



The Session and members of First Presbyterian Church Fargo extend a sincere welcome to you. We are grateful for your presence today! We welcome all persons regardless of race, nationality, disability, gender or sexual orientation. This includes an open invitation to membership, the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper, marriage, funerals, memorial services and to serve as an officer of the church.

Everyone is invited for coffee and fellowship in the Gathering Space after worship.

We recycle! If you are not taking your bulletin, please drop it in the blue bin at the door as you leave.

✠ Please rise in body or spirit.

June 8, 2025

We Gather in Christ

PRELUDE

*Holy Ghost, with Light Divine
O Holy Spirit, Enter In
Breathe on Me, Breath of God!*
Elliot Sander, organ

arr. Sander

WELCOME

MOMENT OF SILENCE

O God, on the first day of Pentecost, you shared with your people the light of your Holy Spirit. Grant us that same Spirit, that we might exercise good judgment, spread grace and mercy, and rejoice with the saints in your everlasting love; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

✠CALL TO WORSHIP

Elder Rusty Bender

Come, Holy Spirit, come!

Ignite our hearts with your holy fire.

Come, Holy Spirit, come!

Empower us to proclaim God's mighty works.

Come, Holy Spirit, come!

Renew us with your breath of life.

Come, Holy Spirit, come!

Fill us with your presence and power.

❖HYMN 292

As the Wind Song

As the wind song through the trees, as the stirring of the breeze,
so it is with the Spirit of God, as the heart made strangely warm,
as the voice within the storm, so it is with the Spirit of God.
Never seen, ever known where this wind has blown
bringing life, bringing power to the world, as the dancing tongues of fire,
as the soul's most deep desire, so it is with the Spirit of God.

As the rainbow after rain, as the hope that's born again,
so it is with the Spirit of God, as the green in the spring,
as a kite on a string, so it is with the Spirit of God,
making worlds that are new, making peace come true,
bringing gifts, bringing love to the world, as the rising of the yeast,
as the wine at the feast, so it is with the Spirit of God.

❖CONFESSIOIN AND DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Holy Spirit, we confess we have grown too comfortable. We like our prayers tidy, our community predictable, our language familiar. You come in wind and fire, unexpected and uncontainable, and we shut the windows. You whisper in languages we do not understand, and we turn up the volume on our own voice. You invite us to dream dreams, but we are too tired, too skeptical, too bound to what is. Forgive us for closing the door on the very breath that gives us life. Open us up. Loosen our grip. Fan the embers of our faith until they glow again. This we pray, not because *we* are worthy, but because *you* are, and always have been. Amen.

❖RESPONSE 288

Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

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

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

❖PASSING OF THE PEACE

GIFT OF MUSIC

There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit

Doris Akers

Jeff Olson, baritone; Elliot Sander, piano

The Word

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 104:24–34, 35b, pp. 544

Acts 2:1–21, pp. 992

Whirl Story Bible, pg. 438

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Hearing the Word in Our Own Tongue

Elder Bruce Maylath

✠ **HYMN 688** *Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart (vs. 1, 2, & 4)*

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;
stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art,
and make me love thee as I ought to love.

I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
no sudden rending of the veil of clay,
no angel visitant, no opening skies;
but take the dimness of my soul away.

Teach me to feel that thou art always nigh.
Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear,
to check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh.
Teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

✠ **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

The Confession of 1967

The Communion of the Holy Spirit, 9.20

God the Holy Spirit fulfills the work of reconciliation in man. The Holy Spirit creates and renews the church as the community in which people are reconciled to God and to one another. The Spirit enables them to receive forgiveness as they forgive one another and to enjoy the peace of God as they make peace among themselves. In spite of their sin, The Spirit gives them power to become representatives of Jesus Christ and his gospel of reconciliation to all people.

Background: The Confession of 1967 was the first new confession of faith to be added to the body of creeds we profess as Presbyterians in over three centuries. It was developed around a single passage of Scripture from Second Corinthians: "In Christ God was reconciling the world to himself..." (5:19, NRSV). The confession addresses the church's role in the modern world, how the church ought to approach scripture, social problems, discrimination, nationalism, and class conflict. It calls upon Christians to be reconciled to God and to one another.

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Responding to the Word



OFFERING MESSAGE – *Pentecost*

Use the QR code to access the secure giving portal on our website!

OFFERTORY

Fanfare

Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens

Mya Follingstad, organ

✦RESPONSE 529 *Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether (vs. 3)*

All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of you,
that by caring, helping, giving, we may be disciples true.

Alleluia! Alleluia! We will serve with faith anew.

✦PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Bearing the Word into the World

✦HYMN 543 *O Christ, Surround Me*

God, be the love to search and keep me;
God, be the prayer to move my voice;
God, be the strength to now uphold me:
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Bind to myself the Name of Holy,
great cloud of witnesses enfold;
prophets, apostles, angels witness:
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Brightness of sun and glow of moonlight,
flashing of lightning, strength of wind,
depth of the sea to soil of planet:
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Walking behind to hem my journey,
going ahead to light my way,
and from beneath, above, and all ways:
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Christ in the eyes of all who see me,
Christ in the ears that hear my voice,
Christ in the hearts of all who know me:
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

✧ **BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Every Time I Feel the Spirit
Elliot Sander, organ

arr. Sander

Thank you to Thomas and Fred Hudson on livestream and soundboard, Elders Rusty Bender and Bruce Maylath for leading us in worship, and our Welcome Team: Jody Hudson, Toby & Paula Christensen, Gayla McGoldrick, David & Virginia Stern and our ushers for taking such good care of us this morning.

A special thank you to our musicians: Mya Follingstad, Jeff Olson, and Elliot Sander

First Presbyterian Church, Fargo



June 8, 2025



What Brings You Joy? In a previous children's sermon, Pastor Sarah invited the congregation to draw something that brings joy. Featured in today's bulletin is Izzy Mathew's drawing. If you would like to submit a picture, please drop it off in the office or send it in via email to admin.assistant@firstpresfargo.org.

Looking for Overnight Hosts: First Presbyterian is providing dinner for the Wesley Bell Ringers when they arrive on June 18. We are looking for overnight hosts for both singers and the chaperones / directors traveling with the ensemble. Host families will simply attend the concert and then take guest(s) home with them, providing a light breakfast before returning them to the church on the morning of June 19th to meet their bus. Please contact coordinator Pamela Andrist-Burns at pburns@firstpresfargo.org for more information, to ask any questions, or volunteer!

Summer Lawn Care: The sign-up sheet for lawn mowing volunteers is up on the Volunteer Opportunity board! We are looking for folks to sign up weekly through September. Typically, courtyard mowing is done toward the end of the week. In dry periods, mowing may not be necessary every week. Questions? Call Rick Fiebiger at (701) 412-6061.

Covenant of Prayer: Beatrice Janaka's husband, James; Brad Schenck, son of Richard Schenck (BD) fighting brain cancer.

The Wesley Bell Ringers: Please help us welcome the Wesley Bell Ringers for a concert in the sanctuary on Wednesday, June 18th at 7:30pm! Highlights for the 2025 summer concert include: George Bizet's *Farandole*, Alex Guebert's *Tongues of Flame*, Chopin's *Nocturne in Eb Major*, & Cathy Moglebust's arrangement of *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*.

Banner for Pentecost: The day of Pentecost marks the end of the Easter season. The banner for the day makes visual the Pentecost experience which is recorded in the second chapter of the book of Acts. Red, the symbol of the Holy Spirit, is the predominant color of the banner.



Tongues of fire, fed by the wind of the Spirit, point to the dove. The dove recalls the Baptism of our Lord, and our own baptisms. The dove is the symbol of God's spirit resting on disciples. Pentecost was the day when Jesus' disciples recognized the power God had bestowed on them: power to tell God's story and be heard; power to be the Body of Christ in the world.



This year, three Presbyterian churches—Baker-Downer, Moorhead, and Fargo—are coming together to host a shared booth at **KidFest**! This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with hundreds of area families, share some joy, and help represent our church in the wider community. We've created a volunteer schedule with time slots and roles. Check out the schedule via the link on our website at www.firstpresfargo.org/children to find a spot that works for you. Thank you for considering being part of this event. We're so grateful for your willingness to pitch in—we're looking forward to a fantastic day together!

Help Us Share Comfort and Care This Summer! We're collecting sunscreen and bug spray to support individuals served by **Rape and Abuse Crisis Center** and the **Downtown Engagement Center**. These simple items offer protection and dignity to those spending time outdoors without consistent shelter. Please drop off donations in the green bins located in the church lobby. *Thank you for your compassion!*

Hearing devices, as well as **large print copies of today's bulletins and hymns** are available, please ask an usher for assistance.

Nursery: Staff will be present **beginning at 9:15** for infants-3 years, in the nursery complex on the 1st floor.

Activity Bags for Children: Fun-filled tote bags are located at both doors.

Restrooms: Restrooms are located in the Gathering Space and on the lower level.

Prayer Request Cards: Cards are in pew racks for your use. Prayers will be committed to God along with the other offerings and also lifted up in prayer by the staff.

Peace Candles: The candle burning on the chancel symbolizes peace. We ask guests to take a candle back to your church as a gift from us. Peace candles can be found at the Welcome Center, near the west doors.

Wi-Fi: Wi-Fi is available throughout the church. (password: community650)

FPC Officers

Session: Curt Brickman, Kathryn Byrd, Deb Dawson, Tom Dawson, Colleen Ford-Dunker, Jody Hudson, Kurt Kooyer, Dick Laraway, Bruce Maylath, Brian McClure, Jim McEvers, Sharon Secor, Paula Thomas (clerk), Jeff Wilkens, and Steve Wonderlich. **Deacons:** Paula Christensen, Toby Christensen, Dianne Connelly, Steve Dawson, Brenda Deckard, Sydney Goddard, David Hoffman, Gayla McGoldrick, Wayne Sander, Candy Shultz, Virginia Stern, Kathleen Thomas, Kevin Thomas, Debbie Tight, and Amy Wilkens.

Church Treasurer: Sherri Stern.

Church Staff

The Rev. Sarah M. Bigwood: *Head of Staff, Pastor*

The Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey: *Associate Pastor*

The Rev. Daniel Billings: *Parish Associate*

The Rev. Cathie Bishop: *Parish Associate*

Rusty Bender: *Director of Church Life*

Pamela Andrist-Burns: *Music Ministry Coordinator*

Bryan Poyzer: *Adult Choir Director*

Elliot Sander: *Interim Organist*

Carrie Lawrence: *Sunday School Coordinator*

Jan Lundgren: *Business Manager*

Casey LeMier: *Communications & Admin Assistant*

Rick Fiebiger: *Facilities Manager*

Drew Brovold: *Custodian*

Staff emails are: (first initial and last name of person)

@firstpresfargo.org



*Heart
-n-
Soul*



**4:30 to
6:30pm**

Community Café

There are many ways to pay!

- Pay the suggested donation
- Pay what you can
- Pay it forward to help a neighbor in need
- If you would like to volunteer in exchange for a meal, talk to Leola!

**May 7,
July 2,
Aug. 6,
Sept. 10,
and
Oct. 8!**

L: Live Stream Option, H: Hybrid, Z: Zoom
Times shown in italics indicate am.

Sunday, June 8

11:30 Fellowship

Monday, June 9

5:30 Vacation Bible School—Day 1

Tuesday, June 10

5:30 Vacation Bible School—Day 2

5:30 Board of Deacons Meeting (H)

Wednesday, June 11

12:00 M&F Committee Meeting (H)

5:30 Vacation Bible School—Day 3

Thursday, June 12

3:00 Preparing for Micah's Mission Picnic

5:00 Serving for Micah's Mission Picnic

5:30 Vacation Bible School—Day 4

Friday, June 13

No Church Events

Saturday, June 14

No Church Events

Sunday, June 15

10:30 Worship Service (L)

11:30 Fellowship

Reminder: Use the QR code found in the bulletin to access the secure giving portal on our website. Also, like us on Facebook and follow us on Instagram!

For Your Information

June 1, 2025 Attendance: 172

129 in person

43 households livestreamed

Contribution information will be available 6/15



Church Information

Summer Office Hours:

M-TH, 9:00 am-3:00 pm

Phone: 701-293-6311

www.firstpresfargo.org

650 2nd Ave. N.

Fargo, ND 58102

Heart-n-Soul's Community Cafés will return to First Pres Fargo on July 2nd, but there are many other opportunities to participate with this wonderful organization in the meantime! You won't want to miss out on these great meals! Check out Heart-n-Soul's Facebook page for dates, times, and locations where you can visit the H-n-S food truck in the FM area. There are also cards printed with the dates, times, and locations at the Welcome Desk. Don't forget to mark your calendars for July 2nd--young and old, rain or shine, come and be a part of the fun.