



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

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
February 23, 2025 // 10am

**CENTERING WORDS:** Every one of us is called to break the chain of hate with the disruptive power of love. How might this time of worship empower you to love disruptively?

**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** #695 *Change My Heart, O God*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Janet Morrow

One: The enemies:

All: **love them.**

One: The oppressors:

All: **walk the mile with them.**

One: The haters:

All: **turn the other cheek to them.**

One: This doormat faith seems too much to bear  
in a world where those who bully always seem to win.

The enemies:

All: **imbalance them with love.**

One: The oppressors:

All: **unseat them with resistance.**

One: The haters:

All: **pray God's mercy upon them.**

*\*Please stand if you are comfortable doing so.* \_\_\_\_\_

One: This rebellious faith seems too much to bear  
in a world where those who bully are loved back to justice by the bullied,  
but this is heaven's revolution, and we are called into it.  
Come, let us worship love's rebel, Jesus. Amen.

## OPENING PRAYER

\*HYMN *Help Us Accept Each Other* (see insert)

## INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Rev. Paul Van Kempen

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: God, we are so conditioned to respond in kind.  
We are so worried that when the reckoning comes,  
we will find ourselves left with the short end of the stick.  
Purge from us the hunger for power that abuses or oppresses rather than  
empowers and frees.

**All: Teach us to love with skill.  
Teach us to love with wisdom.  
Teach us to love with abandon,  
trusting that when we step into the ocean of your abundant love  
we will receive the blessings of your abundant life. Amen.**

## KYRIE

Cantor:	Congregation (echo)	Translation
Kyrie eleison.	<b>Kyrie eleison.</b>	<i>Lord, have mercy.</i>
Christe eleison.	<b>Christe eleison.</b>	<i>Christ, have mercy.</i>
Kyrie eleison.	<b>Kyrie eleison.</b>	<i>Lord, have mercy</i>

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

**GLORIA** #582 *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

## \*PASSING THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.  
**All: And also with you.**

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

TIME WITH CHILDREN #392

*Jesus, We Are Here*

All: **Jesus, we are here;  
Jesus, we are here;  
Jesus, we are here;  
we are here for you.**

ANTHEM

*Make Me A Servant*

Williams and Harlan

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 6: 27 – 38, Common English Bible

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rev. Cathy C. Hoop

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

One: We are not alone, we live in God's world.  
We believe in God: who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others by the Spirit.  
We trust in God.

All: **We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.**

One: In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us. We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God. Amen.

**\*HYMN**

*Your Ways Are Not Our Own* (See Insert)

## 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: Holy God, we bring before you tokens of our intention to break the chains of hate with the power of love. Help us to grow in our giving so that we will continue to grow in our loving and in our living. 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 #692 Spirit Open My Heart**

## CARRYING GOD'S LOVE INTO THE WORLD

**\*BENEDICTION**

**SENDING SONG**     *As We Depart* (See Insert)

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**Worship Leaders:** Rev. Cathy Hoop, Rev. Paul Van Kempen, Beth Magennis,  
FPC Choir, Rose Gifford, Janet Morrow

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

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Wired Word** // Meets this Sunday at 11:15am in the Michigan Room

**Summer Camp Scholarships** // It's time to start thinking about summer camp. If you are interested in sending your camper(s) to any Christian summer camp and would like scholarship information, talk with Pastor Paul, or watch the Wednesday eWeekly communication for a link to download the forms.



**Family Fun Math Festival** // Hello, my name is Gina Kling and I am an elementary mathematics education professor at Hope College. Our department is very excited to host a "Family Math Fun Festival" at Hope on **Saturday, March 8, 10 am - 12 pm** (Bultman Great Room) for area children and their families. We will be sharing fun math activities and games and giving away math game goodie bags at the event. Join us for this FREE, family event. Scan the QR code for more information.



**WILD WONDER CAMP** (Peace Camp) // It is that time of year when it is time to start thinking about registering for summer camps and programs. As you are planning your summer, make sure to save the week of June 23-27 for Wild Wonder Camp (Peace Camp) at First Presbyterian Church.

Wild Wonder (Peace Camp)  
Registration 2025

Wild Wonder Camp will be held June 23-27 from 9-11:45am each day. We welcome campers K-6th grade (entering in the fall) and teen helpers from 7-12th grade. ***Wild Wonder Camp is totally free!*** If you are ready to register, scan the QR code.

**Good Samaritan 'Welcome Home' Baskets** // We will be collecting items for Good Samaritan 'Welcome Home' Baskets during the month of March. These baskets are given to newly housed families to get them started in their new home. A list of needed items can be found in the narthex on the outreach table. Thank you for anything you can contribute.

**Habitat for Humanity** // The next Habitat workday is March 13. Mark your calendar for future dates, April 17 and May 15. Questions can be directed to wehaines@icloud.com

# 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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# Your Ways Are Not Our Own

Lavon Bayler

SCHUMANN

Your ways are not our own, O gra-cious God most high,  
Christ teach-es us to bless the ones who curse and harm,  
Yet, we can-not ex-cuse a-buse in an-y form,  
How shall we show your love, your par-don to be-lieve?  
For-give-ness is our joy, re-ceive-ing, giv-ing, too.

yet we would fol-low in your paths and on your love re-ly.  
to turn the oth-er cheek when struck, at-tack-ers to dis-arm.  
for all are chil-dren of your care, and love must be our norm.  
You bid us share as we are blessed and give as we re-ceive.  
Keep us from judg-ments hard and cruel, that we may dwell with you.

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# As We Depart

Hunter Lynch

Cantor:



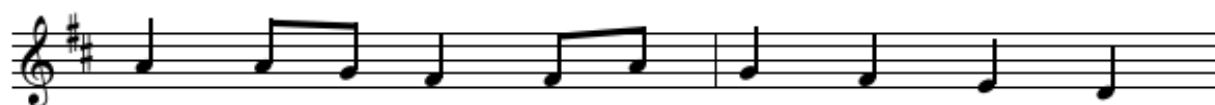
(As we de - part from this place we've gath - ered)  
(Lord, from our rest, let us rise with pur - pose)  
(In our res - ponse to the Word you've spok - en)

3 Congregation:



As we de - part from this place we've gath - ered  
Lord, from our rest, let us rise with pur - pose.  
In our res - ponse to the Word you've spok - en

5 Cantor:



(Fill us with love for the poor and scatt - ered)  
(Come, turn our work in - to acts of wor - ship)  
(Use us to mend all that hate has brok - en)

7 Congregation:



Fill us with love for the poor and scatt - ered  
Come, turn our work in - to acts of wor - ship.  
Use us to mend all that hate has brok - en.

9 All:



Let us be Let us be Let us be the arms of Christ.  
Spir - it, breathe Spir - it breathe. Spir - it breathe on all we bring.  
May we see May we see May we see your realm come near.

# Change My Heart, O God 695

*Cámbiame, Señor* 항상진실케

Refrain / Estribillo / 후렴

Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.  
*Cám - bia - me, Se - ñor,* con tu gran po - der.  
 항 상 진 실 케 내 맘 바 꾸 사

Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.  
*Haz - me co - mo tú,* tu yo quie - ro ser.  
 주 님 의 모 습 닻 게 하 소 서

You are the Pot - ter; I am the clay.  
*Tú el al - fa - re - ro,* yo el ba - rro soy.  
 주 는 토 기 장 이 나 는 진 흙

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.  
*Só - lo a tu j - ma - gen,* quie - ro siem - pre ser.  
 날 빛 으 소 서 기 도 하 오 니

to Refrain / al Estribillo / 후렴

582

# Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Capo 3: (G) (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D)  
B $\flat$  F B $\flat$  F B $\flat$  F Gm F



1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,  
2 World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(D) (G) (C) (G) (Em7) (A7)  
F B $\flat$  E $\flat$  B $\flat$  Gm7 C7



and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,  
World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(A7) (D) (F#) (Bm)  
C7 F A Dm



and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.  
World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) (D) (Bdim7) (Em7) (Dm)(A7) (D)  
Dm7 F Ddim7 Gm7 Fm C7 F



As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

692

## Spirit, Open My Heart

Capo 3: (D) (G) (D) (G) (A7)  
F B<sup>b</sup> F B<sup>b</sup> C7

*Refrain*



Spir - it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of

(Bm) (D/A) (G) (A7) (Bm) (D/A) (Em)  
Dm F/C B<sup>b</sup> C7 Dm F/C Gm



liv - ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing

(D) (G) (Em7) (D) (G) (D)  
F B<sup>b</sup> Gm7 F B<sup>b</sup> F



and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart. *Fine*

(D) (G) (D) (G)  
F B<sup>b</sup> F B<sup>b</sup>



1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's  
2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my  
3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of

(A7) (Bm) (D/A) (G) (A7)  
C7 Dm F/C B<sup>b</sup> C7



kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and  
goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and  
sis - ter, broth - er. In the wel - come of

(Bm) (Em7) (D) (G2) (G)  
Dm Gm7 F B<sup>b</sup>2 B<sup>b</sup>



fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.  
deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.  
Christ, may we wel - come one an - oth - er.

*to Refrain*

# STAFF

Cathy Caldwell-Hoop  
Paul Van Kempen

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## DEACONS:

**Class of 2026:** Tom Glover, Terri Schamper.

**Class of 2027:** Kristin Goddard, Lloyd Helder,  
Michele Richardson, Leah Wallar.

**Class of 2028:** Cathy Colten, Gail Hering,  
Fred Mc Conkey

## ELDERS:

**Class of 2025:** Ben Rund-Scott

**Class of 2026:** Carleen Bauer, Bill Evenson,  
Cassie Kregger, Bruce Rosensteel.

**Class of 2027:** Jen Laux Ludwig, Tom Salley,  
Dave Zessin

**Class of 2028:** Jon Kreple, Lauren Stouffer,  
Chris Urbaniak

### **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](http://MLP.org)