

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

***Walk Up Choir** - "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" - Blue Hymnal #320
"Dear Lord and Father of Mankind" - Blue Hymnal #639

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 - "Lean on You" (Dawn Thomas) - **Jean Howarth**

***Sending Hymn** - "O Jesus, I Have Promised" - **Blue Hymnal #676** vs 1,2,4

***Benediction** **Pastor Luke Schmalz**

Pastor: Sisters and brothers, let us claim the freedom Christ gives us by his self-giving on the cross. May he enable us to serve together in faith, hope, and love. God in peace and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

***The Peace of Christ**

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

***Sending** **Pastor Luke Schmaltz**

***Postlude:** Lorene Witte

All members of the First Congregational Church of Fremont, Michigan are called to come together following worship on Sunday, March 30, 2025 for a special meeting to discuss the value and option of selling land south of the church. We will also deal with any other business which may properly come before the meeting. Carrie DeMull, Clerk



Deeply Rooted ~ Future Focused

The First Congregational Church

Your Independent Worship Center

Celebrating 150 years ~ August 1875 - August 2025



March 16, 2025

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

Prelude: Lorene Witte

Call to a Special Meeting - Carrie DeMull, Clerk

Announcements

Welcome

Call to Worship (Psalm 27)

Pastor: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh—my adversaries and foes—they shall stumble and fall. Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident.

All: One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple. For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock. Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

Pastor: Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me! “Come,” my heart says, “seek his face!” Your face, Lord, do I seek. Do not hide your face from me. Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help. Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation! If my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will take me up. Teach me your way, O Lord, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies. Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries, for false witnesses have risen against me, and they are breathing out violence.

All: I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn -“God of Grace and God of Glory”- **Blue Hymnal #435**
vs 1,2,4

Prayer of Confession

All: God of mercy, whose Son, Jesus Christ, longs to gather us in the wide embrace of his love, we confess that we have been wayward children. We have disobeyed your commands; our ears have been deaf to your call; our hearts have been cold to your love. In thought, in word, and in deed we have hurt others and dishonored your name. In your great mercy receive us yet again as your well-beloved children, not because we are worthy but for the sake of him who loved us and gave himself for us. 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! Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

All: In Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift.

***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.

Special Music - “Untitled Hymn - Come to Jesus” (Chris Rice)

- **Jean Howarth**

JeLy Bell! All kids are invited to go the the JeLy Room for JeLy Church!
(JeLy ~ Jesus Loves You)

Scripture

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Philippians 3:7-4:1, Luke 13:31-35
Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Message:

“The Fox and the Hen”

Pastor Luke Schmaltz

Altar Rep: Barbara Blass-Frisbey

Greeting us today: Brian Webb

Next Sunday: Ted Caris

Song Leader: Bill Black

Liturgist: Stacey Church

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

Happy Birthday to ~

Betty Speet (19)

Prayer Requests ~

Sally DeShetler - slowly doing better but will be at the following location for a while yet - Apostolic Christian Village Room 312, 10680 Steiner Road Rittman, OH 44270 - she loves receiving cards from her friends!

Susan VandenBelt - for several months hasn't been feeling well

Kelly Parks - recovering from her partial hip replacement

This Weeks Calendar

Sunday, March 16 - Second Sunday of Lent

10:00 a.m. Worship

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

Monday, March 17 - Easter Lily Orders due!

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 - Library

Tuesday, March 18 - Church Office Closed

Wednesday, March 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 in Use

Thursday, March 20 - Church Office Closed

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

Friday, March 21

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

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

Saturday, March 22

8:00 a.m. Men's Lenten Breakfast - Church of the Living Christ

Sunday, March 23 - Third Sunday of Lent - Sunny Sunday/Noisy Offering

10:00 a.m. Worship

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

Our Church News

Welcome to worship! as we journey through the season of Lent, seeking to grow in faith, hope and love.

Thank you Jean Howarth for sharing your gift of music with us this morning.

Walk Up Choir will be singing this morning - if you'd like to sing 'walk up' when it's time. Our hymns this morning are "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" #320 and "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind" #639

Easter Lily orders are due TOMORROW, Monday, March 17.

Launching Soon Small Groups - A sign up sheet is located by the church office. Sign up for the time period that fits you best. (Morning, Afternoon, Evening or Anytime).

Sunny Sunday - Next Sunday, March 23 - dress in your fun bright summer clothing. Invite cards are located on the bulletin table - invite your friends and neighbors to worship with you.

Noisy Offering is next Sunday, March 23. This is the last of our quarter offering for the Community Closet. Last month's offering was \$122.85.

2025 Directories are ready for you to take one home. They are located on the bulletin table and the white table by the church office. ADDITION: Please add Barb Clark to the Altar Committee and remove Ruth Cowles.

Men's Lenten Community Breakfast Saturday, March 8th - April 19. They will be held at the Church of the Living Christ at 8:00 a.m. All Men are encouraged to attend.

Stacey Church, Martha Kallenbach and Jack Brooks will be with on on Sunday, March 30 to share their gift of music.

Requested Announcements

Life Line Screening will be in Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, March 26 call 877-792-8480 if you would like to schedule a screening. Or visit <https://discover.lifelinescreening.com>

EASTER FLOWER ORDER

_____ **6" Pot Easter Lilies (5+ blooms): (\$15.00)**
_____ **10" Pot Easter Lilies (15+ blooms): (\$40.00)**

to be used in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025

_____ Following the worship service, I/we will pick up our
flower(s).

_____ Following the worship service, the Altar Committee may take
care of my/our flowers in an appropriate way.

Given by: _____

In Memory of _____

or

In Honor of _____

This completed form, along with your payment for each flower ordered
may be placed in the offering plate, or in the church office by **March 17,**
2025 (No Late Orders!)

