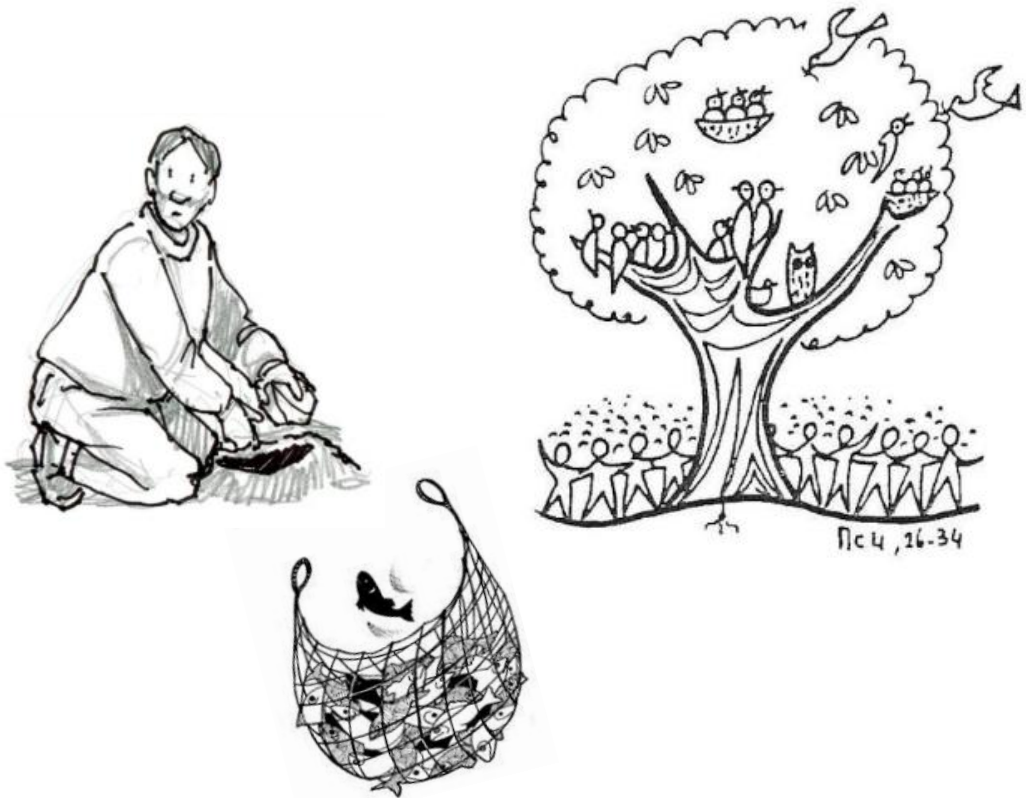




*Worshiping, serving, and living with a fresh vision of
God's vibrant energy and grace for all.*

ORDER OF WORSHIP

July 26, 2026 // 10am

CENTERING WORDS:

Try and be a sheet of paper with nothing on it.
Be a spot of ground where nothing is growing,
where something might be planted,
a seed, possibly, from the Absolute.

~ Mevlana Julaluddin Rumi 1207-1273

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Simple Gifts (Shaker Tune)

arr. Sewell

All Creatures of Our God and King (Tune: *Lasst Uns Erfreyen*) arr. Lani Smith

RINGING THE BELL & LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

GREETING

One: The God of life be with you.

All: And also with you!

GATHERING SONG

All the Hungry, All the Thirsty (Bulletin/Screen)

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Gary Smith

One: The kin-dom of God is here and coming!

All: Kin-dom? What does that even mean?

One: A shared community, where we serve one another in love.

All: God's love, peace & justice embodied in the world.

One: The kin-dom of God is here and coming!

All: Amen! Let us worship God in spirit and truth.

***OPENING PRAYER**

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

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Rev. Dr. Paul Van Kempen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Where can I go from your spirit?

All: Or where could I get away from your presence?

One: If I climbed the heavens, you would be there;

All: if I made my bed in the depths, you would be there.

One: If I were to fly with the morning light

All: and settle at the farthest limits of the sunset,

One: even there your hand would lead me,

All: and your right hand would take hold of me.

One: If I asked the darkness to cover me,

All: and the light around me to become night,

One: even the darkness is not dark to you;

All: the night is as bright as the day, for light and dark are just the same.

Forgive what we have been,

help us amend what we are,

and shape what we shall be;

that we may delight in your will,

and walk in your way of justice and truth;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Hear the good news: There is nowhere we can go beyond God's mercy,
and no darkness where Christ's light cannot reach us.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, restored, and shaped for justice and truth.

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

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

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Myriad Truths and a Lie

Rev. Cathy C. Hoop

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

One: We believe in God:

**All: who is older than eternity
and younger than our next breath;
who is beyond describing
yet knows us all by name;
who inspires faith
yet cannot be contained by religion.**

One: We believe in Jesus Christ,
flesh of our flesh, bone of our bone;

**All: He came in the body
to give worth to every human life.
He touched the untouchable,
loved the unlovable,**

One: Forgave the unforgivable
and endured slander,
persecution and death
in order through suffering love
God's kin-dom might come to earth.

**All: He rose from the grave as living proof
that what is laid down in faith
will be raised in glory.
He ascended to heaven
that he might be present
at all times
to all people.**

One: We believe in the Holy Spirit;
who leads us into truth and freedom,

All: Who gives good gifts
to all God's children,
who inspires research, enables prayer,
and wills that human economics and politics
should prioritize justice,
care of the earth
and the healing of the nations.

One: We celebrate the potential of the church;

All: the life in our bodies,
the yearning in our souls,
the promise of good things in store
for those who love the Lord. Amen.

***HYMN** *The Reign of God* (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 *Syahamba* (Zulu melody) arr. John Carter

***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: Creating God, plant in us seeds of generosity, that we may nurture your world and spread your grace. Bless these gifts, that they may be planted in places where hope grows dim and your children groan with need.
In Christ's name we pray, 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.

***HYMN** #852 *When the Lord Redeems the Very Least*

CARRYING GOD'S LOVE INTO THE WORLD

***BENEDICTION**

***SENDING SONG** #742 *We Will Walk with God*

Worship Leaders: Rev. Cathy Hoop, Rev. Dr. Paul Van Kempen, Beth Magennis,
 Rose Gifford, Karen Howells, Gary Smith

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

Liturgy Resources: Nancy C. Townley, on the Worship Connection page of the Ministry Matters (Call to Worship), Jeff Shrowder, The Billabong website (confession), Wild Goose Resource Group (Affirmation of Faith), Ann Siddall, Stillpoint Spirituality Centre (pastoral prayer)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult Education // *The Wired Word*, Adult Education begins at 11:15am. If you prefer to participate virtually, check your email Sunday morning for a ZOOM link. Want to receive the lesson ahead of time? Contact Cathy, cathy@fpcholland.org.

Grief Support // Our next meeting will take place July 29th at 2:00pm. Contact Cathy for more information.

Outdoor Discovery Center Worship // *Please note this event will take place the SECOND Sunday of August. Join us for worship at the Outdoor Discovery Center pavilion on Sunday, August 9 at 10am.

This service will be intergenerational, and all ages will be encouraged to participate! Feel free to bring your favorite lawn chair to sit in, however there are plenty of chairs and tables available in the pavilion. You are welcome to bring your own coffee! Lemonade and cookies will be served after worship. If you wish, bring a lunch to eat after the service, walk the fully accessible trails, have fun on the playground, or visit the animals and birds of prey cared for by the ODC.

A reminder that this service will not be live streamed however, it will be recorded and available later in the day to watch on our YouTube channel.

The Outdoor Discovery Center is located at 4214 56th St, on the south side of Holland.

Holland Community Theatre // Sign up to see the comedy "*Get Smart*" at HCT on Saturday, August 15th at 7:00pm. Tickets are \$12.50 to be paid when you sign up. If you would also like to join the group for dinner at the Curraugh, indicate that, too. Sign up in the lobby.

Learn about our Labyrinth // Presbyterian Women, the Bible Study and womens' unity organization of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A., invites women of FPC Holland to learn more about the unique design in the Fellowship Hall carpeting...our labyrinth! All are welcome to bring your own coffee or tea and meet downstairs on **August 5th at 9:30 am**. Our prayer labyrinth offers each individual a physical opportunity, beyond prayer or Bible study, "facilitating global unity or individual meditation." Pastor Paul will be there to introduce this tool and suggest how to integrate it into our faith practices.

BYO morning drink and we will supply some tasty morning goodies. Come and have a good time and learn more about our labyrinth. *Hope to see you there!*

Presbyterian Women Bible Study // Wednesday, September 9 at 9:30am will be our first meeting. Join us if you are able.

Habitat Work Date // August 13 is the next Habitat work date. Be sure to plan accordingly as work dates fill up fast. Contact Bill Haines with questions, wehaines@icloud.com

All the Hungry, All the Thirsty

Elizabeth Smith

HYMN TO JOY

All the hun - gry, all the thir - sty, all who look for strength may come,
All God's peo - ple praise your Mak - er, praise the one who called you here.

all the need - y, all the lone - ly, all who long to find a home.
All dis - ci - ples, praise your Teach - er; lov - ing, lead - ing, al - ways near.

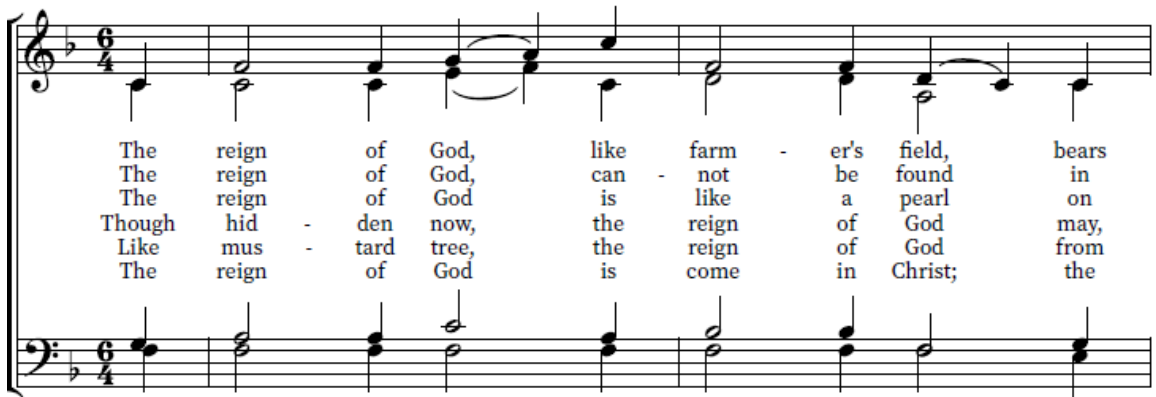
Here's a door that's al - ways o - pen, here's a tab - le spread for all,
All you faith - ful, praise the Spi - rit, lift - ing ev' - ry heart to pray.

here a wel - come, here a fam - ily, here your heart can hear God's call.
Praise the Ho - ly One who gives us grace a - long the trav' - ler's way.

The Reign of God

Delores Dufner

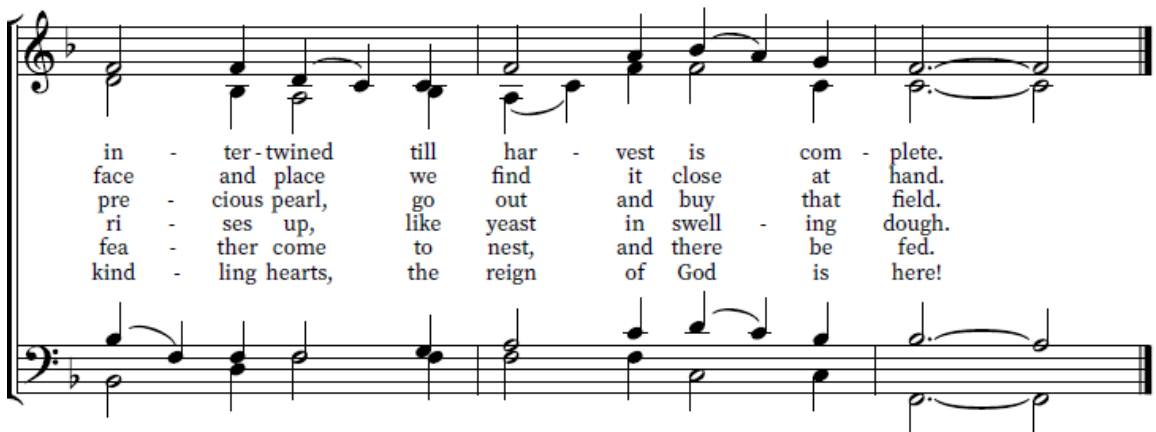
LAND OF REST



The reign of God, like farm - er's field, bears
The reign of God, can - not be found in
The reign of God, is like a pearl on
Though hid - den now, the reign of God may,
Like mus - tard tree, the reign of God from
The reign of God, is come in Christ; the



weeds a - long with wheat; the good and bad are
far - off for - eign land con - cealed. till in fam - il - iar
bar - ren land con - cealed. If once you find that
yet un - not - iced, grow; From deep with - in it
ti - ny seed will spread, till birds of ev - 'ry
reign of God is near. A - blaze a - mong us,



in - ter - twined till har - vest is com - plete.
face and place we find it close at hand.
pre - cious pearl, go out and buy that field.
ri - ses up, like yeast in swell - ing dough.
fea - ther come to nest, and there be fed.
kind - ling hearts, the reign of God is here!

Let All Things Now Living



1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks-giv - ing
2 By law God en - forc - es, the stars in their cours - es,



to God our Cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise;
the sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;



who fash-ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us,
the hills and the moun-tains, the riv - ers and foun-tains,



by guid - ing us on to the end of our days.
the depths of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.



God's ban-ners are o'er us; pure light goes be - fore us,
We too should be voic - ing our love and re - joic - ing;



a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night:
with glad ad - o - ra - tion, a song let us raise,



Let All Things Now Living

The musical score is written on two staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the first line of the melody, and the second staff contains the second line. Chords are indicated by letters above the notes: G, D, G, Am, D on the first staff, and G, C, G, D, G on the second staff. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables spread across multiple notes.

till shad - ows have van - ished, all fear - ful - ness ban - ished,
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing:

as for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
to God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!

852 When the Lord Redeems the Very Least



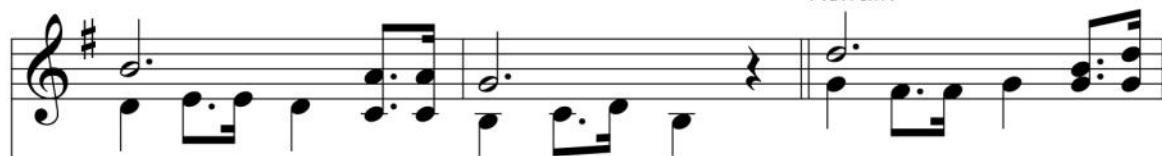
1 When the Lord re - deems the ver - y least,
 2 When the Lord re - stores the sick and weak, we will re -
 3 When the Lord re - vives the world from death, we will re-joyce, will re -
 4 When the Lord re - turns in vic - to - ry,



joyce.
 joyce, will re-joyce. When the hun - gry gath - er for the feast,
 When the earth is giv - en to the meek,
 When the word of God fills ev - ery breath,
 When we live in glo - rious lib - er - ty,



Refrain



we will re-joyce. We will re-
 we will re-joyce, will re-joyce, will re-joyce. We will re-joyce, will re-



852 When the Lord Redeems the Very Least

joyce with glad-ness. We will re-joyce.
joyce with glad-ness. We will re-joyce, will re-joyce with glad-ness. All our

We will re-joyce!
days we'll sing to God in praise. We will re-joyce, will re-joyce, will re-joyce!

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The first system of music has lyrics underneath. The second system of music also has lyrics underneath. The music is written in a simple, clear style, suitable for a hymn book.

742

We Will Walk with God

Sizohamba naye

We will walk with God, my broth-ers; we will walk with God.

Si - zo - ham - ba na - ye, wo wo wo, si - zo - ham - ba na - ye.



We will walk with God, my sis-ters; we will walk with God.

Si - zo - ham - ba na - ye, wo wo wo, si - zo - ham - ba na - ye.



We will go re - joic - ing till the king - dom has come.

Ngom-hla wen - ja - bu - la, si - zo - ham - ba na - ye.



We will go re - joic - ing till the king - dom has come.

Ngom-hla wen - ja - bu - la, si - zo - ham - ba na - ye.

STAFF

Cathy Caldwell-Hoop
Paul Van Kempen

Lori Lepard
Marlene Field
Lori Klinesteker

Jane Oosterhouse
Thom Samuelson
Sue Stock

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Associate Pastor and
Director of Music
Administrative Assistant
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Clerk of Session &
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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! Please note Education Hour is on summer break for children and youth and will resume in September.*

- 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