

Benediction

Pastor: The joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the Magi, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ child be yours this Christmas. And the blessing of 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

Pastor Luke Schmalz

*Postlude: Lorene Witte



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

Secretary Lorene Witte 924-4710

CCLI 1401200 (cell) 231-282-0515

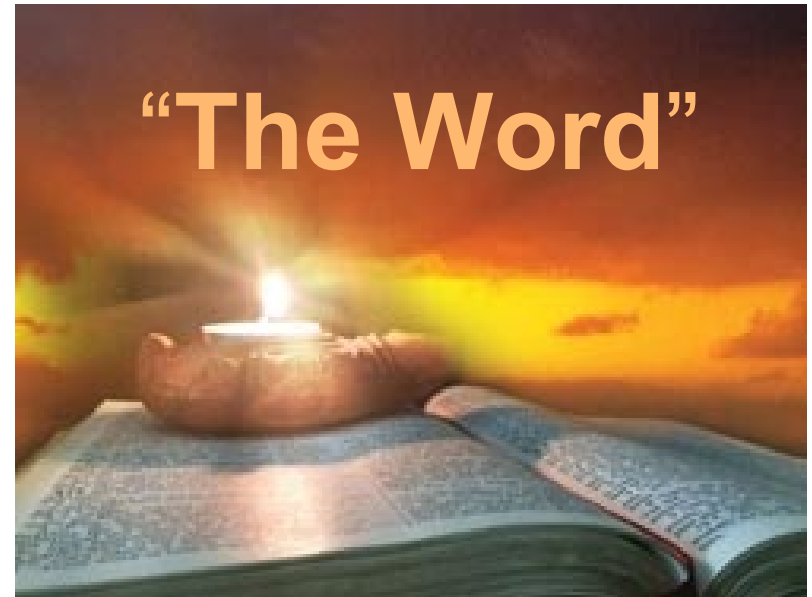
Website: www.fremontfcc.org email: congo@fremontfcc.org

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

Offering plates are located in the narthex.

The First Congregational Church

Your Independent Worship Center



January 5, 2025

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

Prelude: Lorene Witte

Announcements

Welcome

Call to Worship (Psalm 147:12-20)

Pastor: Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion! For he strengthens the bars of your gates; he blesses your children within you. He grants peace within your borders; he fills you with the finest of wheat. He sends out his command to the earth; his word runs swiftly. He gives snow like wool; he scatters frost like ashes. He hurls down hail like crumbs—who can stand before his cold? He sends out his word, and melts them; he makes his wind blow, and the waters flow. He declares his word to Jacob, his statutes and ordinances to Israel. He has not dealt thus with any other nation; they do not know his ordinances.

All: Praise the Lord!

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn - “Angels, from the Realms of Glory” - Blue Hymnal #259
vs. 1,2,5

Prayer of Confession

All: Holy God, you sent a star to guide the Magi to the child Jesus. We confess that we have not followed the light of your Word. We have not searched for signs of your love in the world or trusted your good news to be good. We have failed to praise your Son’s birth and refused his peace on earth. We have expected little and hoped for less. Forgive our doubt and renew in us all fine desires, that we may watch and wait and once more hear the glad story of our Savior, Jesus Christ, the 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

Pastor: Hear the good news. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

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 the the JeLy Room for JeLy Church!
(JeLy ~ Jesus Loves You)

Scripture:

Jeremiah 31:7-17, Ephesians 1:2-14, John 1:1-18

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Message: “The Word”

Pastor Luke Schmalz

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

***Hymn - “O Come, All Ye Faithful” - Blue Hymnal #249** vs 1 & 2

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**

***Hymn - Communion Preparation - “Come to the Table” -**

Blue Hymnal #464

Sacrament of Holy Communion

***Sending Hymn - “Go Tell it on the Mountain” - Blue Hymnal #258**

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Our Church News

Altar Rep:

Greeting us today: Ted Caris

Next Sunday: Susan Stewart

Song Leader: Pat Krehn

Tech Booth - Thank you volunteers! Garrett, Robin, Lou, Kendra

Happy Birthday to ~

Happy Anniversary to ~

Prayer Requests ~

Kelly Parks - fell and broke her hip - surgery has taken place with a partial hip replacement - therapy has begun

Dean Morehouse - gall bladder & gall stone surgery

This Weeks Calendar

Sunday, January 5

10:00 a.m. Worship with communion

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

11:30 a.m. Deacons Meeting - Library

Monday, January 6

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

10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open - when two or three are gathered

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

Tuesday, January 7 - Church Office Closed

Wednesday, January 8

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

10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open - when two or three are gathered

12:00 noon Men's Fellowship Lunch - Fellowship Hall

Thursday, January 9 - Church Office Closed

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

Friday, January 10

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

10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open - when two or three are gathered

Saturday, January 11

Sunday, January 12

10:00 a.m. Worship

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

Soup Lunch - Fundraiser for Guatemala - Fellowship Hall

Welcome to worship! We are grateful for your presence - whether you are a visitor or a member. Friends and guests, welcome to worship in the name of Jesus, who is both Savior and Friend and who welcomes all. The Magi followed a star to worship Jesus and present him gifts. We too have been guided here by God's light, to worship Jesus and offer him our gifts of love.

This morning we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Community Closet ... many thanks for your donations! Through Dec. 22, contributions are: towels-52, blankets-15, winter clothing-17, bed-sheets-8, cash-\$40. Thank YOU! We ask your continued support through January 5. Please put donations in the basket/box west of the main Sanctuary doors. Happy New Year. Charitable Giving/Jack

Christmas Crafters begin again this Thursday. If you enjoy "crafting" you are welcome to join us at 10:00 a.m to 2:00 p.m.. Bring your own lunch.

Men's Fellowship Lunch - Wednesday, January 8 at noon. Men, come enjoy some good food and great fellowship along with a guest speaker.

Next Sunday, January 12 the Women's Fellowship will be sponsoring a Guatemala Soup Lunch Fundraiser following worship. Generous donations are welcome to support Gary Hooker.

O Lord, let my
New Year's resolution
be to 
follow you
more closely
and to
trust in your
loving guidance.