



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

ORDER OF WORSHIP
September 13, 2026 // 10am

CENTERING WORDS:

"I can only say: 'However much we have been wronged, however justified our hatred,
if we cherish it, it will poison us.....
We must pray for the power to forgive,
for it is in forgiving that we are healed.'"

~ Sheila Cassidy, human rights advocate,
"Seventy times Seven" The Tablet March 2, 1991

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 #399 *God Welcomes All*

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Alana Cocanour

One: No one is an island.

We are all joined in Christ Jesus.

All: Who else is like you, loving God?

**Who is like you: beautiful in holiness,
awesome in all the things you do for us.**

One: No one lives by themselves,
no one dies by themselves.

Whether we live or die
we are the Lord's.

**All: The Lord is my strength and my song;
God has become my salvation.**

***OPENING PRAYER**

***HYMN #301** *Let Us Build a House*

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Rev. Dr. Paul Van Kempen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Here we are again, God,
With all that makes us who we are,
all that fills our lives;
Carrying into this place of joy and freedom
the burdens we just can't seem to lay down,
The weight of all the scores we long to have settled,
the justice we want to demand
for the wrongs we have suffered.
Yet we also know what would happen if you were to deal with us justly;
with our greeds and violences, our betrayals and lusts.
If justice was served in our lives we could not stand.

**All: Forgive us our wrongs, God,
forgive us as we do not deserve;
forgive us against the demands of justice;
And forgive our obsession that justice be done
to those who have wronged us.
May our worship lead us to the place
where our hunger for grace and mercy may be filled,
and where we may be freed from the tyranny of vengeance. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Good friends:
Good is at work in you!
God is alive in us!
God lives –
And our sins are forgiven,
through Christ, our Savior.

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

Come all You Children

ANTHEM

Love Will Rise Again

Mark A. Miller

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalms 103: 8-13

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

All: Thanks be to God!

Matthew 18: 21 – 35

One: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Beyond Measure

Rev. Cathy C. Hoop

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Romans 8:1, 28, 38

**All: We believe there is no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus;
for we know that all things work together for good
for those who love God,
who are called according to God's purpose.
We are convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

*HYMN

Help Us Accept Each Other (Slides/Bulletin)

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

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 #761 *Called as Partners in Christ's Service*

CARRYING GOD'S LOVE INTO THE WORLD

***BENEDICTION**

***SENDING SONG** #549 *May the Love of the Lord*

Worship Leaders: Rev. Cathy Hoop, Rev. Paul Van Kempen, Beth Magennis, FPC Choir,
Rose Gifford, Alana Cocanour

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

Call to Worship - Bruce Prewer. Opening prayer based on J. PHILIP NEWELL Celtic Treasure, Daily Scriptures and Prayers. Prayer of Confession *written by John van de Laar*. Copyright © 2008.

Pastoral Leadership Feedback Survey // Session invites 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.

There are three ways to complete the survey, which works best for you?

1. A paper copy of the survey is available at the welcome desk for anyone who prefers to complete it by hand. Completed paper surveys may be returned in the sealed envelope provided, mailed to the church office, or placed in the Personnel Mailbox.
2. Using your phone to scan the QR codes below to fill out the surveys.
3. Watch the Wednesday e-Weekly for links to click to fill out the surveys.

If you have not yet completed the surveys, we encourage you to do so prayerfully and thoughtfully by September 15th



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

Adult Education // *The Wired Word* will not meet today ...hope you will stay for the picnic.

Fall Kick Off Picnic // Join us today immediately following worship. We will gather outside (28th Street will be closed) to enjoy hot dogs (meat and veggie options) and delicious side dishes. Lawn games will be set up, too. A joyful day to join together as a community!

FPC Choir // There's still time to join! 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! Rehearsal is at 9am for the 10am service. 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!

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.

Habitat for Humanity Work Days // Tuesday, September 15 is our next Habitat work date. October's work date is the 15th. Work dates often fill up quickly so plan accordingly. Contact Bill Haines with questions, wehaines@icloud.com

Good Samaritan // We are collecting household items for the family shelter units provided by Good Samaritan. They have several family shelter units for families waiting for housing. The collection will be for the month of September into early October. 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 Thank you for helping our neighbors.

Kids' Food Basket Volunteer Help Needed at the Ottawa+Allegan Farm! // The next few weeks we are in urgent need of farm volunteers to assist with harvesting at the Ottawa + Allegan Kids' Food Basket Farm. The farm is located at 226 104th Ave., Holland MI 49423. Would you consider signing up? Head on over to their website and click volunteer to create an account to get started, <https://kidsfoodbasket.org/>

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!

Blessing of the Animals // September 27 at 3:00pm. All creatures great and small (or a photo of them if they are shy) are invited to the blessing of the animals. We will gather on the church playground to give thanks for the creatures who bring so much love and joy to our lives.

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.

Help Us Accept Each Other

Fred Kaan

SALLEY GARDENS



Help us ac - cept each - oth - er as Christ ac - cept - ed us;
Teach us, O Lord, your les - sons, as in our dai - ly life
Let your ac - cep - tance change us, so that we may be moved
Lord, for to - day's en - coun - ters with all who are in need,



teach us as sis - ter, broth - er, each per - son to em - brace.
we strug - gle to be hu - man and search for hope and faith.
in liv - ing sit - u - a - tions to do the truth in love;
who hun - ger for ac - cep - tance, for jus - tice and for bread,



Be pres - ent, Lord, a - mong us and bring us to be - lieve
Teach us to care for peo - ple, for all, not just for some,
to prac - tice your ac - cep - tance un - til we know by heart
we need new eyes for see - ing, new hands for hold - ing on:



we are our - selves ac - cept - ed, and meant to love and live.
to love them as we find them, or as they may be - come.
the tab - le of for - give - ness, and laugh - ter's heal - ing art.
re - new us with your Spir - it; Lord, free us; make us one!

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Called as Partners in Christ's Service 761



1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,
2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,
4 So God grant us for to - mor-row ways to or - der hu - man life



we re-spond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
let us fol-low, nev - er fal-tering, rec - on - cil - ing folk on earth.
help us bear each oth - er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.
that sur-round each per - son's sor-row with a calm that con-quests strife.



May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,
Men and wom-en, rich - er, poor - er, all God's peo - ple, young and old,
Words of com - fort, words of vi - sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,
Make us part-ners in our liv - ing, our com-pas-sion to in - crease,



e - qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful - fill God's cho - sen end.
blend-ing hu - man skills to - geth - er gra-cious gifts from God un - fold.
bring new power and strength for ac-tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.
mes - sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con - fi - dence and peace.



Let Us Build a House

All Are Welcome

Capo 3: (A7) (D) (A) (D) (G) (A) (Bm)
C7 F C F B $\flat$ C Dm



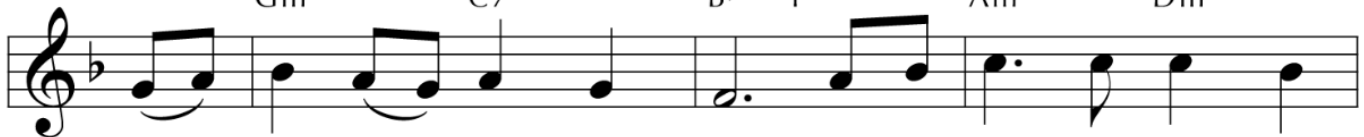
1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can
2 Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, and words are
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter,
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and

(D) (A) (D) (Bm7) (Em) (A)
F C F Dm7 Gm C



safe - ly live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell
strong and true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek
wine, and wheat; a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground
wood and stone to heal and strength-en, serve and teach,
vi - sions heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed

(Em) (A7) (G) (D) (F#m) (Bm)
Gm C7 B $\flat$ F Am Dm



how hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
to dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
where peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
and live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
as words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and

(Em) (A) (D) (G)
Gm C F B $\flat$



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we
strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us
laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace; let this

301

Let Us Build a House

All Are Welcome

(D) (G) (F#7) (Bm) *Keitain* (Em) (Bm)
 F B $\flat$ A7 Dm Gm Dm

love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 one we claim the faith of Je - sus:
 share in Christ the feast that frees us: all are wel - come;
 bring an end to fear and dan - ger:
 house pro-claim from floor to raf - ter:

(F#m) (Em) (D) (Em) (A7) (D) (G) (D)
 Am Gm F Gm C7 F B $\flat$ F

all are wel - come; all are wel - come in this place.

God Welcomes All

399

God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;

The first system of music is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves. The treble staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first four measures contain chords: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), and C5 (half). The next four measures contain chords: D5 (quarter), E5 (quarter), F#5 (quarter), and G5 (half). The bass staff begins with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first four measures contain chords: G2 (quarter), A2 (quarter), B2 (quarter), and C3 (half). The next four measures contain chords: D3 (quarter), E3 (quarter), F#3 (quarter), and G3 (half). The lyrics 'God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;' are written below the staves, with hyphens indicating syllables spanning across measures.

God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.

The second system of music continues in G major and 4/4 time. The treble staff has the same key signature and clef. The first four measures contain chords: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), and C5 (half). The next four measures contain chords: D5 (quarter), E5 (quarter), F#5 (quarter), and G5 (half). The bass staff has the same key signature and clef. The first four measures contain chords: G2 (quarter), A2 (quarter), B2 (quarter), and C3 (half). The next four measures contain chords: D3 (quarter), E3 (quarter), F#3 (quarter), and G3 (half). The lyrics 'God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.' are written below the staves, with hyphens indicating syllables spanning across measures. The system ends with a double bar line.

May the Love of the Lord

549

唯願神的愛撫慰你的靈



STAFF

Cathy Caldwell-Hoop	Senior Pastor and Head of Staff	Cathy@fpcholland.org
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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

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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