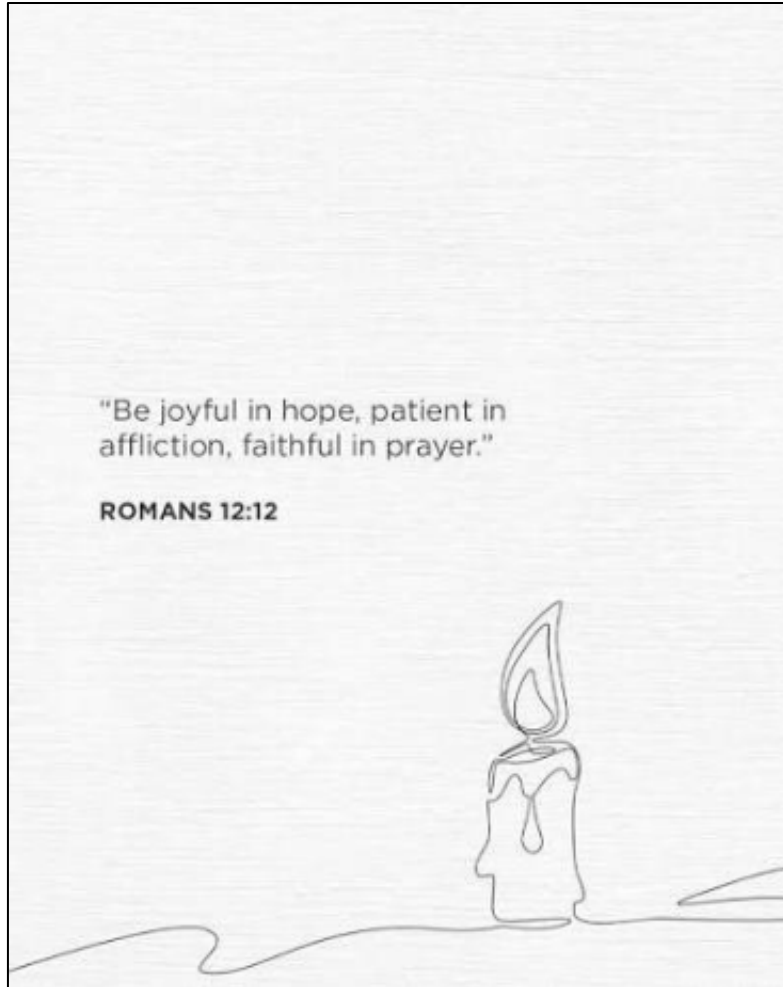




"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer."

ROMANS 12:12



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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

August 30, 2026 // 10am

CENTERING WORDS:

Pour yourself out; let the world pour in;
then you are one with the Beloved, the Christ.

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Little Prelude No. 1

J.S. Bach

Karen Howells

RINGING THE BELL & LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

GREETING

One: The God of life be with you.

All: And also with you!

GATHERING SONG #701 *Lord, Prepare Me*

Colleen Ball

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Will Rund

One: We come to worship this morning from different places.

All: God, do not be far from us.

One: We come to worship this morning for different reasons.

All: God, do not be far from us.

All: We experience the presence of the Spirit in different ways.

All: God, do not be far from us.

One: We hear Jesus' words with different ears.

All: God, do not be far from us.

One: "Deny yourselves."

All: God, do not be far from us.

One: "Take up your cross."

All: God, do not be far from us.

One: "Follow me."

All: God, we thank you for drawing near to us in this place, in our lives. Amen.

*OPENING PRAYER

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: You call us to be your voices in this world,

All: and we stay silent.

One: You call us to be your hands in this world,

All: and we keep them hidden.

One: You call us to be your feet in this world,

All: and we go our own way.

One: When we meet those who are doubting and say nothing,

All: forgive us.

One: When we meet those who need your touch and do nothing,

All: forgive us.

One: When we are called to take up your cross and carry nothing,

All: forgive us.

One: Breathe life into our bones, bring freedom to these lives
that we might declare with heart and soul and voice
that you are our Lord and our God. Amen.

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 *Take My Life*

by Chris Tomlin

Colleen Ball

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Matthew 16: 21 - 28

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

All: Thanks be to God!

Romans 12: 9 – 21

One: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Both And

Rev. Cathy C. Hoop

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Excerpted from A Brief Statement of Faith, PC(USA)

**All: In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"
With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Glory be to the Creator, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

***HYMN** #718 *Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said*

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

Live into Hope (Hymn #772)

arr. Roger Wilson

Karen Howells

***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: Generous God,
thank you for the gift of life and for all we have to share.
Receive these offerings, given with joy, delight, and thanks.
Use them—and us—to bless the world in Christ's name. 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 #833 *O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

CARRYING GOD'S LOVE INTO THE WORLD

***BENEDICTION**

SENDING SONG #698 *Take, O Take Me as I Am

Worship Leaders: Rev. Cathy Hoop, Rev. Paul Van Kempen, Beth Magennis, Rose Gifford,
Will Rund, Karen Howells, Colleen Ball.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastoral Leadership Feedback Survey // Over the next few weeks, Session will be inviting the congregation to participate in a pastoral leadership feedback process. This is part of our commitment to healthy communication, shared ministry, and mutual accountability as a church.

The survey is non-anonymous and intended to help strengthen our ministry together through thoughtful and constructive feedback. Individual responses will be reviewed only by the Personnel Council — pastors will not see individual comments. The Council will summarize overall themes to share with pastoral staff. More information and the survey link will be shared this week.



Rev. Cathy C. Hoop

Scan the QR code to fill out Cathy's Feedback Survey.



Rev. Dr. Paul Van Kempen

Scan the QR code to fill out Paul's Feedback Survey.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fifth Sunday Offering Today // The Outreach Council has designated the fifth Sunday of the month as a day to learn more about one of our outreach partners and receive a special offering for their ministry. We look forward to welcoming staff and participants from Escape Ministries for this month's special offering. Click [here](#) to learn more about Escape Ministries!

Prayer Shawl Ministry // Our Common Threads participants, who create prayer shawls for those going through difficult times, have shawls to share today. Look for prayer shawls placed around the sanctuary. If you know someone who would be blessed to receive a shawl, you are invited to take one with you after worship.

Adult Education // The Wired Word, Adult Education begins at 11:15am. This Sunday we are discussing our nation's \$40 trillion debt, our relationship with debt, and what we can learn from scripture concerning debt (and compassion.) Want to receive the lesson ahead of time? Contact Cathy, cathy@fpcholland.org.

Fall Kick Off Picnic // September 13 Join us for a picnic on Sunday, September 13th, immediately following worship. We will gather outside (28th Street will be closed) to enjoy hot dogs (meat and veggie options) and sides (provided by you). Bring yard games to share (Corn Hole, Ladder Toss, etc.) A joyful day to join together as a community!

FPC Choir // September 13 Choir is starting up again on September 13, rehearsal at 9am for the 10am service. Whether you've sung with us before or are thinking about joining for the first time, everyone is welcome! Come have some fun, sing with great people, and add your voice to our worship! Childcare can be arranged for those who need it; please let us know if that would make it possible for you to participate. Email Pastor Paul (paul@fpcholland.org) to be added to the email list!

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

Theatre Outing // Join us for the musical comedy *The Addams Family*, at HCT on October 3rd at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$22. Sign up in the lobby. Dinner at 5:30pm at the Curraugh is optional.

Men's Book Group // Our next meeting date is September 14 discussing, *The Path Between the Seas* by David McCullough. October 12, we'll be discussing, *Chicago's Great Fire* by Carl Smith. We meet the second Monday of the month at FPC at 2:30pm. Questions? Contact Don Cowie.

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 Sept. 24 at 7pm. Hope you can be there!

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. 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. 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.

Prayers for Peace // First Reformed Church (630 State Street in Holland) invites the community to a Prayers for Peace service on Monday, September 14, from 5:30-6:00-PM. Join fellow believers from across West Michigan as we come together to pray for God's peace, guidance, and blessing for our nation, our communities, and our world. All are welcome!

Grand Rapids Chorus Sweet Adelines // A celebration of 75 years of four-part vocal harmony with the Grand Rapids Chorus of Sweet Adelines. The Diamond Jubilee Gala takes places Saturday, September 19 at 3pm at the DeVos Center for Arts and Worship. Colleen Ball can answer any questions. For more information and tickets visit dcaw.org

Lord, Prepare Me

701

Sanctuary

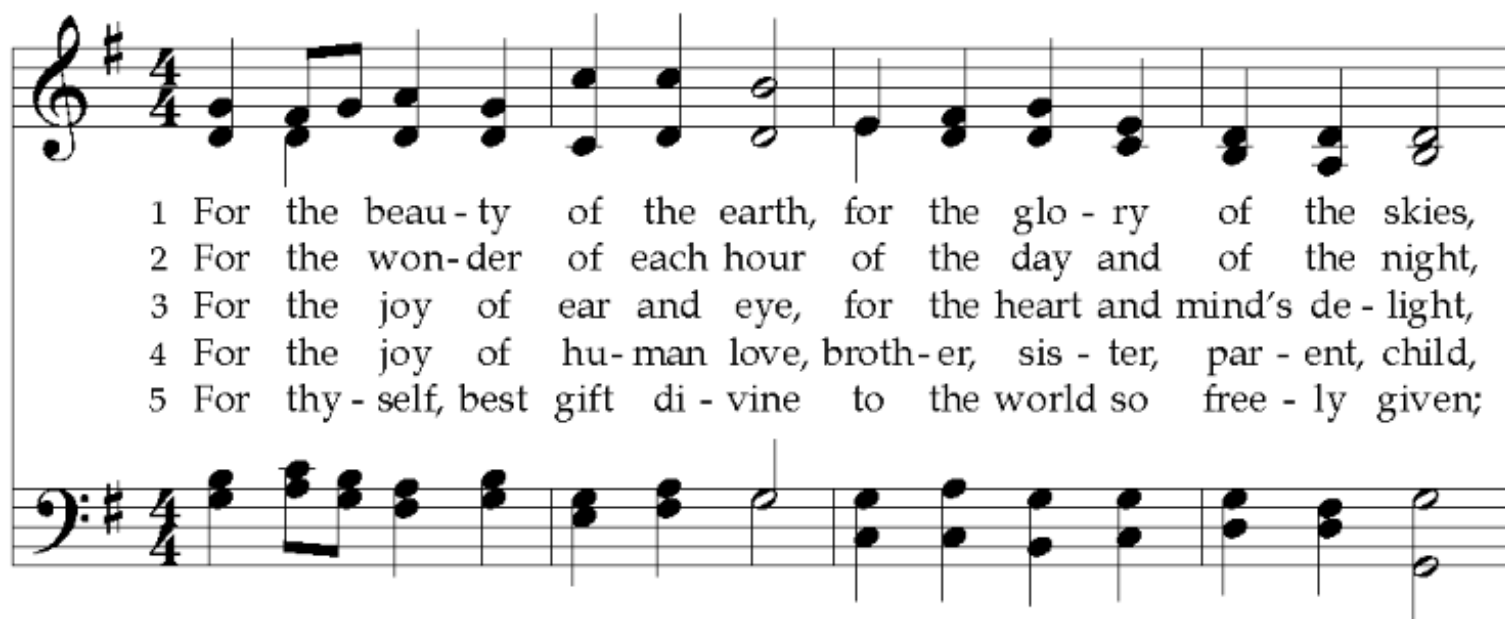
Lord, pre - pare me to be a sanc - tu - ar - y, pure and

ho - ly, tried and true. With thanks - giv - ing,

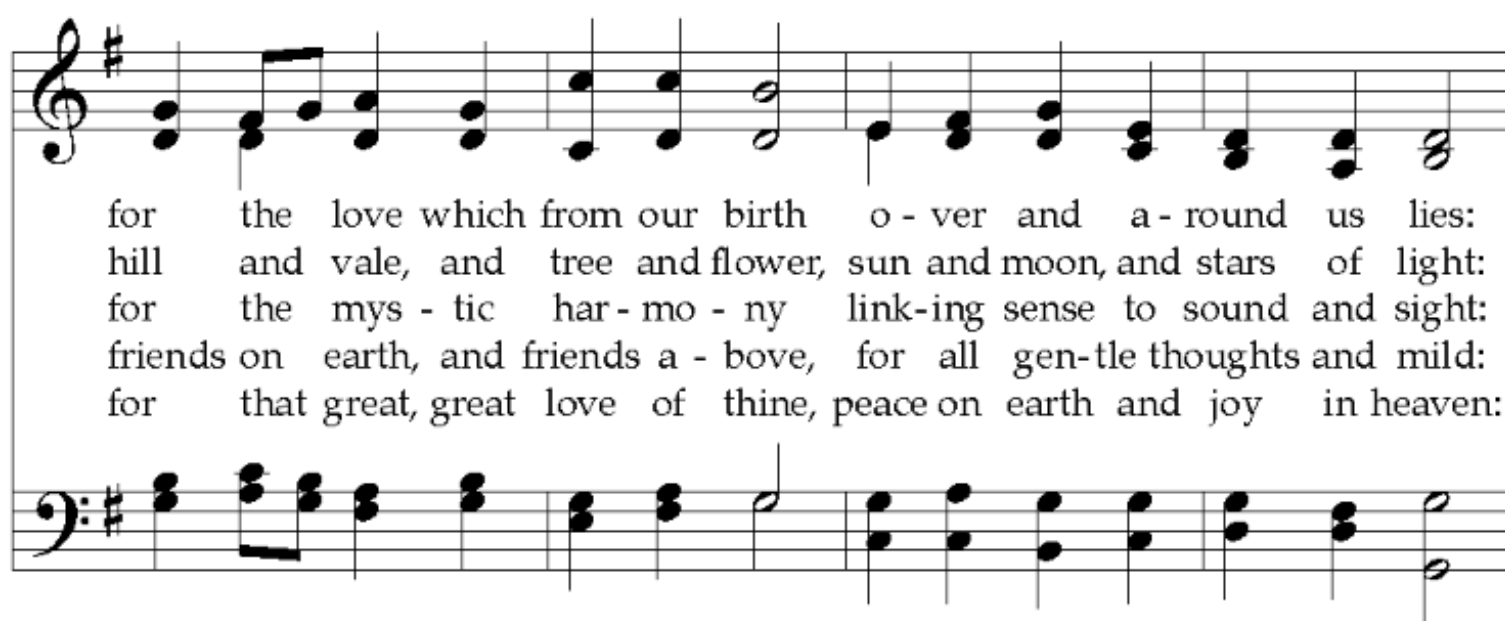
I'll be a liv - ing sanc - tu - ar - y for you.

For the Beauty of the Earth

14



1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
5 For thy - self, best gift di - vine to the world so free - ly given;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
friends on earth, and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:

Refrain



Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said 718



1 Take up your cross, the Sav - ior said, if
2 Take up your cross; let not its weight fill
3 Take up your cross; heed not the shame, and
4 Take up your cross, then, in Christ's strength, and



you would my dis - ci - ple be; take up your cross with
your weak spir - it with a - larm; Christ's strength shall bear your
let your fool - ish pride be still; the Lord for you ac -
calm - ly ev - ery dan - ger brave: it guides you to a -



will - ing heart, and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me.
spir - it up and brace your heart and nerve your arm.
cept - ed death up - on a cross, on Cal - vary's hill.
bun - dant life and leads to vic - tory o'er the grave.

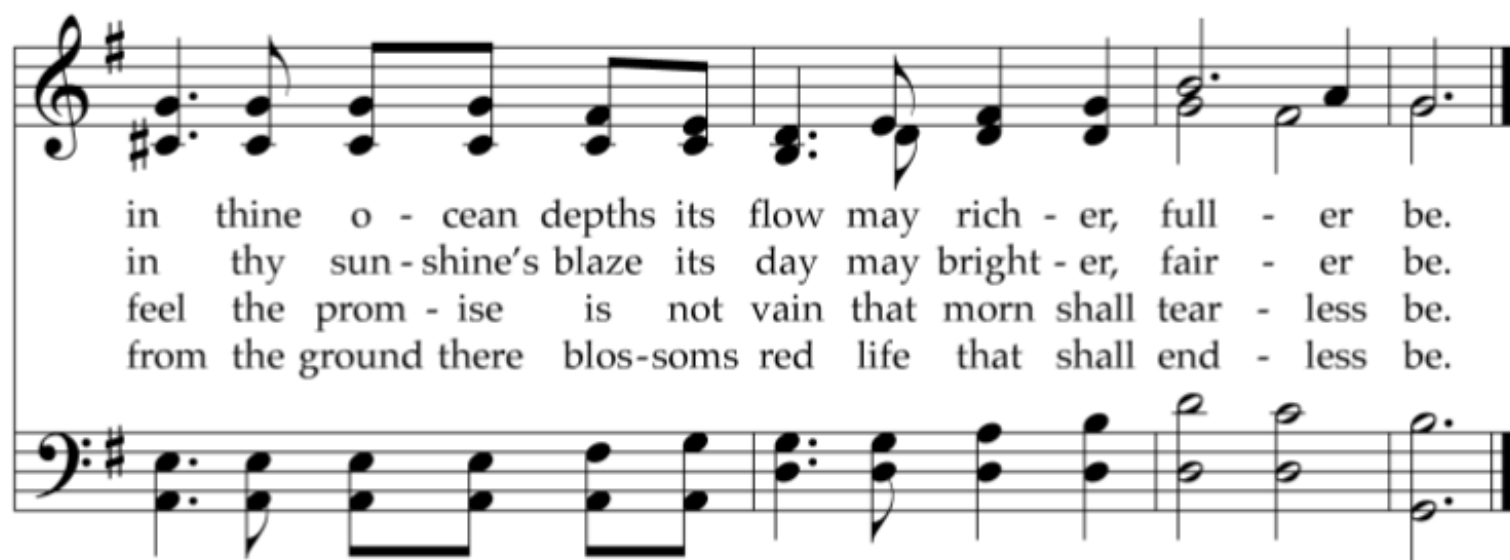
O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go 833



1 O Love that wilt not let me go, I rest my
 2 O Light that fol-lowest all my way, I yield my
 3 O Joy that seek - est me through pain, I can - not
 4 O Cross that lift - est up my head, I dare not



wea - ry soul in thee; I give thee back the life I owe, that
 flick-ering torch to thee; my heart re-stores its bor-rowed ray, that
 close my heart to thee; I trace the rain-bow through the rain, and
 ask to fly from thee; I lay in dust life's glo - ry dead, and



in thine o - cean depths its flow may rich - er, full - er be.
 in thy sun-shine's blaze its day may bright - er, fair - er be.
 feel the prom - ise is not vain that morn shall tear - less be.
 from the ground there blos-soms red life that shall end - less be.

698 Take, O Take Me as I Am



Take, O take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall

The first system of the musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The melody is in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The melody begins with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B-flat4, and A4. The accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a half-note pattern in the left hand. The lyrics are placed below the melody.



be; set your seal up-on my heart and live in me.

The second system of the musical score continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. The melody in the treble clef ends with a half note G4. The accompaniment in the bass clef continues with the same rhythmic pattern. The lyrics are placed below the melody.

STAFF

Cathy Caldwell-Hoop	Senior Pastor and Head of Staff	Cathy@fpcholland.org
Paul Van Kempen	Associate Pastor and Director of Music	Paul@fpcholland.org
Lori Lepard	Administrative Assistant	Office@fpcholland.org
Marlene Field	Bookkeeper	Marlene@fpcholland.org
Lori Klinesteker	Clerk of Session & Children's Ministry Leader	Lori@fpcholland.org
Jane Oosterhouse	Custodian	Jane@fpcholland.org
Thom Samuelson	Maintenance	Thom@fpcholland.org
Sue Stock	Communications	Sue@fpcholland.org

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