

# Welcome to First Presbyterian Church Fargo, North Dakota

**Confirmation Sunday    October 11, 2020    10:30 am**

*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.*

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## We Gather in Christ

**Prelude**

*Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart*

arr. by Hobby

### Prayer of the Day

Ever-present God, you never leave us. Help us to stay with you when we are tempted to flee, and keep us seeking after that which is true, that all may know that you are the Lord, our God, a tenacious presence in whatever our reality. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

### Welcome and Concerns of the Church

#### \*Call to Worship

The Lord is good!  
God's steadfast love endures forever.  
Let us worship God!

#### \*Hymn 804

*Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart*

#### \*Call to Confession

We and our ancestors have sinned.  
Our ancestors exchanged the glory of God  
for the image of a golden calf.  
They forgot God, their Savior,  
who had done great things in Egypt.

While our means are different,  
our compulsions are the same.  
Let us confess our brokenness,  
for God is merciful and just  
and will forgive us our sin.

#### \*Prayer of Confession

Holy God, you are the Lord our God, who brought us out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. And yet our trust in you is fragile, easily crushed by our bent toward indifference—the dismissal of your faithfulness as a result of our forgetfulness. Our trust is fragile, easily broken by the slightest pause—an answer to prayer not instantly given, a request for peace not immediately felt. Our trust is fragile, easily displaced by gods of our own making—the god of self-sufficiency, chased at any cost, the god of illusion, pursued in any form. Lord, have mercy on us, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**\*Assurance of God's Forgiveness**

**\*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**

**Children's Message**

Penny Andrist

## **The Word**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**First Lesson**

Matthew 22:1-14

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, "Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet." But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, "The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet." Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

'But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, "Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?" And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

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

**Second Lesson** (see Whirl Bible pg. 478)

Philippians 4:1-9

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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

**Sermon**

*One Flat Tire Away From  
Crying in Public*

The Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey

# Responding to the Word

**\*Hymn 749**

*Come! Live in the Light*

**Presentation of the Confirmands**

Bryce Thomas Cain#  
Nicholas Jacob Dawson#  
Andrew Gregory Holman#  
Abigail Christine Mae Misialek#  
James Douglas Peterson#  
Drew Charles Shambaugh#  
Kayla Bones, Youth Coordinator#  
Vicki Dawson and Becky Trumbo, Confirmation Teachers#  
Mary Holtey, Pastor

**Profession of Faith**

**Renunciations**

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**

*Apostle's 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.**

**Confirmation Prayer**

**Welcome**

Bryce, Nicholas, Andrew, Abigail, James, and Drew, by publicly professing their faith, have expressed their intention to continue in the covenant God made with them in their baptism. Let us welcome them as they join with us in the worship and mission of the church.

**With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you to share with us in the ministry of Christ, for we are all one in him.**

**Charge**

**Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

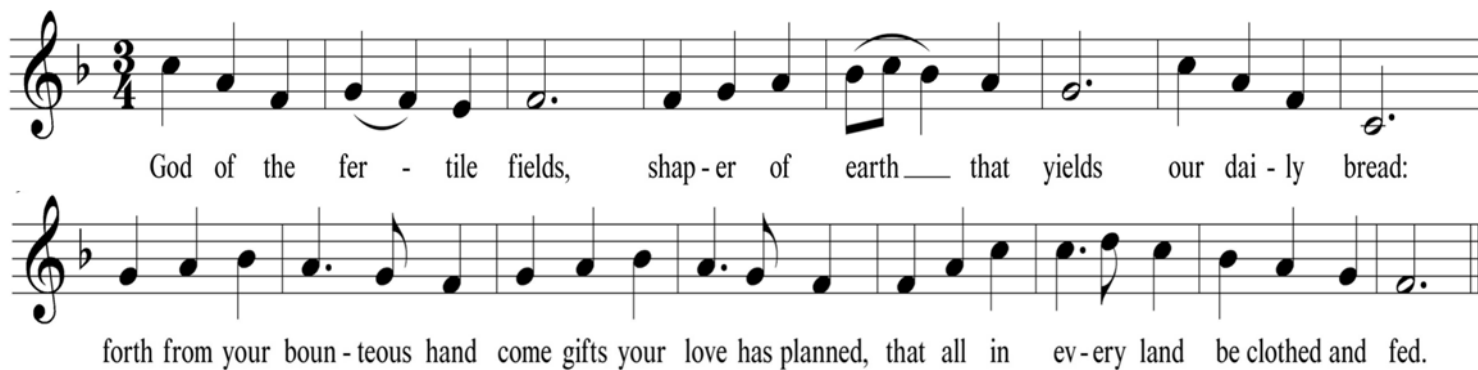
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## Offering

### Offertory

#### \*Response

*God of the Fertile Fields*



God of the fer - tile fields, shap - er of earth — that yields our dai - ly bread:  
forth from your boun - teous hand come gifts your love has planned, that all in ev - ery land be clothed and fed.

#### \*Prayer of Dedication

## Bearing the Word into the World

#### \*Hymn 69

*I, The Lord of Sea and Sky*

#### \*Benediction

#### Postlude