



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

ORDER OF WORSHIP  
May 3, 2026 // 10am

**CENTERING WORDS:** “There is a strength, a power even, in understanding brokenness, because embracing our brokenness creates a need and desire for mercy, and perhaps a corresponding need to show mercy.” ~ Bryan Stevenson, *Just Mercy*

**ENTERING GOD’S PRESENCE**

**PRELUDE**

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

**GREETING**

One: The God of life be with you.

**All: And also with you!**

**GATHERING SONG** #729 *Lord, I want to Be a Christian*

Jan Brashler

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Luke Rund-Scott

One: Once we were not a people,

**All: but now we are God’s people.**

One: Once we were alone,

**All: but together we are the household of God.**

One: Here in this time of worship, and later when we go forth to serve,

**All: Christ is our cornerstone, strengthening us for the journey.**

One: In our living and in our dying,

**All: Christ is our sure foundation, strengthening us along the way.**

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

**\*HYMN** #409 *God is Here!*

*\*Please stand if you are comfortable doing so.* \_\_\_\_\_

## INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Rev. Dr. Paul Van Kempen

One: If we say we are completely put together, the truth is not in us.

All: **But if we confess our distractions, our errors, and our anxieties,  
God will meet us and renew us.**

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: **Before God and God's people, I confess that I have  
been reluctant to speak out clearly,  
naming the injustice I see and declaring God's vision.  
Before God and one another,  
we confess our reluctance  
to receive our calling as God's people,  
made by God and chosen as witnesses  
to God's dream of justice and joy.  
Remind me, God,  
that you have made me for your service  
and recharge me with your Word.  
Renew us, God.  
Grant us courage to live out your Way of peace and grace.  
We ask it in Jesus' name; Amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: God has promised that whenever we repent  
and seek a new union with God,  
forgiveness is ours.  
That promise comes true now.  
Siblings, know that in Christ Jesus,  
we are forgiven.

All: **Thanks be to God! 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*

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

**CAUTION:** *We will now read a passage of Scripture that includes violence. We will read it as it is written—not to justify harm, but to tell the truth—trusting that God meets us even here. And we receive it with humility, remembering that the church has too often failed to stand with the oppressed and has at times blessed what God condemns. Our reading, from Acts 7: 55 – 60 is the death of the apostle Stephen.*

Acts 7: 55 – 60

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

1 Peter 2:3b – 10

One: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

### SERMON

*Throwing And Catching*

Rev. Cathy C. Hoop

\*HYMN #361 *O Christ, the Great Foundation*

### 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**

**All: Bountiful God,  
All that we can offer you stems from your generosity.  
May the gifts that we return to you  
become a blessing for your whole community,  
enriching and empowering us for the work to which you call us.  
Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S 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.**

## **ANTHEM**

*A Communion Invitation*

Martin and Courtney

## **THE LORD'S SUPPER**

### **INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

### **COMMUNION NARRATIVE**

### **PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **COMMUNION OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

*All are welcome at the table. The bread is gluten free and the juice is non-alcoholic.*

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

## **\*HYMN**

*I Have Decided to Follow Jesus (Screen/Insert)*

## CARRYING GOD'S LOVE INTO THE WORLD

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*SENDING SONG**     *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus (vs 1)*

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**Worship Leaders:** Rev. Cathy Hoop, Rev. Dr. Paul Van Kempen, Beth Magennis,  
FPC Choir, Rose Gifford, Luke Rund-Scott, Jan Brashler

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

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## 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? **Today is our last class** but you can still join us for an opportunity to learn about the history, theology and mission of the PC (USA) and FPC. We meet from 11:15am - 12 noon in the Ontario room. Questions? Contact Cathy at [cathy@fpcholland.org](mailto: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? 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?

Join us for the last discussion centered on, *The Accra Confession* (2004).

We meet today from 11:15am - 12 noon in the Michigan room. Virtual option is also available.



**Screens & Streaming Survey** // 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.**

**Celebrating Our Graduates** // If you have a student graduating this spring and would like to celebrate that accomplishment with the church family, please let us know by emailing [paul@fpcholland.org](mailto:paul@fpcholland.org).

**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](mailto:robert.s.gansen@charter.net).

**Crop Hunger Walk** // May 17 walking from 1-3pm beginning at Centennial Park in Holland. Community Action House has served the community since 1969 with innovative solutions like food club and its Community Kitchen. Kid's Food Basket provides meals to school children and also educates them on healthy food choices. Harvest Stand Ministries in Zeeland oversees 8 mini food pantries, providing easy and safe access to its clients. Hand2Hand ministry provides 10,000 students in West Michigan with meals to see them through the week-end. These are four of the agencies you support by walking in the CROP Hunger Walk. Sign up today at [www.hollandhunger.org](http://www.hollandhunger.org) and join us to walk May 17 between 1-3pm beginning at Centennial Park in Holland.

**Men's Book Group** // Our next meeting is May 11 at 2:30pm discussing, *The Women* by Kristen Hannah. After this meeting we will take a break for the summer and resume in September. The first two books following summer break are:

September 14 – *The Path Between the Seas* by David McCullough

October 12 – *Chicago's Great Fire* by Carl Smith

All meetings are held at FPC. Contact Don Cowie with questions.

**Habitat for Humanity** // The next Habitat for Humanity workday is May 14. Work dates often fill up quickly. Future work dates include June 3, July 16 and August 13. Contact Bill Haines with questions, [wehaines@icloud.com](mailto:wehaines@icloud.com)

**Women's Book Club** // Please note due to Mother's Day, our group will meet May 17 from 1-2pm in the M&M Cafe discussing the book, *The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post* by Allison Pataki.

**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.



**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!**

**Follow 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!

# I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus". It is written in 4/4 time and consists of three systems of music. Each system includes a vocal line in the treble clef and a bass line in the bass clef. The first system starts with a C chord and ends with a C7 chord. The second system starts with an F chord and ends with a C chord. The third system starts with a C chord, has a G7 chord in the middle, and ends with a C chord. The lyrics are arranged in three verses, with the first verse starting at the beginning of the first system and the second and third verses starting at the beginning of the second system. The final line of the third system is "Je - sus; fol - low; no turn - ing back, no turn - ing back." with "fore me;" on the line above.

C C7

1 I have de - cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus; I have de -  
2 Though none go with me, still I will fol - low; though none go  
3 The world be - hind me, the cross be - fore me; the world be -

F C

cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus; I have de - cid - ed to fol - low  
with me, still I will fol - low; though none go with me, still I will  
hind me, the cross be - fore me, the world be - hind me, the cross be -

C G7 C

Je - sus;  
fol - low; no turn - ing back, no turn - ing back.  
fore me;

# 729 Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

1 Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart, in my heart;  
 2 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart, in my heart;  
 3 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart, in my heart;  
 4 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart, in my heart;

Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.  
 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.  
 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.  
 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

In my heart, in my heart,  
 In my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.  
 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.  
 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.  
 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to  
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our  
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the  
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an

of - fer praise and prayer, may we find in  
 life - long need of grace; here are ta - ble,  
 Shep - herd's flock and fold; here as bread and  
 age of change and doubt keep us faith - ful

full - er mea - sure what it is in Christ we share.  
 font, and pul - pit; here the cross has cen - tral place.  
 wine are tak - en, Christ sus - tains us as of old.  
 to the gos - pel; help us work your pur - pose out.

## God Is Here!

Here, as in the world a - round us, all our  
 Here in hon - es - ty of preach - ing, here in  
 Here the ser - vants of the Ser - vant seek in  
 Here, in this day's ded - i - ca - tion, all we

var - ied skills and arts wait the com - ing  
 si - lence, as in speech, here, in new - ness  
 wor - ship to ex - plore what it means in  
 have to give, re - ceive: we, who can - not

of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.  
 and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.  
 dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.  
 live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

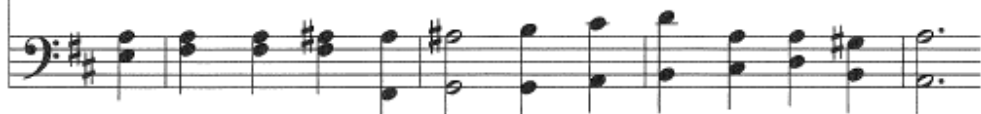
# O Christ, the Great Foundation 361



1 O Christ, the great foun-da-tion on which your peo-ple stand  
2 Bap-tized in one con-fes-sion, one church in all the earth,  
3 Where ty-rants' hold is tight-ened, where strong de-vour the weak,  
4 This is the mo-ment glo-rious when he who once was dead



to preach your true sal-va-tion in ev-ery age and land:  
we bear our Lord's im-pres-sion, the sign of sec-ond birth:  
where in-no-cents are fright-ened, the righ-teous fear to speak,  
shall lead his church vic-to-rious, their cham-pion and their head.



pour out your Ho-ly Spir-it to make us strong and pure,  
one ho-ly peo-ple gath-ered in love be-yond our own,  
there let your church a-wak-ing at-tack the powers of sin  
The Lord of all cre-a-tion his heav-en-ly king-dom brings:



to keep the faith un-bro-ken as long as worlds en-dure.  
by grace we were in-vit-ed; by grace we make you known.  
and, all their ram-parts break-ing, with you the vic-tory win.  
the fi-nal con-sum-ma-tion, the glo-ry of all things.



# STAFF

Cathy Caldwell-Hoop  
Paul Van Kempen

Lori Lepard  
Marlene Field  
Lori Klinesteker

Jane Oosterhouse  
Thom Samuelson  
Sue Stock

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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