

*Pastor: The Peace of Christ be with you. **All: And also with you.**

*Postlude: Lorene Witte

The First Congregational Church

Your Independent Worship Center



Deeply Rooted ~ Future Focused

Pastor Luke Schmalz 920-428-0030

Office Hours - Monday/Wednesday/Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Please call the church office to meet with the Pastor

Keyboard/Organist Rachel Poches, David VandenBelt, Lorene Witte

Creative Ministries Mat Emerick 231-923-2967

Secretary Lorene Witte 924-4710

(cell) 231-282-0515

Website: www.fremontfcc.org email: congo@fremontfcc.org

Church: 231-924-4710 714 Hillcrest Drive - Fremont Mi 49412

Offering plates are located in the narthex. Today's service will be available at our website - www.fremontfcc.org and also on Facebook and YouTube.

November 19, 2023

The Order of Worship
***please stand, if you are able**

Prelude: Lorene Witte

Welcome

Announcements

Call to Worship

Pastor: Let us worship the eternal God, the source of love and life, who creates us.

All: Let us worship Jesus Christ, the risen one, who lives among us.

Pastor: Let us worship the Spirit, the holy fire, who renews us.

All: To the one true God be praise in all time and places through the grace of Jesus Christ.

Opening Prayer

***Opening Hymn - "We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer"**

Blue Hymnal #68

Prayer of Confession

All: Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Prayer

Pastor: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (Psalm 123:1-2)

Pastor: With the Psalmist in Psalm 123 we say:

All: 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. Thanks be to God!

***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.

JeLy Bell! All kids are invited to go to the JeLy Room for JeLY Church!

(JeLy ~ Jesus Loves You)

Scripture:

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25, Matthew 25:1-13

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Message: "The Call to Serve" - **Pastor Luke Schmalz**

***The Apostles' Creed** (words projected)

Special Music - "Hallelujah" - Stacey Church, Martha Kallenbach, Jack Brooks

Moments of Praise & Prayer Requests

Prayers of the Congregation

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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

***Doxology** (As the offering is brought forward)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Special Music: "Breath of Heaven" - Stacey Church, Martha Kallenbach, Jack Brooks

***Benediction**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.

All: Amen.

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Greeting us today: Mat Emerick

Next Sunday: Dave White

Song Leader - Stacey Church

Tech Booth - Jeff Stewart, Garrett Hanshue, Kendra Lachniet

Happy Birthday to ~ Rosemary Tittle, Luke Pfeiffer (19), Loretta VanDuzen (21), Dougan Church, Kyle Parks(25)

Happy Anniversary to ~

Bill & Millie Sherman (26)

Prayer Requests ~

Our shut-ins: JoAnn DeKleva, Yvonne Lee, Siria Pinnick, Bill & Millie Sherman

Health Concerns: Lissa Denney, Bill Sherman, Dan Price

Thank you to Jim Rynberg for the beautiful altar display of the fall harvest reminding us to “Give Thanks to the Lord, for He is good.”

This Week's Calendar

Sunday, November 19 - Pumpkin Pie Sunday

10:00 a.m. Worship

11:15 a.m. Fellowship Hour - Fellowship Hall

Monday, November 20

9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Fellowship Hall

10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open

10:00 a.m. Women's Fellowship Board - Library

6:30 p.m. Trustees - Library

Tuesday, November 21 - Church Office Closed

Wednesday, November 22

9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Fellowship Hall

10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open

Thursday, November 23- Church Office Closed

10:00 a.m. Christmas Crafters - Fellowship Hall

Friday, November 24

9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Fellowship Hall

10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open

Saturday, November 25

Sunday, November 26

10:00 a.m. Worship

11:15 a.m. Fellowship Hour - Fellowship Hall

Our Church News

Welcome to worship! We are grateful for your presence - whether you are a visitor or a member we are thankful to be worshipping together.

This morning we welcome Stacey Church, Martha Kallenbach and Jack Brooks. Thank you for sharing your musical gifts and talents with us this morning.

Today is Pumpkin Pie Sunday - come enjoy a slice of Pumpkin Pie and fellowship following worship this morning.

PLUM PUDDING SHOP ~ The annual Plum Pudding Shoppe is less than a month away. We hope you are thinking about the familiar and the unique items you can donate. The November Carillon included a list of suggested items. Your donations should be labeled with a tag similar to the one below. Thank you very much for your participation in this very important project.

Mary B. & Crew

No-Bake Chocolate Oat Bars

Ingredients: chunky peanut butter, vanilla, unsweetened almond milk, old fashioned rolled oats, dark chocolate chips.

First Congregational Church

231 (924) - 4581

Prepared in a non-inspected home kitchen.



The crafters have been busy and are prepared to have their 34th Annual Craft Sale - Mark your calendars - Saturday, December 2 from 10-2. Invite your friends and neighbors. Come one! Come all!!

