would like to contribute funds, you can write a check out to Presbytery of the Northern Plains, denoting bike-a-thon, and send it in. You can donate online by going to [northernplainspresbytery.com](http://northernplainspresbytery.com). Under the mission tab, click on Chogoria Partnership. Click the yellow donate button. Together, we can make a difference!

**All-Church picnic after worship today:**The deacons'-sponsored church picnic is back after a two year hiatus! The meal is provided by Heart n' Soul Community Café and paid for by the Board of Deacons. A free will offering will be accepted and given to Heart n' Soul for their feeding programs throughout the Fargo/Moorhead area. We'll be outside in the courtyard, weather permitting! Join us for good food, fellowship, music and games!

**New York Kammermusiker Concert Tomorrow:** The NYK Group will be giving a free concert in our sanctuary at 6:30 pm on Monday, August 8. This group of world-class musicians has delighted their audiences with their double-reed instruments for years. A free-will offering will be collected. Please plan to attend and bring your friends!

**Town Hall:** A new season for Fargo Town Hall is starting on September 20. This new season includes a new day, Tuesdays at 10:30 am, and a new location at Prairie Heights Church, 319 32nd Ave. West Fargo. Please visit the website [fargotownhall.org](http://fargotownhall.org) for more information.

**Summer Giving Slump:** With so many congregants "at the lake" this summer, we historically see donations decrease during the summer months. Help us to avoid a shortfall in offerings this summer! Here are a couple of options: Make your contributions easy with automatic monthly withdrawals from your checking (or savings) account. Just a simple form to complete to get this started! Or, consider giving online through our website - you can make either a one-time payment or set up a recurring donation (use your credit card and accumulate points!). Contact Jan Lundgren in the church office if you have any questions.

**Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) Ukraine:** Help our Ukrainian brothers and sisters in Christ by giving to the Presbyterian Church (USA) Disaster Response in Ukraine. Your gifts will create a significant impact by securing emergency humanitarian aid such as food items, shelter, medicines, diapers, hygiene items, etc. You can give by cash, check or through our website, make sure to note "Ukraine".

**The Emergency Food Pantry** is in desperate need of volunteers for the summer and into the fall. Volunteers can pick the hours, days and times that work best for them. Several different tasks are available. Please contact the Pantry directly at 701-237-9337 or contact Jan Harrison at 701-371-1855 if you have questions. There will be a sign up sheet for a week we will be committing to late August or September, but in the meantime they need several volunteers for many slots.

**Hearing devices and large print copies of today's hymns** are available, please ask an usher for assistance.

**The Nursery** is not staffed during the summer months. Parents are welcome to use the nursery while supervising their young children. There's a TV monitor in the room so that you are able to watch the service.

**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.

### FPC Officers

**Session:** Abi Carlson, Kim Carter, Lisa Edison-Smith, Colleen Ford-Dunker, Bruce Furness, Dick Henderson, Ryan Johnston, Kurt Kooyer, Dick Laraway, Carrie Lawrence, Brian McClure, Elaine Rudd (clerk), Scott Swanholm, Paula Thomas, Kevin Tobosa, Becky Trumbo, and Jeff Wilkens.

**Deacons:** Brenda Deckard, Ed Deckard, Gracia Fulwiler, Rick Herberg, Beatrice Janaka, Jane Mathew (moderator), Karen Rivers, Donna Rummons, Candy Shultz, Kathleen Thomas, Debbie Tight, and Amy Wilkens.

### Church Staff

Rev. Sarah M. Bigwood-*Head of Staff, Pastor*

Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey-*Associate Pastor*

Sally Harmon-*Music Coordinator & Organist*

Bryan Poyzer-*Adult Choir Director*

Jan Lundgren-*Business Manager*

Penny Andrist-*Children's Ministry Coordinator*

Kayla Bones-*Youth & Young Adult Ministry Coordinator*

Rick Fiebiger-*Facilities Manager*

Drew Brovold-*Custodian*

**Most staff emails are:**

**(first initial and last name of person)**

**@firstpresfargo.org**

**P.O. Box is closed:** Please note that the P.O. Box #327 has been closed. When mailing your contributions or correspondence, please remember to use the church's physical address: 650 2nd Ave N, Fargo, ND 58102. New offering envelope packets have been ordered (for those who use them) with the updated mailing address.

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

#### **Sunday, August 7**

*11:30* All Church Picnic

#### **Monday, Aug. 8**

6:30 New York Kammermusiker Concert

#### **Tuesday, Aug. 9**

*9:00* Bulletin Insert Articles Due

1:00 Staff Meeting

5:30 Deacons Meeting

#### **Wednesday, Aug. 10**

1:00 Library Committee

#### **Thursday, Aug. 11**

No Church Events

#### **Friday, Aug. 12**

No Church Events

#### **Saturday, Aug. 13**

No Church Events

#### **Sunday, Aug. 14**

*10:30* Worship (L)

*11:30* Fellowship

**Reminder:** Use the QR code found in the bulletin to access the secure giving portal on our website!

### For Your Information

July 31 Attendance:

90 in person;

38 households livestreamed

Contributions received: \$7,377.00



### Church Information

Summer Office Hours:

M-TH, 9:00 am-3:00 pm

Phone: 701-293-6311

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