



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.

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.*

We Gather in Christ

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God the creator, God of the cross, you show your power in whirling galaxies and unseen forces. You show your love in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Drive out the evils that threaten to break our spirits and help us to rely on your all-sufficient grace, for we pray in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

PRELUDE

This Is My Song
Christian Stromley, guest organist

Childs

WELCOME & CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Jesus Christ, the crucified Lord, calls us to believe the good news of salvation.

His grace is sufficient for us.

Let us enter into God's new realm rejoicing,
not in our own strength, but in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Let us worship God!

***HYMN 331:** *God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand*

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Threats to life pierce us and cause us to doubt God's love.

But God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners

Christ died for us.

Let us confess our sins and receive new life.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Holy Three, Holy One, triune God, we confess that we do not believe that you have overcome sin and death. We are more in touch with the pangs of our weakness than we are with the power of your love. In fear, we worship idols; in despair, we collapse in hopelessness; in rage, we seek to dominate others. O God of David, forgive us. O Son of David, have mercy on us. O Spirit of the Living God, grant us peace. Send us out with the good news: nothing can withstand the victory of the cross and resurrection of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Hear and believe this good news: Jesus, the Christ, son of Mary,
Son of the Most High God, was broken and poured out for our salvation.

In Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven. Amen

***RESPONSE:** *Gloria Patri*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be.

World without end. Amen, Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

GIFT OF MUSIC

Rustles of Spring
Nancy Norris, piano

Singing

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION: reader, Bruce Maylath

Savior God, you gave Zion as stronghold for David.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, speak to us through Jesus Christ, your living Word,
in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Psalm 123

To you I lift up my eyes,

O you who are enthroned in the heavens!

As the eyes of servants

look to the hand of their master,

as the eyes of a maid

to the hand of her mistress,

so our eyes look to the Lord our God,

until he has mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us,

for we have had more than enough of contempt.

Our soul has had more than its fill

of the scorn of those who are at ease, of the contempt of the proud.

May God bless the reading and hearing of this portion of the holy Word.

SECOND READING: Mark 6:1-13

He left that place and came to his home town, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, 'Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?' And they took offence at him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Prophets are not without honor, except in their home town, and among their own kin, and in their own house.' And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and

not to put on two tunics. He said to them, ‘Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.’ So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

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

SERMON: The Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey

***HYMN 338:** *O Beautiful for Spacious Skies*

A SERVICE OF BAPTISM: Emma Youyi Blaufuss, daughter of Jeffrey & Hong Blaufuss; Kurt Kooyer, presiding elder.

PRESENTATION

Parents: Do you desire that Emma Youyi be baptized? **I do.**

Relying on God’s grace, do you promise to live the Christian faith, and to teach that faith to your child? **I do.**

Congregation: Do we, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture Emma by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging her to know and follow Christ and to be faithful members of his church? **We do.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

RENUNCIATIONS (*parents and congregation*)

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world? **I do.**

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love? **I do.**

Will you be Christ’s faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love? **I will, with God’s help.**

PROFESSION: *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.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We give you thanks, Eternal God,...

THE BAPTISM

LAYING ON OF HANDS

WELCOME

Emma has been received into the one holy catholic and apostolic church through baptism. God has made her a member of the household of God, to share with us in the priesthood of Christ. Let us welcome the newly baptized.

With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into Christ's church to share with us in his ministry, for we are all one in Christ.

BAPTISMAL RESPONSE: You Have Put on Christ

You have put on Christ, in Christ you have been bap - tized.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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

OFFERTORY

A Flower Remembered
Christian Stromley, piano

Rutter

Written in memory of the victims of the Tohoku area earthquake and tsunami, March 2011.

A flower remembered can never wither: Forever blooming as bright as day,
It's fragrance lingering like music softly playing, A gentle voice that's saying, 'I'll never fade away.'

I hear the echoes of many voices; Sometimes they're distant, sometimes so clear;
Through all the sounds of life they seem to whisper, 'Will you remember, will you remember?'

The birds fly homeward across my valley Toward the mountains all white with snow;
The birds are gone now, the mountain snows have melted, But still I see their beauty, these scenes of long ago.

The birds still fly in other valleys; The snows have turned to flowing streams;
All things must pass, but memories are lasting: We will remember, we will remember, we will remember.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Bearing the Word into the World

*HYMN 340: *This is My Song*

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Fanfare

Mathias