



A CHORUS OF GENEROSITY

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP
November 23, 2025 // 10am

CENTERING WORDS: “The word of Christ must live in you richly.
Teach and warn each other with all wisdom by singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs.
Sing to God with gratitude in your hearts.” ~ Colossians 3:16

ENTERING GOD’S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

RINGING THE BELL & LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

GREETING

Rev. Cathy C. Hoop

One: The God of life be with you.

All: And also with you!

GATHERING SONG #667 *When Morning Gilds the Skies* (vs. 1)
#625 *How Great Thou Art* (vs. 1)

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Tim Staal

One: Come, make a joyful noise to God, all the earth!

All: This is the day that God has made;

One: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

All: This is the world that God has made;

One: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

**All: We are the people God has made, creative and generous,
made in the image of a creative and generous God.**

One: Let us rejoice! Let us create! Let us be generous!

All: Come, let us worship God!

***HYMN** #22 *God of the Sparrow* (vs. 1,2)

**Please stand if you are comfortable doing so.* _____

#664 *Morning Has Broken* (vs. 1)

#19 *God of Great and God of Small* (vs. 1)

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Rev. Dr. Paul Van Kempen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION #692 *Spirit, Open My Heart* (vs. 1)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON #435 *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* (vs. 1)

*PASSING THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

TIME WITH CHILDREN #188 *Jesus Loves Me*

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM Charlie DeVries, daughter of Katie & Josh DeVries

All: **The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Creator almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Creator.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy universal Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the
body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

BAPTISMAL SONG #482 *Baptized in Water* (vs. 3)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING: Acts 16: 25-28

***HYMN MEDLEY**

- #819 *Be Still My Soul* (vs.1)
- #840 *It Is well With My Soul* (vs.1)
- #649 *Amazing Grace* (vs.1)
- #465 *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* (vs.1)
- #39 *Great is Thy Faithfulness* (vs.1)
- #839 *Blessed Assurance* (vs.1)
- #838 *Standing on the Promises* (vs.1)

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

LIFE AT FIRST

Please take this time to sign the red Friendship Pad found on the pew near you. If you have a prayer request, you are invited to fill out a prayer card (found in the pew-backs) and put it in the offering plate. The ushers will deliver it to the pastors.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING & RECEIVING OF PLEDGE CARDS

OFFERTORY *Praise to the Lord*

arr. John Innes

***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, We raise our chorus of generosity and these gifts and
 pledges in gratitude for the many gifts you have given us. Help us to use
 them and ourselves to serve all of your children, whether in this church,
 community, or around the world. Amen.**

Hymn #643 *Now Thank We All Our God* (vs. 1)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

#470 *There is a Longing in Our Hearts*

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** #314 *Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness* (vs. 1, 5)

CARRYING GOD’S LOVE INTO THE WORLD

***BENEDICTION**

SENDING SONG #69 *Here I Am, Lord* (vs. 1)

Worship Leaders: Rev. Cathy Hoop, Rev. Paul Van Kempen, Beth Magennis,
 FPC Choir, Rose Gifford, Marcia Huizenga, Tim Staal
Thanks to: Sound and Video Tim Richardson, Greeter and Ushers, Bus Drivers,
 M&M Café Providers, Kiki Lemen and Nursery Care Providers

Our worshiping community extends beyond our sanctuary.
Let us hold in our prayers the following members:

Ellen Cuthbertson – Grand Pines Assisted Living
Lenore & Gordon DePree – Farmstead Assisted Living
Dean Effken – Riley’s Grove in Zeeland
Meriem Elwell – Freedom Village
Bill Evenson - Home
Judy & Jack Faber – Farmstead Assisted Living
Mickey & Neal Harris - home
JoAnn Karn – MediLodge (Rm 301)
Marianne & David McBeth - home
Jeanine Roberts – Home

Carolyn Russell – Resthaven Maplewoods
Phil Sturdevant – Resthaven Care Center
Mary Ann & Mike Van Houzen - Home
Sue & Don Williams - Freedom Village
Ron Williams – Michigan Veteran’s Home, Grand Rapids

If you know of someone who should be added to this list, please contact the church office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Advent Gathering Today // Come join us as we encourage one another in hope this Advent Season. Join us at 4pm. All ages welcome!

Congregational Meeting // Session is calling for a congregational meeting for the purpose of electing Elders, Deacons and a Youth Elder. Plan to attend Sunday, Dec. 7 immediately following worship.

The Wired Word // Adult education meets after worship on Sunday at 11:15 am in the Michigan Room. Join us for conversations around current events as we consider them through the lens of faith and scripture. To receive the lesson ahead of time, contact Cathy (cathy@fpcholland.org). This class is also offered on Zoom.

Chorus of Generosity // We encourage you to reflect on generosity through the giving of your resources of time and money. We will receive pledge cards today during our hymn sing celebration. Feel free to drop off your card at the church office if that is easier for you.

Nativity Display and Lanterns // The Worship and the Arts Council would love to display your Nativity scenes again in the M&M Cafe during our season of Advent. If you would like to contribute your Nativity scene, please drop them off in the office. Make sure your box is clearly labelled so we can return them to you after Epiphany. Do you have a “decorative” lantern you could loan to the church for Advent? As we welcome the light of Christ, we hope to add a variety of lanterns to our worship space. Thank you for your contributions!

Confirmation Class Meals // Our Confirmation class continues to meet over the next few months on Sunday afternoon from 12-1:30pm. We have three confirmands and their mentors - a group of seven, including Pastor Paul. **We're inviting members of the congregation to provide a meal for the group** - either by bringing something from home or picking up takeout. It's a simple but meaningful way to support our youth and their mentors as they grow in faith together. If you'd like to provide a meal, please sign up at the Outreach Desk.

Office Hours // During the week of Thanksgiving, the church office will be closed Thursday, November 27 and Friday, November 28. Normal office hours resume Monday, December 1.

First Presbyterian Preschool – Annual Car Wash Fundraiser // The Preschool is once again partnering with Quality Car Wash to raise funds for scholarships. You can purchase individual car wash passes or monthly subscription passes—perfect practical gifts and excellent stocking stuffers this holiday season! If you'd like to support the Preschool, please see Bev Plagenhoef to make your purchase. The fundraiser runs through Sunday, Dec. 7.

Men's Book Group // Our next meeting will be December 8 at 2:30pm. The book being discussed is *The Last Secret Agent* by Pippa LaTour.

Presbyterian Women // Wednesday, December 10 at Noon our annual Soup Luncheon will take place. And...the basket is in the church entry by the elevator for our annual gifts of women's and children's underwear to RESILIENCE. Gifts must be new and unwrapped.

Habitat for Humanity // The next Habitat work day is scheduled for December 11. Future work date is Jan. 15. Questions can be directed to wehaines@icloud.com.



CAC STOCKING STORE

Help the Children's Advocacy Center stock a "store" for parents and caregivers to "shop" for their children's stockings!

ITEMS NEEDED

Candy	\$5/\$10 gift cards
Socks	Headphones
Hair accessories	Keychains/Lanyards
Lotions	Small Playdough Kit
Chapstick	Small Kinetic Sand Kit
Makeup	Hot Wheels
Nail polish	Toothbrush & Toothpaste
Art supplies	Temporary tattoos
Jewelry	Small toys
Bath bombs	LEGO kits
Stickers	Slime kits
Fidget toys	Travel games
Cards	& more

Please deliver donations to the CAC prior to Dec. 05



If you would like to support the Stocking Store by making a monetary donation, click [here](#) or scan the QR code for our CAC Venmo.



From the Outreach Council // Children's Advocacy Center is again looking for sponsors for their children for the holidays. Child sexual abuse has many adverse effects on a family beyond trauma and physical harm, including a huge financial impact. Your sponsorship allows one less stressor on a family who is experiencing this devastation. There are still a couple children who need sponsors. The child's wish list will have items in four categories: wear, read, want & need. You can choose just 1 or 2 categories or all four. Feel free to sponsor a child with a friend dividing the list as you wish. Suggested spending per child is \$150. There will also be a list of items needed for the Stocking Store. Gifts will need to be dropped off at CAC or back at the church by December 7th. Contact Janet Hostetler at 740-704-4822 or janethostetler@gmail.com with any questions.

Volunteers Needed // We are in need of volunteers for the Christmas Eve Service(s). Please consider volunteering for one of the following: Usher, Bus driver and helper, Tech Team, Nursery and 5pm Communion Servers. If you are interested please contact Lori in the front office, office@fpcholland.org or 616-392-9022.

Handel's Messiah // The Zeeland Civic Chorus will perform Handel's Messiah on **Thursday, December 4**, at Trinity PRC of Hudsonville, and Tuesday, December 9, at Central Avenue CRC of Holland. Performances will begin at 7pm. Join us as we praise our Messiah with lyrics directly from God's Word.



Holiday Harmony // Enjoy the Grand Rapids Chorus of Sweet Adelines and the Great Lakes Chorus as they sing in the holiday season. Saturday, December 6 at 3pm. Fountain Street Church, 24 Fountain St. NE in Grand Rapids. General admission \$20. Seniors and students \$15. Children 10 and under free. Scan the QR code to purchase tickets.

Charity Sew-In Opportunity // Tuesday, January 20th, 10 am – 3 pm at FPC. Big Red Quilters' Guild (BRQG) of Holland is grateful to First Presbyterian Church for the opportunity to have some storage and meeting space for their Outreach Committee. The BRQG Outreach Committee and BRQG members make quilts to donate to Lakeshore Pregnancy, Hope Packages, Resilience and sometimes others as need arises. The guild members donated 110 quilts January – July of 2025! The BRQG Outreach Committee would like to invite First Presbyterian members who like to sew to their Sew In event on Tuesday, January 20, from 10-3 downstairs in the fellowship hall. Or just stop in to say hi and see what it's all about! There will be fabric and kits available to sew, you can make a few blocks or work on a whole quilt. Bring your own machine and sewing basics if you want to sew. There will also be opportunity to help by ironing blocks, and cutting fabrics for kits. We will have irons and ironing boards available but if you want to cut, you will need to bring your cutting mat and rotary cutter. If you have any questions, contact Janet Haines. 989-400-2998 or janethaines24@gmail.com.

Save the Date // The Women's Retreat is planned for Saturday, February 28 at FPC. Barb Schreur will be speaking. More details along with registration to come.

STAFF

Cathy Caldwell-Hoop
Paul Van Kempen

Lori Lepard
Marlene Field
Lori Klinesteker

Jane Oosterhouse
Thom Samuelson
Sue Stock

Senior Pastor and Head of Staff
Associate Pastor and
Director of Music
Administrative Assistant
Bookkeeper
Clerk of Session &
Children's Ministry Leader
Custodian
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DEACONS:

Class of 2026: Tom Glover, Terri Schamper

Class of 2027: Kristin Goddard, Lloyd Helder,
Michele Richardson, Leah Wallar

Class of 2028: Cathy Colten, Gail Hering,
Fred Mc Conkey

ELDERS:

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

Class of 2027: Jen Laux Ludwig, Tom Salley

Class of 2028: Jon Kreple, Lauren Stouffer,
Chris Urbaniak

Children's Programming During Worship:

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. Available for the whole service.
- Celebration Time - 4 years of age through 1st grade. Available after Children's Time.

Education Offerings After Worship:

Education hour is from 11:15a -12:00p. *All are welcome to participate!*

- Adult Class - Michigan Room
- Youth - Youth Room
- Worship Center - PreK - 5th grade
- Nursery - Newborn through 3 years

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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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