

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

*Closing Hymn - "Rejoice, the Lord is King" - Blue Hymnal #370 (vs1,2,4)

*Benediction

Pastor: May the love of the cross, the power of the resurrection, and the presence of the living Lord be with you always. And the blessing of the eternal God, creator and sustainer, risen and ascended Lord and Savior, giver of holiness and love, be upon you now and evermore.

All: Amen.

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

*Postlude: Lorene Witte

Requested Announcements

A **Spring Concert** by the River Country Community Choir (RC3) will be presented today at 3:00 p.m. at the Dogwood Center. A freewill offering will be received. Participating from our church Bill Black, Al Smalligan & Dave White.

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 Karen Roggatz, David VandenBelt, Lorene Witte

Creative Ministries Mat Emerick 231-923-2967

Music Minister Deb Emerick 231-924-9558

Secretary Lorene Witte 924-4710

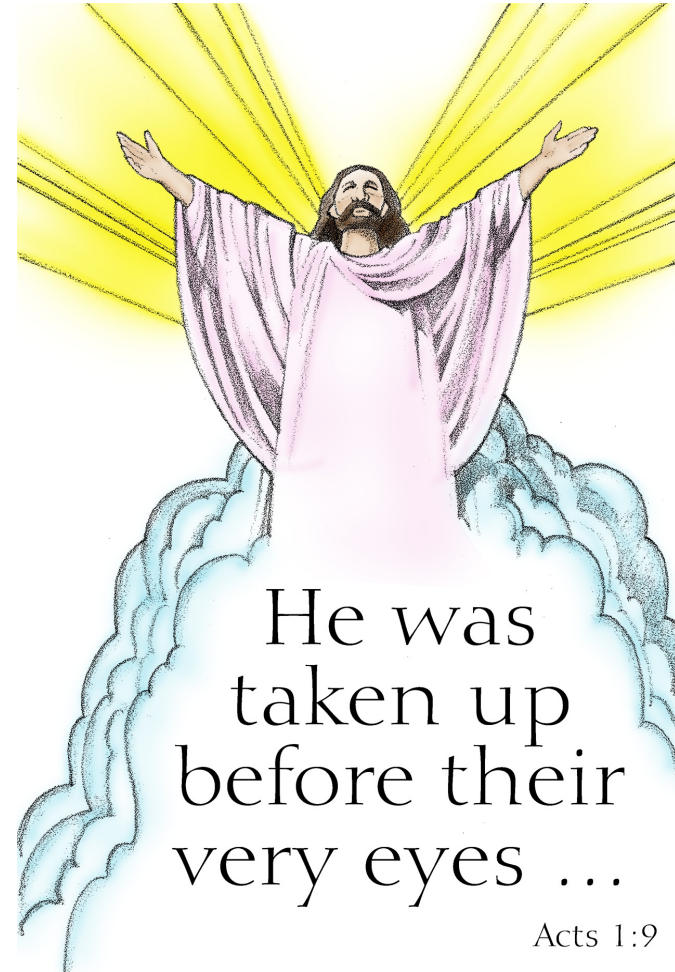
(cell) 231-282-0515

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

The First Congregational Church

Your Independent Worship Center



MAY 21, 2023

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

Prelude: Lorene Witte

Welcome

Announcements

Call to Worship - Psalm 47

Pastor: Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy. For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.

All: He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet. He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves.

Pastor: God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet. Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

All: For God is the king of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm.

God is king over the nations; God sits on his holy throne.

Pastor: The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of Abraham. For the shields of the earth belong to God; he is highly exalted.

All: Praise the Lord!

Opening Prayer

***Opening Hymn** - "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

Blue Hymnal #210 (vs 1,2,4)

Prayer of Confession

All: Almighty God, you have raised Jesus from death to life and crowned him Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him or acknowledged his rule in our lives. We have gone along with the ways of the world and failed to give him glory. Forgive us and raise us from sin, that we may be your faithful people, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ, who rules the world and is head of the church, his body. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

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 to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Here the good news of the gospel: If anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

All: In Christ, we are forgiven! 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: Acts 1:1-11, Ephesians 1:15-23, Luke 24:44-53

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Message: "Ascension of the Lord" - *Pastor Luke Schmalz*

***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

***Hymn** - "Crown Him With Many Crowns" - **Blue Hymnal #45 (vs 1,3,4)**

Moments of Praise & Prayer Requests

Continued on back page

Greeting us today: Jeannie & Ted Caris

Next Sunday: Bernie & Lissa Denney

Happy Birthday to ~

Lou Deleguardia (24), Duane VanDuzen (26)

Happy Anniversary to~

Prayer Requests ~

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

Health Concerns:

This Week's Calendar

Sunday, May 21 - Ascension Sunday

10:00 a.m. Worship

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

Monday, May 22

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

10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open

6:30 p.m. Executive Council - Library

Tuesday, May 23 - Church Office Closed

Wednesday, May 24

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

10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open

6:00 p.m. Family Night - Pot Luck Dinner - Fellowship Hall

Thursday, May 25 - Church Office Closed

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

Friday, May 26

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

10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open

Saturday, May 27

Sunday, May 28 - Pentecost

10:00 a.m. Combined Outdoor Worship at Veterans' Park

A Free Bible Ministry that will go out into the community, offering free Bibles to people wanting a Bible, has started at First Reformed Church. The purpose of the ministry is put a Bible in the hand of anyone coming up to the table wanting a Bible, Bibles that will be read and used to transform the lives of those that we are giving the Bibles to. The Bible table strives also to have Bibles that are age appropriate for children and teens, Bibles in different print sizes and in variety of translations. We also welcome conversations with new believers, we will listen to those who are hurting and will pray for those in need. **Bibles will be available at the service in the park.**

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.

Today's service will be available at our website - www.fremontfcc.org and also on Facebook. And now it is also available in a third location YouTube. Our "channel" can be found at First Congregational Church of Fremont MI. Be sure and check out one of our three locations. **Offering plates are located** in the narthex at this time, they will not be passed. An usher will bring your offerings to the Chancel for the Pastor to place on the altar.

Craft Corner - Spring items made by our crafters are available for a donation only (checks made out to Women's Fellowship). These items are located in the old Boy Scout display case which currently displayed pictures in Fellowship Hall.

The altar flower sign up (May & June) is located on the coffee counter in Fellowship Hall. If you would like to donate flowers in honor or in memory or just because please sign up. Jim Rynberg is always willing to help with the arrangement.

Lorene will be out of the office on Wednesday, May 24.

Our next Family Night is Wednesday, May 24. Join us for a Pot Luck dinner at 6:00 p.m. followed by a short bible study. All are welcome and invited to attend.

Next Sunday, May 28, our church will be participating in a combined outdoor worship at Veterans' Park beginning at 10 am. We are looking forward to worshipping together with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Golf carts will be available for those needing assistance entering the park from their parking location. A Kids Korner will be available for kids ages 4-10. As this is Pentecost Sunday, worshipers are encouraged to wear red. Fellowship is encouraged following worship and will include refreshments. For those unable to attend in person, the service will be livestreamed at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCT5wDetjhbSToNY3vKUO3Pg/live>.

The offering will be received for the Hesperia Food Pantry and for Hand2Hand Ministries. Worshipers are encouraged to bring food items for the Hesperia Food Pantry using this list of suggested items: Juice (big bottles of any kind, not individual sizes), Canned fruit (any kind), Spaghetti sauce, Peanut butter and jelly, Toilet paper, Mashed potatoes, Soup, Pop tarts, Cereal bars, Pasta. Monetary gifts will be received for Hand2Hand.

