

**All: Amen.**

**\*The Peace of Christ**

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

**\*Sending**

**Pastor Luke Schmaltz**

**\*Postlude:** Rachel Poches

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*

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](http://www.fremontfcc.org) email: [congo@fremontfcc.org](mailto:congo@fremontfcc.org)

Church: 231-924-4710714 Hillcrest Drive - Fremont Mi 49412

Offering plates are located in the narthex. Today's service will be available at our website - [www.fremontfcc.org](http://www.fremontfcc.org) and also on Facebook and YouTube.

# The First Congregational Church

Your Independent Worship Center

Celebrating 150 years ~ August 1875 - August 2025



**March 23, 2025**

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

**Prelude:** Rachel Poches

**Call to a Special Meeting** - Carrie DeMull, Clerk

**Announcements**

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship** (Psalm 63)

**Pastor:** O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory. Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

**All: So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name. My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips**

**Pastor:** when I think of you on my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night; for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.

**All: My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.**

**Opening Prayer**

**Opening Hymn** - "As the Deer"- **Blue Hymnal #548**

**Prayer of Confession**

**All: God of compassion, you are slow to anger and full of mercy, welcoming sinners who return to you with penitent hearts. Receive in your loving embrace all who come home to you. Seat them at your bountiful table of grace, that, with all your children, they may feast with delight on all that satisfies the hungry heart. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit; one God forever and ever. 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! Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."

**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**

Isaiah 55:1-9, I Corinthians 10:1-13, Luke 13:1-9

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Message:**

**Pastor Luke Schmalz**

*"The Warmth of the Spring Sun"*

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

**\*Hymn** - "Take My Life and Let It Be" - **Blue Hymnal #597**

**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** - "Sunshine in My Soul" - **Blue Hymnal #747** vs 1 & 4  
*Please remain seated - the Noisy Offering will be taken during the singing of this hymn*

**\*Benediction**

**Pastor Luke Schmalz**

**Pastor:** God of love, as in Jesus Christ you gave yourself to us, so may we give ourselves to you, living according to your holy will. Keep our feet firmly in the way where Christ leads us; make our mouths speak the truth that Christ teaches us; fill our bodies with the life that is Christ within us. In his holy name we pray.

**Altar Rep:** Barbara Blass-Frisbey

**Greeting us today:** Ted Caris

Next Sunday: Susan Stewart

**Song Leader:** Pat Krehn

**Liturgist:** Pat Krehn

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

**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!

Kelly Parks - back to work - but dealing with a few issues

**This Weeks Calendar**

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

10:00 a.m. Worship

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

**Monday, March 24**

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

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

**Tuesday, March 25 - Church Office Closed**

**Wednesday, March 26**

8:00 a.m. - ? Life Line Screening - Fellowship Hall

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. Library in Use

**Thursday, March 27 - Church Office Closed**

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

**Friday, March 28**

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

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

**Saturday, March 29**

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

**Sunday, March 30 - Fourth Sunday of Lent**

10:00 a.m. Worship

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

Special Congregational Meeting & Bunch

**Our Church News**

**Welcome to "Sunny Sunday"!** Isaiah announced God's invitation: "Is anyone thirsty? Come and drink ... it's all free!" (55:1, NLT). Are you thirsty for good news, peace, hope, love? Christ is the water of life. Welcome to worship.

**Thank you to the** Altar Committee and especially to Jim Rynberg for the incredible Lenten Altar display.

**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).

**Noisy Offering is TODAY.** This is the last of our quarter offering for the Community Closet. Last month's offering was \$122.85.

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

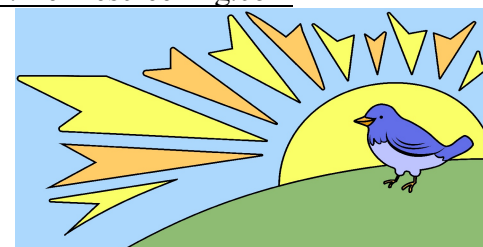
**Rooms of Refuge** will be in Fellowship Hall this week (no volunteers are needed) and again April 14-21.

**Next Sunday Stacey Church, Martha Kallenbach and Jack Brooks** will be with us to share their gift of music.

**Following worship next Sunday** is our Special Congregational Meeting. Women's Fellowship will be providing a brunch.

**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>



**Sunny Sunday**