



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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

September 6, 2026 // 10am

CENTERING WORDS:

Leavings

"I know that I have life only insofar as I have love.

I have no love except it come from Thee.

Help me, please, to carry this candle against the wind."

~Wendell Berry (2012)

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 #300 *We are One in the Spirit* (vs. 1)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Wendell Berry, *Leavings*

Daphne Deutsch

One: I know that I have life
only insofar as I have love.

**All: I have no love
except it comes from Thee.**

One: Help me, please, to carry
this candle against the wind.

All: May we carry this candle of love as we enter into worship. Amen.

*OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN #693 *Though I May Speak*

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Gracious and loving God, you tell us to love our neighbors as ourselves, but we equivocate and pretend that we don't know what you meant. We protect our own wealth, comfort, and interests first. We turn away from pain and poverty instead of turning toward it. We make circles and barriers that include some neighbors while leaving others out. Have mercy on us. Teach us again, O God. Show us once more what it means to love our neighbor and turn us again toward love. Amen.

KYRIE

Cantor:	Congregation (echo)	<i>Translation</i>
Kyrie eleison.	Kyrie eleison.	Lord, have mercy.
Christe eleison.	Christe eleison.	Christ, have mercy.
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 *God is Love* (Bulletin/Screen)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Romans 13:8-14

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Matthew 18:15-20

One: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Paul Van Kempen

***HYMN** #316 *Where Charity and Love Prevail*

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 *His Eye is On the Sparrow* Mark Hayes Christina Krause

*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: Gracious and Loving God,
 All that we have comes from you.
 Receive these gifts as signs of our gratitude
 and as acts of love for our neighbors.
 Use these gifts to feed, shelter, welcome, heal
 and bring hope to your world.
 May our gifts become part of your work
 of making all things whole. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Sing #471 *O Lord, Hear My Prayer*
Sing #471 *O Lord, Hear My Prayer (Alternate Lyrics)*

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.

COMMUNION HYMN #507 *Come to the Table of Grace (vs.1, 3)*

COMMUNION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

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

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

One: May Love be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to Liberation.

One: Let us give thanks to the Holy.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**All: Holy, holy, holy One, God of perseverance and hope,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God.

Hosanna in the highest.

All: Love has died; Love is risen; Love will come again.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Christina Krause

Song Without Words, Op. 19 No. 1, Felix Mendelssohn

Gratitude, Lyric Pieces, Book VII, Op. 62 No. 2, Edvard Grieg

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

***HYMN** #753 *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*

CARRYING GOD'S LOVE INTO THE WORLD

***BENEDICTION**

***SENDING SONG** *God is Love* (Bulletin/Screen)

Worship Leaders: Rev. Cathy Hoop, Rev. Dr. Paul Van Kempen, Beth Magennis, Rose Gifford, Christina Krause,
Daphne Teutsch, Erin Magennis

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

Liturgy Resources: Communion liturgy adapted from a liturgy by Jo Schonewolf

God is Love

Samuel Batt Owens

$\text{♩} = 120$

Be - lov-ed, let us love one an - oth - er, for love is of God.

6

Be - lov-ed, let us love one an - oth - er, for God is love.

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.

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, Adult Education begins at 11:15am. Join us! Want to receive the lesson ahead of time? Contact Cathy, cathy@fpcholland.org.

FPC Office Closed // A reminder that the church office will be closed Monday, September 7 for the Labor Day holiday. Regular office hours resume Tuesday, September 8.

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

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!

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.

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.

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!

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

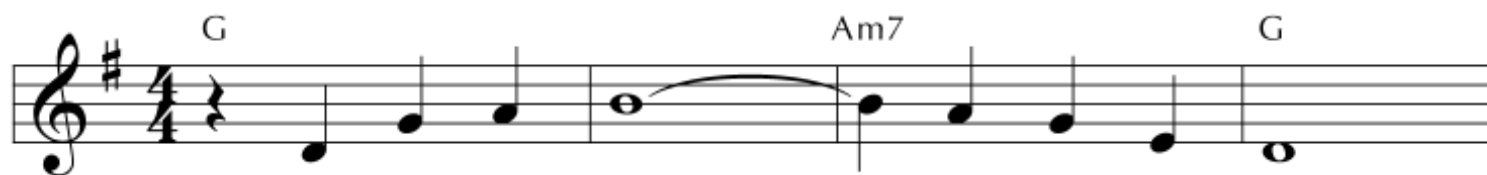


love; yes, they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love.

Though I May Speak

693

The Gift of Love



1 Though I may speak with brav - est fire,
 2 Though I may give all I pos - sess,
 3 Come, Spir - it, come, our hearts con - trol;



and have the gift to all in - spire,
 and striv - ing so my love pro - fess,
 our spir - its long to be made whole.



and have not love, my words are vain,
 but not be given by love with - in,
 Let in - ward love guide ev - ery deed;



as sound - ing brass, and hope - less gain.
 the prof - it soon turns strange - ly thin.
 by this we wor - ship, and are freed.

Where Charity and Love Prevail 316



1 Where char-i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
2 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son.
3 Let strife a - mong us be un-known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
4 Let us for-give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,
5 Love can ex-clude no race or creed if hon - ored be God's name;



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
As mem-bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris-tian gen - tle - ness.
our com - mon life em - brac - es all whose Mak - er is the same.



O Lord, Hear My Prayer

471

The Lord Is My Song

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.
Or The Lord is my song; the Lord is my praise:

The first system of the musical score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written on a treble clef staff, and the bass line is on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

When I call, an - swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer. O
all my hope comes from God. The Lord is my song; the

The second system continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me.
Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.

The third system concludes the piece with a double bar line. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

753 Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Prayer of St. Francis



1 Make me a chan-nel of your peace. Where
 2 Make me a chan-nel of your peace. Where
 4 Make me a chan-nel of your peace. It



there is ha-tred, let me bring your love. Where
 there's de-spair in life, let me bring hope. Where
 is in par-don-ing that we are par-doned, in



there is in-ju-ry, your par-don, Lord, and
 there is dark-ness, on-ly light, and
 giv-ing of our-selves that we re-ceive, and in



where there's doubt, true faith in you.
 where there's sad-ness, ev-er joy.
 dy-ing that we're born to e-ter-nal life.



3 O, Mas-ter, grant that I may nev-er seek so



much to be con-soled as to con-sole, to be



un-der-stood as to un-der-stand, to be



loved as to love with all my soul.

to Stanza 4

Come to the Table of Grace 507

Capo 3: (D) (A) (Bm) (D7/A) (G)

F C Dm F7/C B $\flat$

1 Come to the ta - ble of grace. Come to the

(A) (D) (A) (D) (Em)

C F C F Gm

ta - ble of grace. This is God's ta - ble; it's

(D/A) (G) (D/A) (A7) (D) (G) (D)

F/A B $\flat$ F/C C7 F B $\flat$ F

not yours or mine. Come to the ta - ble of grace.

- 2 Come to the table of peace...
- 3 Come to the table of love...
- 4 Come to the table of hope...
- 5 Come to the table of joy...

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
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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