



*I am the vine and you
are the branches.*

John 15: 5

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

April 28, 2024 // 10am

CENTERING WORDS: Keep in mind that each of you has your own vineyard.

But everyone is joined to the neighbors' vineyards without any dividing lines.

They are so joined together, in fact, that you cannot do good or evil for yourself without doing the same for your neighbors. ~ Catherine of Siena 1347-1380

PRELUDE

In Christ Alone

arr. Melody Bober

RINGING THE BELL & LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

CHORAL INTROIT

Our Creator, Love

C. Norris

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Lois Rodgers

One: As the weak realize their strength;
as the poor eat and are satisfied,

All: God's love abides in us.

One: As the stranger finds a friend;
as the family offers forgiveness,

All: God's love abides in us.

One: As the ends of the earth know of Christ's grace,
God's love abides in us.

*OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN #15 *All Creatures of our God and King*

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Rev. Paul Van Kempen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Look upon us, loving Savior, sift our thoughts
and assess our feelings.

Deal firmly with those things that have inhibited our love
and diverted our energies.

Loving God, whatever you see
as self-righteous,

All: censure,

One: as broken,

All: mend,

One: as heartless,

All: soften,

One: as fruitless,

All: prune,

One: as infected,

All: cleanse.

One: Flood your relentless Spirit through our whole being,
sweeping away guilt and its lethargy,
and by the saving grace of Christ Jesus,
heal the hidden springs of our personality.

**All: Thank you, Holy Friend, for answering our prayers
before we get round to asking them,
and for doing much more than we ask or think.
Through your Son and our Savior; Amen**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: In Christ Jesus we are a radically renewed community.

All: Thanks be to God!

One: Old things are done away with, all things become new.

All: Thanks be to God!

One: We are agents of grace and reconciliation.

All: Thanks be to God!

One: With every step or stumble, Christ will be with us.

All: Thanks be to God!

***PASSING THE PEACE**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Sing Alleluia

ANTHEM

Look to the Day

John Rutter

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

1 John 4: 7 – 21

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

All: **thanks be to God.**

Hymn #631 *In the Presence of Your People*, Psalm 22

John 15: 1 – 8

One: A Word of God that is still speaking;

All: **thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rev. Cathy C. Hoop

*HYMN #693 *Though I May Speak*

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

THE GIVING OF OUR TITHES, OFFERINGS, AND LIVES

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

If you have a prayer request that you would like shared in worship, please fill out a prayer card and place it in 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: Life Giver,

Trust that we will use these gifts for good. Trust that we will use these gifts in furthering your realm. Through these gifts, may others experience the abundance of your love and compassion. Amen.

LIFE AT FIRST

Please take this time to sign the red Friendship Pad found on the pew near you.

MOMENT FOR MISSION: Crop Walk

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Response All: May your love be like a seed, taking root and growing strong.

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.

HYMN #700 *I'm Gonna Live So God can Use Me

CARRYING GOD'S LOVE INTO THE WORLD

***BENEDICTION**

CHORAL RESPONSE

Thirteen Lucky Amens for Basses!

C. Norris

POSTLUDE

Giga

Baldassare Galuppi

Pieces of today's liturgy were written by Bruce Prewer.

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

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

Thank you FPC for the prayer shawl and kind words! Leaving is bittersweet, but I am excited for what's next for me and my family, and I truly appreciate everyone's kindness and well-wishes. I've been blessed to work here for the past two years and wish you all the best moving forward! Thank you again!

Blessings, Hannah

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Website Member Area Password // Dear FPC members and friends, we are sorry for the inconvenience of receiving text messages and e-mails asking you to do a favor, run an errand or buy gift cards for the pastors. We have determined that the problem is with a leaked password associated with the member area of our website. Here is the new password: _____

Please note that you do not need this for the directory app on your phone or personal computer. You will need this for the member area of the church website, www.fpcholland.org.

Today is Blue Sunday // April is Child Abuse Prevention Month, remembering the millions of children who are victims of abuse/neglect. Child Abuse Prevention is asking the faith community to pray for the victims of child abuse, their rescuers, and caregivers. Let us pray, educate ourselves, and volunteer for the children of our nation until black and blue are just colors in their crayon box.

FPC Inquirer's Class // Would you like to learn more about First Presbyterian and the PC (USA) denomination? What do we believe? How are we governed? What is membership all about? Join us **Tuesday, April 30th** from 2:00 - 3:30pm. If you would like more information, please contact Cathy.

Habitat Work Day // Our next FPC Habitat workday is **Thursday, May 2nd**. They started working on the Zadrán home last Monday so we will be helping to get it roughed in. There always miscellaneous opportunities too. Please email Bill Haines at wehaines@icloud.com if you would like to volunteer at the am shift (8-noon), pm shift (1 -4) or all day.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACTS needs our help! // ACTS is one of our long-standing outreach partners. Each year they help plan and lead our Peace Camp program—we couldn't do it without them! Because of family health concerns, Jaime is pulled extra thin this season and needs our help caring for the kids at ACTS. There are 2 ways to help.

- 1) Donate supplies to help save Jaime shopping time. (See list below and drop off at church)
- 2) Provide a main dish for supper for 8-10 middle and high school kids on April 15, April 29, May 13, or May 20. Sign up to provide a meal on the table near the outreach desk.

Donations for Acts: Individually wrapped snacks, small bottles of juice drinks, dish soap, hand soap (gel pumps preferred), easy dinner preparation meal packages (i.e. macaroni and cheese, spaghetti with spaghetti sauce, pancake mix, soup and crackers etc.) Thank you for Supporting the work of ACTS!

Mark your calendars and make a difference! BYOP! // On **Sunday, May 19** the Holland Hunger Awareness event and CROP walk will take place at Centennial Park in downtown Holland from 1-3pm as a part of the Holland Hunger Awareness weekend which also includes the Holland Postal Food Drive on **Saturday May, 18**. You will have the opportunity to make a difference for hungry people locally and around the world by your participation in the CROP Hunger walk and Holland Hunger Awareness weekend and your donations.

First Presbyterians are invited to BYOP (Bring your own Picnic!) We will meet about 12:15 to picnic in Centennial Park. All people are invited to the Hunger Awareness event - bring your kids and their scooters or wagons, bring your dogs and your signs - even if you can't walk, come and experience the festivities and fellowship of other presbyterians fighting hunger. Those of us choosing to walk should then be ready to walk starting about 1:15 PM. You can choose to walk around the park or on an approximately three mile route. Funds raised will benefit local hunger efforts of eight local agencies and international efforts through CWS. Please see Tim Staal for any questions. To join our team of walkers head on over to this website: <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/cropwalks/event/hollandmi>

Camp & Paddle Weekend // Get ready for the 2024 Camp and Paddle weekend! We're excited for a new location and new memories to be made this summer. **Save the date** and mark your calendars to join us **July 12-14** at: Mystery Creek Campground, 9570 Wisner Ave in Newaygo. You are welcome to bring your own kayak, canoe or flotation device -or- rent it from the campground! We have reserved space for 8 trailers, unlimited tents, and 1 rustic cabin.

Price: \$40/night for trailers, \$40/night for rustic trailers, \$20/night for tents

Watch for sign ups coming in May!

STAFF

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DEACONS:

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

Class of 2026: Tom Glover, Terri Schamper.

Class of 2027: Lloyd Helder, Michele Richardson, Leah Wallar.

ELDERS:

Class of 2025: Gail Hering, Beth Magennis, Jon Mc Fadyen, Danielle Peterson, Ben Rund-Scott

Class of 2026: Carleen Bauer, Bill Evenson, Cassie Kregger, Bruce Rosensteel.

Class of 2027: Jen Laux Ludwig, Tom Salley, Dave Zessin

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