



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

O Trinity, fill our weakness with your strength; bind up our brokenness with your unity; calm our fears and our dread of dying with your peace. Let us be about the tasks of your love. Use us to build a holy place where healing and caring and joy blend in the tones of worship to the glory of your holy name. **Amen**

PRELUDE

Arrival of the Queen of Sheba
Sally Harmon & Krista Clusiau, two pianos

G.F. Handel
/arr.Simm

WELCOME & CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Come into the presence of the Most High God
with songs of praise and shouts of thanksgiving.
For our Savior frees us from slavery;
our Savior heals our diseases;
our Savior is our peace.
You are a holy temple in the Lord Jesus Christ.
Let us worship God!

HYMN 321: *The Church's One Foundation

**The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ her Lord.
She is his new creation
by water and the word.
From heaven he came and sought her
to be his holy bride.
With his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation,
yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation:
one Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,**

and to one hope she presses,
with every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder
this world sees her oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder,
by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping;
their cry goes up: "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping
shall be the morn of song.

Mid toil and tribulation,
and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation
of peace forevermore:
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious
shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union
with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly,
may live eternally.

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Even our best intentions go awry
when we are not at one with God's purpose.
Our gracious God journeys with us
and provides for us
with unending mercy, patience, and kindness
so that when we repent,
we find ourselves forgiven.
Let us confess our sins.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Eternal God, your steadfast love endures forever. We confess that we act as if we are in control as if you will bless whatever we do. If we think of others at all, it is with an eye toward their usefulness to us. If we consider your creation, it is to ponder what benefits us. We have failed to show your love or to do justice in obedience to you. We have no right to be called your children. Have mercy on us, God of grace. Lord, have mercy. Forgive our sins, we humbly pray. Put the mind of Christ within us, O God, so that our lives take the form of a cross. Use us to break down walls of hostility within the church, among the nations, and around the world. Equip us to do your will, giving you glory, honor, and praise together with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Our Lord Jesus gives us rest and peace.
Our Master's touch heals us,
and his shed blood is 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

Cornerstone
Sam Johnson, tenor; Krista Clusiau, piano

Goss/arr. Linn

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION: reader, Mike Lochow

Holy Spirit,
come and dwell in us.
Place Jesus Christ in us
so that he is the cornerstone
holding us together
and making us a sacred place
where steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.
We pray in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:1-6

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. Therefore, thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'

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

SECOND READING: Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

The apostles gathered around Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, 'Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.' For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he

had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

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

SERMON: The Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey

***HYMN 177:** *I Will Come to You in the Silence*

**I will come to you in the silence;
I will lift you from all your fear.
You will hear my voice;
I claim you as my choice.
Be still and know I am here.**

Refrain:

**Do not be afraid, I am with you.
I have called you each by name.
Come and follow me,
I will bring you home;
I love you and you are mine.**

**I am hope for all who are hopeless;
I am eyes for all who long to see.
In the shadows of the night,
I will be your light.
Come and rest in me. (Refrain)**

**I am strength for all the despairing,
healing for the ones who dwell in shame.
All the blind will see;
the lame will all run free,
and all will know my name. (Refrain)**

**I am the Word that leads all to freedom;
I am the peace the world cannot give.
I will call your name,
embracing all your pain.
Stand up, now walk and live! (Refrain)**

AFFIRMATION 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.

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

Adieu to the Piano

attr. Beethoven

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Bearing the Word into the World

HYMN 157: *I Danced in the Morning

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth.
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

Refrain:

Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
but they would not dance and they would not follow me.
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John.
They came with me and the dance went on. (Refrain)

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame.
The holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high,
and left me there on a cross to die. (Refrain)

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black.
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone,
but I am the dance and I still go on. (Refrain)

They cut me down and I leapt up high.
I am the life that will never, never die.
I'll live in you if you'll live in me,
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. (Refrain)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Lord of the Dance

arr. Raney