

**\*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

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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

Blessed  
is the  
one  
who  
trusts in the LORD,  
whose  
confidence  
is in  
him.

JEREMIAH 17:7, NIV

**February 16, 2025**

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

**Prelude:** Lorene Witte

**Announcements**

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship** (Psalm 1)

Pastor: Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night.

**All: They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.**

Pastor: The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

**Opening Prayer**

**Opening Hymn** - "For the Beauty of the Earth" - **Blue Hymnal #793** vs 1-4

**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**

Pastor: Hear the good news! In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, we are assured that there is no sin so terrible that God cannot forgive, no hurt so terrible that God cannot heal. God accepts, God forgives, and God sets free. Receive the forgiving love of God.

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

**Scripture**

Jeremiah 17:5-10, I Corinthians 15:12-20, Luke 6:17-26

Reader: The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Jim Rynberg**

**Message:**

*"Like a Tree"*

**Pastor Luke Schmaltz**

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

**Walk Up Choir** - "O Jesus I Have Promised" - Blue Hymnal #676

"Seek Ye First" - Blue Hymnal #713

**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**

**\*Sending Hymn** - "'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"- **Blue Hymnal #581**  
vs 1 & 4

**\* Benediction**

**Pastor Luke Schmalz**

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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## *Our Church News*

**Altar Rep:** Carrie DeMull

**Greeting us today:** Ted Caris

Next Sunday: Dean & Jean Morehouse

**Song Leader:** Bill Black

**Liturgist:** Jim Rynberg

Next Sunday: Brian Webb

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

**Happy Birthday to ~**

Jean Morehouse (17), Carol Black (22)

**Prayer Requests ~**

Cathy Kellerman - broke her collar bone in a fall - painful

Sally DeShetler - broke her leg in a fall - her mailing address is

Apostolic Christian Village; 10680 Steiner Road, Rittman,  
OH 44270 - Room 312

Susan VandenBelt - not feeling well (for several months)

Kelly Parks - recovering from her partial hip replacement

### *This Weeks Calendar*

**Sunday, February 16**

10:00 a.m. Worship

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

**Monday, February 17**

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

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

6:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting - Library

**Tuesday, February 18 - Church Office Closed**

7:00 p.m. Library in use

**Wednesday, February 19**

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

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

1:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall or Library in Use

**Thursday, February 20 - Church Office Closed**

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

**Friday, February 21**

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

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

**Saturday, February 22**

**Sunday, February 23**

10:00 a.m. Worship

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

4:30 p.m. Evangelism Training

**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. May you experience the love of Jesus in the midst of this congregation.

**Walk up Choir will sing** this morning The songs selected will be "O Jesus, I have Promised" #676 and "Seek Ye First" #713. All are welcome to sing. No rehearsal needed just 'walk up'.

**Noisy Offering is next** Sunday, February 23 (the fourth Sunday of the month) Bring you loose change along with you for the collection. Last month we collected \$236.00 for Community Closet. Community Closet will receive this month's offering as well.

**A New 2025 Address Directory** will be made soon. Do you have any changes that should be noted/updated? Aren't currently in the directory and would like to be?, new phone #, email?, etc. Please let the church office know as soon as possible.

**150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** - we are preparing to celebrate our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! If you have pictures, artifacts, etc please let Pastor Luke know. The committee: Jim Rynberg, Judy Nadeau, Lou Deleguardia, Pastor Luke.

**Mark Your Calendar for NEXT** Sunday evening, 4:30 p.m., February 23 - we will have an Evangelism Training with the Gideons. Pizza will be provided. Please sign up on the sheet by the church office so we know how many to plan for.

**Deacon Connections** - Our Deacons (Jim Rynberg, Ruth Cowles, Dave White, Cathy Kellerman, Mat Emerick, and Brian Webb) have each been given a list and will be reaching out to all the members and friends of the church. You can expect a call at some point this year. The goal is to see how your walk with God is going and how the church can serve YOU.

**Dates to note:**

Wednesday, March 5 - Ash Wednesday Service - 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 9 - All Church Meeting following worship