God Almighty, the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

All: Amen.

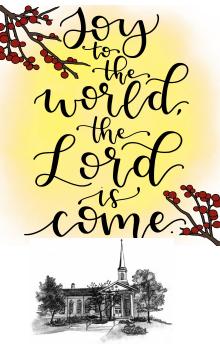
#### \*The Peace of Christ

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

#### \*Sending

\*Postlude: David VandenBelt



Deeply Rooted ~ Future Focused

Pastor Luke Schmalz

920-428-0030

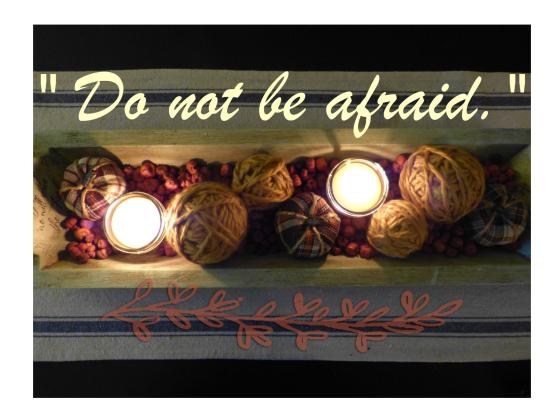
**Pastor Luke Schmalz** 

Office Hours - Monday/Wednesday/Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon Please call the church office to meet with the Pastor

Keyboard/OrganistRachel Poches, David VandenBelt, Lorene WitteSecretaryLorene WitteOCLI 1401200(cell) 231-282-0515Website: www.fremontfcc.orgemail: congo@fremontfcc.orgChurch: 231-924-4710714 Hillcrest Drive - Fremont Mi 49412Offering plates are located in the narthex. Today's service will be availableat our website - www.fremontfcc.org and also on Facebook and YouTube.

# The First Congregational Church

Your Independent Worship Center



July 28, 2024 Christmas in July

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

Prelude: David VandenBelt

#### Welcome

#### Announcements

#### **Call to Worship**

Pastor: God is here! The Messiah has come! We open our eyes to see him and lift our hearts to worship him. We have come to exalt the name of Jesus, our Savior and King, and to bring glory to God the Father. In our worship we demonstrate the mind of Christ in declaring to God that he is the supreme authority in our lives. We bow before him in submission to our Lord and King.

#### All: Come, worship the Lord!

### **Opening Prayer**

**\*Opening Hymns -**"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" - **Blue Hymnal** #277 "Angels from the Realms of Glory - **Blue Hymnal #259** vs 1,2,5

### **Prayer of Confession**

Pastor: O God, in the beginning you spoke, and creation was born, the object of your loving care. In the fullness of time you spoke, and the Word became flesh, Jesus, gift of your love. We wonder at the miracle of creation; we stand in awe before the mystery of the incarnation. Forgive us earthbound creatures, feeble in faith, empty of hope, lacking in love. Let the miracle and mystery of Christmas happen for us again. We wait upon you with ready hearts, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

### All: 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 (Galatians 4:4-5)

Pastor: Hear the good news! When the fullness of time had come,

God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children.

## All: 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:

2 Samuel 11:1-15, John 6:1-21 Reader: The Word of the Lord **All:** Thanks be to God.

Message: "Do Not Be Afraid"- Pastor Luke Schmalz

\*The Apostles' Creed (words projected)

\*Hymn - "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks- Blue Hymnal #272 vs. 1, 2, 5

Special Music: "The First Noel" - Stacey Church, Martha Kallenbach,

Jack Brooks

## Moments of Praise & Prayer Requests

**Prayers of the Congregation** 

The Lord's Prayer (words projected)

## \*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: "What Child is This? - Stacey Church, Martha Kallenbach, Jack Brooks

\*Closing Hymns - "Joy to the World" - Blue Hymnal #270

"Go Tell it on the Mountain" - Blue Hymnal #258

### \*Benediction

Pastor: The joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the Magi, the obedience of Joseph and Mary *continued on back page* 

#### **Our Church News**

Altar Rep: Susan Stewart Greeting us today: Ted Caris Next Sunday: Susan Stewart

Song Leader: Pat Krehn

Tech Booth - Thank you volunteers!

Happy Birthday to  $\sim$ 

Happy Anniversary to ~

Bernie & Lissa Denney (29), Luke & Karla Pfeiffer (2) Prayer Requests ~

> *Sympathy*: The family of Bill Sherman *Our shut-ins*: Yvonne Lee, Siria Pinnick, Ann Werner *Health Concerns*:

Ann Werner - was hospitalized following a fall - in the rehab facility of her current home.

#### This Week's Calendar

#### Sunday, July 28 - Christmas In July Worship 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour - Fellowship Hall 11:15 a.m. Monday, July 29 9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Fellowship Hall 10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open - when two or three are gathered Tuesday, July 30 - Church Office Close Wednesday, July 31 9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Fellowship Hall Woodshop Open - when two or three are gathered 10:00 a.m. Thursday, August 1- Church Office Closed Christmas Crafters - Fellowship Hall 10:00 a.m. Friday, August 2 9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Library Woodshop Open - when two or three are gathered 10:00 a.m. Saturday, August 3 Sunday, August 4 Worship with communion 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour - Fellowship Hall 11:15 a.m.

**Welcome to worship**! We are grateful for your presence - whether you are a visitor or a member.

**Thank you** to Stacey Church, Martha Kallenbach and Jack Brooks for sharing their gift of music with us this morning.

**Ladies:** Mark your calender for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Women's Gathering on Thursday August 15, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at the home of Carrie and Tony DeMull on Martin Lake. Please bring a dish to share - the beverage and main course will be provided.

If you would like to drop Ann Werner a note of encouragement - her address is:

Ann Werner 41150 Fox Run Rd Apt 316 Novi MI 48377

Mark your calendar for Tuesday, August 13 at 7:00 p.m. for the Deb Emerick Summer Celebration of Music. A great list of artists will be presenting a wonderful evening of entertainment. Doors Open at 6:30 p.m. Free Admission - money received will be given to the Newaygo County Compassion Home. All money will be matched up to \$20,000.

#### Looking Ahead:

Aug. 5 - Women's Fellowship Board Meeting 10:00 a.m.

- Aug. 6 Book Circle 1:00 p.m. Fremont Public Library conference room
- Aug. 10 Funeral Service for Bill Sherman 11:00 a.m.
- Aug. 13 The Deb Emerick Summer Celebration of Music 7:00 p.m. at the Dogwood Center
- Aug. 15 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Women's Gathering at Carrie DeMull's home on Martin Lake 11:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.
- Aug. 28 Family Night with a special presentation by Pat Krehn & Rachel Poches

#### **Requested Announcements**

**Life Line Screening thanks us** for the use of Fellowship Hall for their screenings. They served at record number of 52 exams.