



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

ORDER OF WORSHIP
April 12, 2026 // 10am

CENTERING WORDS:

Questions form the scaffolding from which my own faith is built.
~ Suzanne Guthrie, *Edge of the Enclosure*

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

RINGING THE BELL & LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

GREETING

One: Christ is risen!

All: The Lord is risen indeed!

GATHERING SONG #240 Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks (Refrain)

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Kathy Sexton

One: Christ is risen.

All: Christ is risen, indeed.

One: God is alive...

All: New birth is given.

One: Hope is alive...

All: A new day is breaking.

One: Joy is alive...

All: Redemption is here.

One: Love is alive...

All: Death cannot harm us.

One: We are alive...

All: New life is within us.

One: The church is alive...

**All: God's spirit is at work within us.
God of life, we worship you.
God of creation, we praise you.
God of revelation, we learn from you.
God of resurrection, we come to celebrate you.**

OPENING PRAYER

***HYMN #250** *In the Bulb There is a Flower*

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: God of empty tombs, when we hesitate to speak of your hope,

All: forgive us, and give us a confident voice.

One: When we find it difficult to love another,

All: forgive us, and give us new compassion.

One: When we want to stand with the powerful,

**All: forgive us, and place us among the impoverished,
the silenced, the oppressed.**

One: When we allow ourselves to become locked down by our fears and doubts,

All: forgive us, and empower us with your Spirit.

**All: Life giving God, we know that our fears or questions do not frighten you.
Forgive us for those times when Easter seems beyond our grasp.
Forgive us, and fill us with your joy!**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Thanks be to God.

All: Christ has come to us. Amen!

*PASSING THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

TIME WITH CHILDREN *Halle, Halle, Halle*

MUSIC *I am the Man, Thomas*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING John 20: 19 - 31

One: The Word of God for the People of God.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON *Dancing with Doubts*

Rev. Cathy C. Hoop

***HYMN** *Ask the Complicated Question (Bulletin/Screen)*

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

OFFERTORY

***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**

One: Generous and surprising God,
when we thought that death
had claimed your only Son,
you amazed us with the resurrection.

All: Surprise us again
with your ability to turn these offerings
into gifts that will transform the world
through our witness to your love.
We lay our very lives at your feet, God,
knowing that you will use us
to proclaim and embody the gospel. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

One: In your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

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 #257** *The Risen Christ*

CARRYING GOD'S LOVE INTO THE WORLD

***BENEDICTION**

SENDING SONG #746 *Send Me, Jesus*

Worship Leaders: Rev. Cathy Hoop, Rev. Paul Van Kempen, Beth Magennis,
FPC Choir, Rose Gifford, Kathy Sexton, Cantor

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Presby What? // Would you like to learn more about the Presbyterian Church (USA), or about First Presbyterian of Holland? Curious about membership at FPC? **Starting today**, join us Sunday mornings (4/12 - 5/3) at 11:15am - 12 noon in the Ontario room for an opportunity to learn about the history, theology and mission of the PC(USA) and FPC. Contact Cathy at cathy@fpcholland.org.

Rev. Doug Brouwer invites you to join him for: Faith Speaking Into Crisis: What does the church say when it can no longer be silent? **Starting today**, join us Sunday mornings (4/12 - 5/3) at 11:15am - 12 noon in the Michigan room. Virtual option is also available.

The church does not confess its faith in a vacuum. The great Reformed confessions of the modern era were forged in moments of crisis — when the comfortable formulas of routine religion were no longer adequate, when the gospel itself was at stake — not unlike today. Each of the documents studied in this series was the church's answer to the question: What do we say in this moment?

- Session 1) The Barmen Declaration (1934),
- Session 2) The Confession of 1967,
- Session 3) The Belhar Confession (1986), and
- Session 4) The Accra Confession (2004)



Over the past year, we've been learning how to use our new screens and streaming technology as tools for worship. Our hope is that they support participation, deepen engagement, and help us share worship more fully with those joining online. As with any new tool, we're still learning together. Your feedback will help us understand what has been meaningful, what may have felt distracting and how we can use this technology in ways that best support our shared worship life. Thank you for helping us grow in this together.

Follow the QR code to take the survey, or find a paper copy outside the office.

Men's Book Group // All meetings are held at FPC on the second Monday of the month at 2:30pm. Join us! Our next meeting is **April 13** discussing *Gales of November* by John U. Bacon.

Community-Wide Song & Prayer // Celebrating together the International Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. "There is one body and one spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling." Ephesians 4:4. **Sunday, April 19** at 5pm at Maranatha Church (918 Central Ave, Holland). For more information go to www.CUSPholland.org.

Justice Reads //Justice Reads Book Group is currently reading, *The Color of Compromise* by Jemar Tisby. Grab a copy and plan on joining the conversation on **Thursday, April 30th** at 7pm in the M&M Cafe. For more info, contact Jan Brashler or Cathy Hoop.

4 Week Spring Taiji Class // Discovering the Health & Balance Benefits of Taiji (tai chi)
Taiji is a natural exercise to do and is one of the most effective workouts today to enhance mobility, improve balance while bringing relaxation. Taiji is an uplifting healing exercise for the body & mind promoting overall health & well-being. Known as an internal martial art, taiji has evolved over the years into an effective way to relieve stress and anxiety because it promotes relaxation and now well known for improving balance on many levels. It is an exercise for every age.

What: Four Week Spring Taiji (tai chi) Class

Dates: Tuesday April 14th, 21st & 28th // Time: 5:30 - 6:15pm

Location: First Presbyterian Church

Cost: \$40.00 includes access to free online practice and lesson videos

Questions: chris@timefortaiji.com or call 616-541-5933

Gilmore Car Museum Visit! // Once again the First Presbyterian Men's Group is sponsoring a visit to the Gilmore Car Museum on **Wednesday, May 13th**. The feature display this year will be GM Motorama Marvels from the Joe Bortz Collection!

We'll meet at church at 8:00am and take the church bus to the museum (Thank you Jon Kreple!). Should be back to the church around 5:00pm. Admission for the day is \$20. Also bring money for lunch and \$10 for gas for the bus. This is open to anyone interested who wants to go, not just the Men's Group. There are 3 motorized carts available to rent for \$30(first come first serve) and 4 wheelchairs for those needing assistance.

There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. If you have any questions please contact Bob Gansen at (269)753-7024 or robert.s.gansen@charter.net.



Summer is just around the corner! As you are planning your summer, make sure to **save the week of June 22-26** for Wild Wonder Camp at FPC!

Wild Wonder Camp will be held June 22-26 from 9-11:45 each day. We welcome campers k-6th grade (entering in the fall) and teen helpers from 7-12th grade.

Wild Wonder Camp is totally free!

Please use the QR Code register.

We are looking forward to another great week where we learn how to care for creation! If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out!



Save the Date // As you start making summer plans, consider joining us at Mystery Creek Campground for our paddle weekend, July 10-12. Come and camp or come for just the day - paddle or just hang out with us. It's a wonderful way to spend time outdoors growing friendships and having fun! Stay tuned for more details.

ASK THE COMPLICATED QUESTIONS

David Bjorlin, b.1984

RESTORATION
Walker's *Southern Harmony*, 1835



1. Ask the com - pli - cat - ed ques - tions,
2. Seek the dis - con - cert - ing an - swers,
3. Knock on doors of new i - de - as,
4. For in strug - gle we dis - cov - er



do not fear to be found out;
fol - low where the Spir - it blows;
test as - sump - tions long grown stale;
truth both sim - ple and pro - found;



for our God makes strong our weak - ness,
test com - pet - ing truths for wis - dom,
for Christ calls from shores of won - der,
in the knock - ing, ask - ing, seek - ing,



forg - ing faith in fires of doubt.
for in ten - sion new life grows.
dar - ing us to try and fail.
we are o - pened, an - swered, found.

In the Bulb There Is a Flower 250

Hymn of Promise

Capo 3: (D)

(Em)



1 In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple tree;
 2 There's a song in ev - ery si - lence, seek - ing word and mel - o - dy;
 3 In our end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i - ty;

(A7)

(D)



in co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise: but - ter - flies will soon be free!
 there's a dawn in ev - ery dark - ness, bring - ing hope to you and me.
 in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our life, e - ter - ni - ty.

(D7)

(G)

(Em)

(D)

(Bm)

(Em)

(F#)

(Bm)



In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,
 From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys - ter - y,
 In our death, a res - ur - rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to - ry,

(G)

(Em)

(D)

(Bm)

(Em)

(A7)

(D)



un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.

The Risen Christ

257



1 The ris - en Christ, who walks on wound - ed
 2 The ris - en Christ, who stands with wound - ed
 3 The ris - en Christ, who breaks with wound - ed
 4 May we, Christ's bod - y, walk and serve and



feet from gar - den tomb through dark - ened cit - y
 side, breathes out his Spir - it on them to a -
 hand the bread for those who fail to un - der -
 stand with the op - pressed in this and ev - ery



street, un - locks the door of grief, de - spair, and fear, and
 bide whose faith still wa - vers, who dare not be - lieve; new
 stand, re - veals him - self, de - spite their lin - gering tears, en -
 land, till all are blessed and can a bless - ing be, re -



speaks a word of peace to all who hear.
 grace, new strength, new pur - pose they re - ceive.
 flames their hearts, then quick - ly dis - ap - pears.
 stored in Christ to true hu - man - i - ty.

Send Me, Jesus

746

Thuma mina

Leader *All*

Thu - ma mi - na. Thu - ma mi - na, thu - ma mi - na. Thu - ma
Send me, Lord. 1 Send me, Je - sus; send me, Je - sus; send me,
(2 Lead me,) Je - sus; lead me, Je - sus; lead me,
(3 Fill me,) Je - sus; fill me, Je - sus; fill me,

Repeat ad lib.

End

- 2 Lead me, Lord.
3 Fill me, Lord.

mi - na, So - man - dla.
Je - sus; send me, Lord. 2 Lead me,
Je - sus; lead me, Lord. 3 Fill me,
Je - sus; fill me, Lord.

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
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DEACONS:

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

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

Class of 2029: Carleen Bauer, Marti Disler,
Mark Van Oostenburg

ELDERS:

Class of 2026: Luke Rund-Scott (Youth)

Class of 2027: Jen Laux Ludwig, Tom Salley,
Tim Staal

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

Class of 2029: Alana Cocanour, Paula Perkins

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

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