



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.

August 10, 2025

We Gather in Christ

PRELUDE

Allegro
Ceremonial Pavannes
New York Kammermusiker

Henry Purcell
Michel Dancian Philidor

WELCOME

MOMENT OF SILENCE

O God of promise, creator of the cosmos, you are the first light breaking through the void, and the final light we shall eternally enjoy. Keep our hearts ever vigilant as we wait to welcome you, that you would find us clothed in love, dressed for action, and eager to receive you. Amen.

✧CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, sing, O church, in joy and hope!

We gather to praise the One who speaks the stars into being.

God watches over those who trust.

We come without fear, for God is our help and our shield.

Let your steadfast love be upon us, O Lord!

Our hearts rejoice in the Lord.

Let us worship God!

✧HYMN 305

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!

For Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long!

Refrain: In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns supreme,
empowering us to catch the vision, dream the dream!

Refrain: In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Let courage be our friend; let wisdom be our guide,
as we in mission magnify the Crucified! **(Refrain)**

Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!
For Christ the Lord has triumphed o'er the ages long! **(Refrain)**

✠ **CONFESSIO AND DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Holy and gracious God, you promise us a life full of blessing, but we do not always believe. You call us to hope, but we fall back into fear. You urge us to give freely, but we hold tightly to what we have. You ask us to stay ready, but we grow weary, distracted, and self-absorbed. Forgive us, O God. Renew our trust in your promises. Increase our hope, enlarge our hearts, and keep us watchful for the wonders you are working around us every day. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

✠ **RESPONSE 48**

Rain Down

Rain down; rain down;
rain down your love on your people.
Rain down; rain down;
rain down your love, God of life.

✠ **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

GIFT OF MUSIC

A Walk on the Shore

Jane Leslie

From the Harbor

William Wielgus, oboe; Sally Harmon, piano

The Word

SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16, pp. 1096

Luke 12:32-40, pp. 949

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

SERMON

The Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey

✠ **HYMN 320**

The Church of Christ in Every Age

The church of Christ in every age, beset by change but Spirit-led,
must claim and test its heritage and keep on rising from the dead.

Across the world, across the street, the victims of injustice cry
for shelter and for bread to eat, and never live before they die.

Then let the servant church arise, a caring church that longs to be a partner in Christ's sacrifice, and clothed in Christ's humanity.

For Christ alone, whose blood was shed, can cure the fever in our blood, and teach us how to share our bread and feed the starving multitude.

We have no mission but to serve in full obedience to our Lord: to care for all, without reserve, and spread Christ's liberating word.

✦PROFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

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

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

OFFERTORY

Fantasy on Days

Rod Butler

Richard Kravchek, oboe

✦RESPONSE 652

A Grateful Heart (vs. 1)



A grate ful heart is what I bring, a song of praise, my of__ fer ing. A



mong the saints I lift__ my voice: in you, O God, I will__ re joice.

✧PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Bearing the Word into the World

✧HYMN 32

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies.

I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day.

The moon shines full at God's command, and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord who filled the earth with food.

God formed the creatures through the Word, and then pronounced them good.

Lord, how thy wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eye,
if I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky!

There's not a plant or flower below but makes thy glories known.

And clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from thy throne,

while all that borrows life from thee is ever in thy care,

and everywhere that we can be, thou, God, art present there.

✧BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Trio, Op. 83

James Hook

Bassoons of the New York Kammermusiker

Thank you to the Trumbo Family on livestream and soundboard, and our Welcome Team: Jeff Wilkens, Dianne Connelly, Gayla McGoldrick, and the Schmidt family for taking such good care of us this morning.

A special thank you to our musicians: Sally Harmon, Elliot Sander, and the New York Kammermusiker—Oboe and English Horn: Richard Kravchek, Ilonna Pederson (director), William Wielgus; Bassoon: Peggy Dudley, Kukiko Mitani; Contrabassoon: Cassandra Bendickson.

NEW YORK KAMMERMUSIKER

FREE

AUGUST 10 @ 7PM

18TH ANNUAL
WINDS OF CHANGE
CONCERT

FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH FARGO
**650 2ND AVE N.
FARGO, ND 58102**



Formed in 1969 by ND native, Ilonna Pederson, this non-profit organization seeks to reintroduce the instruments and the music of the double-reed band to modern audiences.

The group prepares modern scores from long-neglected musical manuscripts that they discover during their extensive research.



Serving at Micah's Mission: We have all the volunteers we need for this week, but the signup sheets for September and October are on the Volunteer Opportunities Board in the West Foyer. Come and help with this vital project! If you wish to participate, but are unable to prepare or serve, consider making a donation to cover the cost of the meal. Thank you for your generosity of time and resources!



Lessons from Martha and Mary

Dear First Presbyterian Family,
Recently, I had the opportunity to preach on the story of Mary and Martha in the Gospel of Luke. Each sister embodies an important aspect of our faith journey: Mary, who sits at Jesus' feet to learn, and Martha, who offers hospitality to Jesus and his disciples. As we step into this new season, I invite you to join me in reflecting on the lessons of these two women.

*Heart
n-Soul*



The Messenger is available now!

Visit our website at www.firstpresfargo.org/publications to download our newsletter as a PDF, or stop by the Church to pick up a physical copy.

August Messenger Now Available: If you would like to be added to the list of folks who receive a paper copy of the Messenger in the mail, please contact Casey in the Church office. To view the Messenger online, please visit our website at www.firstpresfargo.org/publications, or you can pick up a printed copy from the Kiosk by the Welcome Desk.

Heart-n-Soul is looking for Volunteers! HnS is looking for a variety of volunteers throughout the summer to help out with cooking, prepping, serving, and greeting for their Mobile Cafés. If you are interested in helping out, please visit their website at <https://heartsoulcafe.com/volunteer/>, or you can contact Leola at heartsoulcc@gmail.com.



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

ELLIOT SANDER SUMMER ORGAN RECITAL

Benefiting the Red River Valley
Chapter of the American Guild of
Organists

Works by
Bach,
Haydn and
Beethoven

Featuring the 3
manual, 59 Rank
Schantz Pipe Organ

Elliot Sander Summer Organ Recital: This music-filled evening starts at 7pm on August 15th and guest performers Alex Swanson and Sally Harmon will be joining Elliot for the performance. There will be a reception following the recital; we hope to see you there!



"Spirit of the Game" on August 21: After an entertaining program in the Jennie Roberts Room at 10 am, have lunch on your own and head over to Newman Outdoor Field on the NDSU campus for a 12:30 pm game between the F-M RedHawks and Gary SouthShore RailCats. Seats are in a shaded area near the concourse. Although weather always is a factor in outdoor activities, the morning program will be held rain or shine. Class size is limited, so please register early. Contact Kit O'Neill (kit.oneill@outlook.com or 701-367-3925).

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 Fiebig: *Facilities Manager*

Drew Brovold: *Custodian*

Staff emails are: (first initial and last name of person)
@firstpresfargo.org



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

Sunday, August 10

11:30 Fellowship

7:00 New York Kammermusiker Concert (L)

Monday, August 11

5:30 CPMT Committee Meeting (H)

Tuesday, August 12

5:30 Board of Deacons Meeting

Wednesday, August 13

No Church Events

Thursday, August 14

3:00 Preparing Meal @ Micah's Mission

5:00 Serving Meal @ Micah's Mission

Friday, August 15

7:00 Elliot Sander Summer Organ Recital (L)

Saturday, August 16

No Church Events

Sunday, August 17

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

August 3, 2025 Attendance: 112

81 in person

31 households livestreamed

Contributions received: \$5,443.00



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

Church Event Parking: If you are frequently at the church during workday hours, please stop by the office for a "church event" parking permit rear view mirror hang tag, or you can call the church office and we'll leave one for you to pick up on Sunday. Occasionally, there is a walk-through done in the parking lot to identify those who should not be parking here. If you do receive a yellow warning ticket, don't panic, call the church office to let us know.