

first presbyterian church



*Worshiping, serving, and living with a fresh vision of  
God's vibrant energy and grace for all.*

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
September 24, 2023 // 10am

**Centering Words:**

Watch over those, both night and day, who work while others sleep,  
and grant that we may never forget that our common life depends upon each other's toil;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (Episcopal Book of Common Prayer)

**ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE**

**GATHERING SONG**    #410    *God is Calling Through the Whisper*    Collin Magennis, Cantor  
(stanza 2)

**LIFE AT FIRST**    Rev. Cathy C. Hoop  
*Please take this time to sign the red Friendship Pad found on the pew near you.*

**RINGING THE BELL & LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE**

**PRELUDE**    *Prelude in Gb Major*    Claude Debussy

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**    Lois Rodgers

One: The first shall be last.

**All: We come to worship as we are.**

One: The last shall be first.

**All: We come with confidence.**

One: The first shall be last.

**All: We come with questions.**

One: The last shall be first.

**All: We come burdened by failure.**

One: The first shall be last.

**All: We come celebrating success.**

One: The last shall be first.

**All: We come fearful of the future.**

One: The first shall be last  
and the last shall be first  
and a little child shall lead them.  
Let us worship the God of life.

## **\*OPENING PRAYER**

**\*HYMN** #36 *For the Fruit of All Creation*

## **INVITATION TO CONFESSION**

Rev. Paul Van Kempen

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

One: Loving God,  
in Jesus you offer life to the world  
and love to its people.

**All: When we see life only for ourselves,  
forgive us.  
Help us to hear your transforming love  
speaking to us of respect, dignity and worth,  
telling us that we are loved  
and that we are to love one another.  
In the knowledge of this love  
work through us to bring your justice to the world,  
in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

## **\*PASSING THE PEACE**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

## **HEARING GOD'S WORD**

## **TIME WITH CHILDREN**

*I'm So Glad You're Here*

Rev. Paul Van Kempen

**All: I'm so glad you're here (x3)  
Here today**

**Were gonna sing while we're here (x3)  
Here today**

**Love brought us here (x3)  
Here today**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS Psalm 145: 1 - 8

GOSPEL READING Matthew 20: 1 - 16

One: The Word of God for the people of God;

All: **thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*The God of Annoying Generosity*

Rev. Cathy C. Hoop

\*HYMN #351 *All Who Love And Serve Your City*

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

One: In Your mercy

All: **Hear our prayer ...**

One: In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord

All: **Amen**

*Some choose to begin this prayer, "Our Creator," "Our Mother," or "Our Parent."*

All: **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.**

THE GIVING OF OUR TITHES, OFFERINGS, AND LIVES

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

**\*DOXOLOGY #606**

**All: Praise God whose image we all bear.  
Praise Christ whose mercy we all share.  
Praise Spirit making justice grow.  
One God from whom all blessings flow. Amen.**

**\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**All: Loving God, you are far more generous to us, than we deserve.  
Make us as generous to others as you have been to us.  
We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**\*HYMN #761 *Called as Partners in Christ's Service***

**CARRYING GOD'S LOVE INTO THE WORLD**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

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**Worship Leaders:** Rev. Cathy C. Hoop, Rev. Paul Van Kempen, Lois Rodgers,  
Chuck Norris, Rose Gifford, Beth Magennis, Collin Magennis, FPC Choir

**Thanks to:** Sound and Video Tim Richardson, Greeter and Ushers, Bus Drivers,  
M&M Café Providers, Kate Overbeek and Nursery Care Providers

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The Wired Word Adult Education Class begins today!** // When you read the news each day, do you wonder how your faith intersects with current events? Would you like the opportunity to discuss scripture and how we write to understand it in our contemporary context? Grab your coffee and join us in the conference room at 11:15am. Today's topic is the UAW Strike.

**Fall is Here!** // Fall is here! The Worship & the Arts Council would like to spruce up the Meet & Mingle area with fall decorations. We need your help bringing in items like faux leaves, pumpkins, or other fall decorations. Looking forward to a colorful display!

**70x7 Fall Fundraiser** // We would love for you to join us for our virtual Fall Fundraiser on **September 26** at 6:30pm! Join the live audience at Ridge Point Community Church, or any of the host-sites that are streaming the event or watch in the comfort of your own home! **First Presbyterian Church is a live stream site.** At 70x7 Life Recovery, we get to experience stories of transformation and restoration. Join us and celebrate living the MVP life – a life of meaning, value and purpose.

For more information about the Fall Fundraiser go Facebook and search 70x7Liferecovery or to their website; [www.70x7liferecovery.org/2023fallfundraiser/](http://www.70x7liferecovery.org/2023fallfundraiser/)

**Young Families** // Join us at the Benjamin's Hope Harvest Festival on Saturday, **September 30**. We will meet at Benjamin's Hope (15468 Riley St.) at 3pm. The event includes live music, a train show, games, food, hayrides, alpacas, bunnies, and free all-abilities fun!

**Habitat for Humanity Work Day** // The Outreach Council invites you to participate in a Habitat for Humanity workday on **Thursday, October 12**. The shift begins at 8am and ends at noon. There will be opportunities for non-construction work. These opportunities will be shared in detail as we get closer to the date as well as the location of the house and transportation options.

We hope to have a good turnout. The church has not participated with Habitat in some time. The Outreach Council hopes that we can continue to support Habitat in this way as well as financially.

It is important that we inform Habitat staff how many volunteers will participate. Please call or email Hannah at the church office if you plan to attend. If you have any specific questions email Bill Haines at [wehaines@icloud.com](mailto:wehaines@icloud.com) or call him.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**HCT Theatre Outing // Saturday, October 14** at 7:30 pm we have tickets to see Young Frankenstein, the Musical. This stage production is an electrifying adaptation of Mel Brooks' monstrously funny film and will leave you in stitches. The grandson of Victor Frankenstein inherits his family estate in Transylvania, travels there and meets all the unique characters in and around the castle. The creature he creates eventually escapes and hilarity continuously abounds. Sign-up in the narthex. Tickets are \$19. See Chris Urbaniak for more details.

**Blessing of the Animals // Sunday, October 15** at 3p on the FPC playground. All pets are welcome. If your pet is a little shy (or difficult to transport), you are invited to bring a photograph.

**A Special Note** // Thank you to everyone who sent me cards and prayers when I was in the hospital, and especially while I was waiting for the results of an ultrasound. The good news is that I don't need Gallbladder surgery. Thanks again, Mary Bennett.

# STAFF

Cathy Caldwell-Hoop	Senior Pastor and Head of Staff	Cathy@fpcholland.org
Hannah Campau	Administrative Assistant	Office@fpcholland.org
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Thom Samuelson	Maintenance	Thom@fpcholland.org
Sue Stock	Communications	Sue@fpcholland.org
Paul Van Kempen	Associate Pastor	Paul@fpcholland.org

## DEACONS

**Class of 2024:** Linda Winkelmann, Colleen Ball

**Class of 2025:** Nancy Staal, Lauren Stouffer,  
Paul Van Kolken

**Class of 2026:** Tom Glover, Terri Schamper

## ELDERS

**Class of 2024:** Linda Clark, Sherry Martens, Tim Staal,  
Amy VanderMeer

**Class of 2025:** Danielle Peterson, Gail Herring,  
Jon McFadyen, Beth Magennis

**Class of 2026:** Bruce Rosensteel, Carleen Bauer

Children of all ages are encouraged and welcome to be with us during worship.  
If you prefer an alternative:

- Nursery: Newborn - 3 years of age (main level)
- Celebration Time: 4 years of age through 1st grade are invited to attend following Children's Time within the Service; attached to the Nursery.
- Education Time: 11:15am - noon.
- Adult Class - Michigan Room (typically) - main level.
- Youth - Youth Room - lower level.
- Worship Center - PreK - 5th grade - lower level.
- Nursery - Newborn through 3 years - main level.

All children and youth options are supervised with two adults who have been background checked and adhere to the Child & Youth Protection Policy.

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

659 State St., Holland, Michigan 49423 / Office: (616) 392-9022 / Email: office@fpcholland.org



FPC is a More Light congregation, celebrating the full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ individuals in life, ministry and witness of the PC (USA) and in society. You are welcome here, and you are loved. Learn more at MLP.org



# 410 God Is Calling through the Whisper



1 God is call-ing through the whis-per of the Spir - it's deep-est sighs,  
 2 God is call-ing through the voic-es of our neigh-bors' ur-gent prayers,  
 3 God is call-ing through the mu-sic of sub-lime and hu-man arts,



through the thrill of sud-den beau-ties that can catch us by sur-prise.  
 through their long-ing for re-demp-tion and for res-cue from de-spair.  
 through the hymns of earth and an-gels, and the car-ols of our hearts.



Flash of light-ning, crash of thun-der; hush of still-ness, rush of won-der:  
 Place of hurt or face of need-ing; stri-dent cry or si-lent plead-ing;  
 Lift of joy and gift of sing-ing; days and nights our prais-es bring-ing;

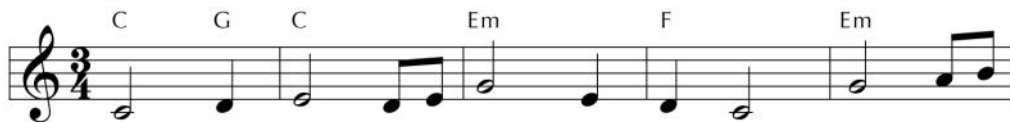


God is call-ing—can you hear? God is call-ing—can you hear?  
 God is call-ing—can you hear? God is call-ing—can you hear?  
 God is call-ing—and we hear! God is call-ing—and we hear!



This wide-ranging text reminds us of the many surprising and urgent ways God calls to us, both to draw us near and to send us forth. In the third line of music it is especially effective at harnessing the momentum of the phrases that are each a note higher than the one before.

# All Who Love and Serve Your City 351



1 All who love and serve your cit - y, all who  
 2 In your day of wealth and plen - ty, wast - ed  
 3 For all days are days of judg - ment, and the  
 4 Ris - en Lord, shall yet the cit - y be the



bear its dai - ly stress, all who cry for  
 work and wast - ed play, call to mind the  
 Lord is wait - ing still, draw - ing near a  
 cit - y of de - spair? Come to - day, our



peace and jus - tice, all who curse and all who bless:  
 word of Je - sus, "You must work while it is day."  
 world that spurns him, of - fering peace from Cal - vary's hill.  
 judge, our glo - ry. Be its name "The Lord is there!"

# Called as Partners in Christ's Service 761



1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,  
 2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,  
 3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,  
 4 So God grant us for to - mor-row ways to or - der hu - man life



we re-spond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.  
 let us fol - low, nev - er fal-tering, rec - on - cil - ing folk on earth.  
 help us bear each oth - er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.  
 that sur-round each per - son's sor-row with a calm that con-quests strife.



May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,  
 Men and wom-en, rich - er, poor - er, all God's peo-ple, young and old,  
 Words of com - fort, words of vi-sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,  
 Make us part-ners in our liv - ing, our com-pas-sion to in - crease,



e - qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful - fill God's cho - sen end.  
 blend-ing hu - man skills to - geth - er gra-cious gifts from God un - fold.  
 bring new power and strength for ac-tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.  
 mes - sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con - fi - dence and peace.

