



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

ORDER OF WORSHIP
August 16, 2026 // 10am

CENTERING WORDS:

The tongue has no bones but is strong enough to break a heart.

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 #288 *Spirit of the Living God*

Tim Staal

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Gail Hering

One: God of the prophets, call to us today.

All: **Call us into Your ways of love, justice and righteousness.**

One: God of the poets, remind us again how much You love us.

All: **Sing to us Your ways of love, justice and righteousness.**

One: God of the disciples, teach us how to follow You.

All: **Teach us Your ways of love, justice and righteousness.**

One: God of all creation, help us to know Your ways

All: **We gather to hear Your call,
to sing Your praise,
to teach each other,
to pray and worship as the Body of Christ.**

*OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN #306 *Blest Be the Tie that Binds*

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Rev. Dr. Paul Van Kempen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Loving God, present and near.
You are beyond our words and our understanding.
Help us to remember that You are at once
infinite, boundless, timeless and eternal
yet also intimately entwined with our lives.
You are with us no matter where we find ourselves.
When we have forgotten You,

All: Lord, have mercy.

One: When we have failed to speak words of love,

All: Lord, have mercy.

One: When we have neglected the need of another,

All: Lord, have mercy.

Loving God, present and near,
help us to recognize Your presence and nearness with us
as we worship together.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

KYRIE

Cantor:	Congregation (echo)	<i>Translation</i>
Kyrie eleison.	Kyrie eleison.	<i>Lord, have mercy.</i>
Christe eleison.	Christe eleison.	<i>Christ, have mercy.</i>
Kyrie eleison.	Kyrie eleison.	<i>Lord, have mercy</i>

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*PASSING THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

TIME WITH CHILDREN *Come, Little Children*

MUSIC *Thou I May Speak* Tim Staal & Paul Van Kempen

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 133

Matthew 15: 10 – 20

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

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON *Learning & Unlearning* Rev. Cathy C. Hoop

***HYMN** #722 *Lord, Speak to Me that I May Speak*

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: Almighty God,
giver of every good and perfect gift,
teach us to give to you all that we have and all that we are,
that we may praise you not with our words only,
but with our whole lives. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

One: Lord, 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** #300 *They'll Know We are Christians by our Love*

CARRYING GOD'S LOVE INTO THE WORLD

***BENEDICTION**

SENDING SONG *My Friends May You Grow in Grace* (Bulletin/Screen)

Various pieces of today's liturgy (adapted for use at FPC) were written by Rev. Mindi/ Rev-o-lution, John Birch, and Thomas Sutcliffe

Worship Leaders: Rev. Cathy Hoop, Rev. Paul Van Kempen, Beth Magennis,
FPC Choir, Rose Gifford, Tim Staal, Gail Hering

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

My Friends, May You Grow in Grace

6 My friends, may you grow in grace, and in the know-ledge of our

12 Lord and Sav - ior. My friends, may you grow in grace,

18 and in the know-ledge of Je - sus Christ. To God be the

24 glo-ry, now and for - ev - er, now and for - ev - er, a - men.

28 To God be the glo - ry, now and for -

ev - er, now and for - ev - er, a - men.

The musical score is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The score is divided into six lines, with measure numbers 6, 12, 18, 24, 28, and 34 indicated at the start of each line. The lyrics are: 'My friends, may you grow in grace, and in the know-ledge of our Lord and Sav - ior. My friends, may you grow in grace, and in the know-ledge of Je - sus Christ. To God be the glo-ry, now and for - ev - er, now and for - ev - er, a - men. To God be the glo - ry, now and for - ev - er, now and for - ev - er, a - men.'

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult Education // *The Wired Word*, Adult Education begins at 11:15am today. 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.

Blessing of the Backpacks // Learners of all ages, bring your backpacks, diaper bags, totes to worship NEXT Sunday, August 23rd for the blessing of the backpacks! A new year of growing, learning and teaching begins!

FPC Child and Youth Safety Policy Annual Training // Training will be held TODAY at 9:15am or 11:15am. Nursery care will be provided. Nursery care will be provided. To protect both children and all who are in a position of caring for or supervising them, these guidelines and procedures of conduct are established in a conscious effort for a safe church environment. If you care for, supervise or work with the children or youth (newborn – 18 years of age), please plan to attend. All are invited. We will offer this training again at a later date.
Thank you, Lori Klinester and Lauren Stouffer.

Blessing of the Backpacks // Learners of all ages, bring your backpacks, diaper bags, totes to worship on Sunday, August 23rd for the blessing of the backpacks! A new year of growing, learning and teaching begins!

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

Men's Book Group // We will pick up again in September. Like last year, we plan to meet on the second Monday of each month at 2:30pm. The next couple books are:
September 14 – *The Path Between the Seas* by David McCullough
October 12 – *Chicago's Great Fire* by Carl Smith

Justice Reads Book Group // Hello Justice Readers! There were so many excellent books to choose from and a variety of votes, but *James* by Percival Everett took the lead. Our next meeting date is September 24 at 7pm. Hope you can be there!

Note from the Bookkeeper // Second quarter (January-June) giving statements were sent out Monday August 3 via email. Please let the bookkeeper know if you did not receive your statement. marlene@fpcholland.org. We do not have everyone's email address on file so if you want to be included in the future, please provide that information to the administrative assistant Lori Lepard, office@fpcholland.org or 616-392-9022. Please let Marlene know if you would like a copy of your 2nd quarter giving statement sent out using USPS.

Children's Advocacy Center // Children's Advocacy Center is requesting our help in restocking Cora's Care Closet. They are specifically asking for cleaning supplies such as: laundry detergent, paper towels, dish soap, toilet paper, multi-purpose cleaner & personal hygiene items. Families going through crisis are invited to access the closet for basic needs. A complete list of needed items is located near the Outreach shelves or in the Wednesday, eWeekly email. This is one small way we can help lighten their load. Bring items to the church and place them in the Outreach shelves marked for them or you can take directly to the center. Thanks for your help meeting this need. CAC is one of our partner agencies supported by Outreach Council. If you have questions, contact Janet Hostetler, 740-704-4822.

Spirit of the Living God

288

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

The first system of music is in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The treble staff features a melody with eighth and quarter notes, while the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. The lyrics are repeated below the treble staff.

Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.

The third system of music features a new line of lyrics: "Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me." The melody in the treble staff includes a melisma on the word "use" with a long note and a grace note. The bass staff continues the accompaniment.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

The fourth system of music concludes the piece with a final measure in the treble staff marked with a double bar line. The lyrics are repeated below the treble staff.

Blest Be the Tie That Binds 306



1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in
 2 Be - fore our *Fa - ther's throne we pour our
 3 We share our mu - tual woes; our mu - tual
 4 When we are called to part, it gives us
 5 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we



Chris - tian love. The fel - low - ship of
 ar - dent prayers. Our fears, our hopes, our
 bur - dens bear. And of - ten for each
 in - ward pain; but we shall still be
 shall be free; and per - fect love and

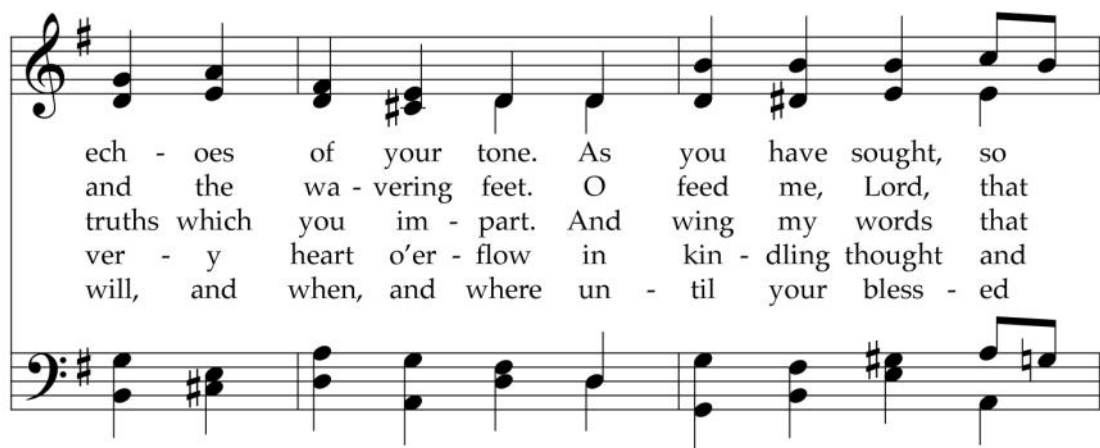


kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.
 aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
 oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
 joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.
 friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

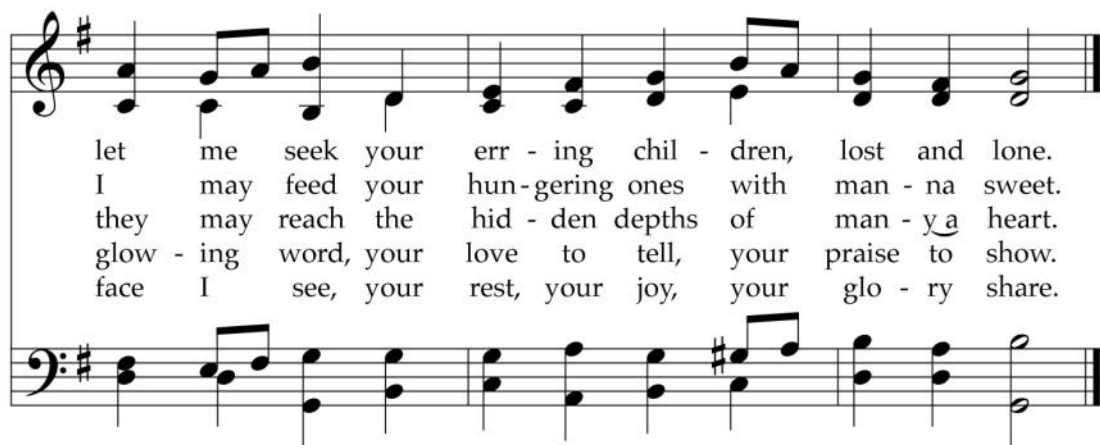
722 Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak



1 Lord, speak to me that I may speak in liv - ing
 2 O lead me, Lord, that I may lead the wan - dering
 3 O teach me, Lord, that I may teach the pre - cious
 4 O fill me with your full - ness, Lord, un - til my
 5 O use me, Lord, use e - ven me, just as you



ech - oes of your tone. As you have sought, so
 and the wa - vering feet. O feed me, Lord, that
 truths which you im - part. And wing my words that
 ver - y heart o'er - flow in kin - dling thought and
 will, and when, and where un - til your bless - ed



let me seek your err - ing chil - dren, lost and lone.
 I may feed your hun - gering ones with man - na sweet.
 they may reach the hid - den depths of man - ya heart.
 glow - ing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.
 face I see, your rest, your joy, your glo - ry share.

We Are One in the Spirit 300

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love



1 We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord;
 2 We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand;
 3 We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side;
 4 All praise to the Fa - ther, from whom all things come,



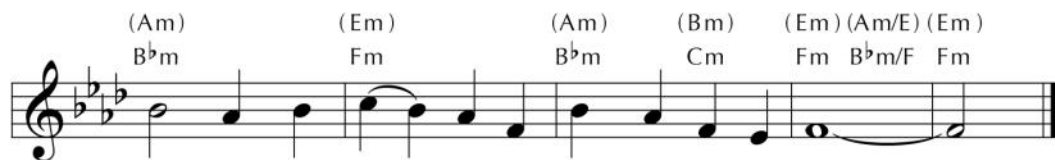
we are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord,
 we will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand,
 we will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side,
 and all praise to Christ Je - sus, God's on - ly Son,



and we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored:
 and to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:
 and we'll guard hu - man dig - ni - ty and save hu - man pride:
 and all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one:



And they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love, by our



love; yes, they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love.

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 &
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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

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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