

Offertory

“Give Thanks”

Praise Group

*Doxology

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 (*unison*)

Jack Butterick

For the blessings of this and all our days, we thank you, gracious God. Accept, we pray, not just this money but also our lives freely offered in gratitude for all you have done for us. Use them both, in this place and wherever you might take us. Amen.

*Closing

Blue Hymnal #147

“Because He Lives” (verses 1 & 2)

God sent His Son - they called Him Jesus; He came to love,
heal and forgive. He lived and died to buy my pardon;
An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.

Because He lives I can face tomorrow; Because He lives,
all fear is gone. Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living just because He lives.

How sweet to hold a newborn baby; And feel the pride and joy
he gives; But greater still the calm assurance: This child can face
uncertain days because He lives.

Because He lives I can face tomorrow; Because He lives,
all fear is gone. Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living just because He lives.

Benediction

Jim Tanis

***Jack Butterick:** The Peace of Christ be with you. **Congregation:** *And also with you.*

*Postlude

Lorene Witte

Welcome Guest, We are so happy that you are here today. If you would like more information about the First Congregational Church, please fill out the note below and place it in the offering plate.

Your Name(s) _____

Phone number or email _____

Comments/Prayer Request _____

Would you like someone to contact you? Yes No

The First Congregational Church



Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

November 17, 2019

10:00 a.m.

As you enter the sanctuary, please be mindful of those already seated who want a quiet place to pray.

The Order of Worship

* those who are able, please stand

Prelude

Lorene Witte

Welcome

Jack Butterick

Call to Worship

Jim Tanis

Leader: Trust in the Lord with all your heart

People: And lean not on your own understanding

Leader: In all your ways acknowledge Him.

People: And he will make your pathways straight.

Opening Prayer (unison)

Jim Tanis

Lord, stir us up, change us around, reverse our priorities and challenge our assumptions. Open us to new truth, that in every way possible we will see what thou has been trying for so long to tell us, and we will respond with love.

***Opening Hymn**

Blue Hymnal #767

“For All the Saints” (verses 1,2,6)

All Saints Remembrance

Jack Butterick

2018: Lynn Hall, Ken Hall, Marian Schulte, John Dykstra, Jaime Deuling

2019: PT Lindner, James Morse, Robert DeShetler, Harlow Redding, Marguerite Peets, Gloria Hull

Invitation to Prayer

Praise Group & Congregation

“Majesty” (MW Smith Version) (2 times through)

Majesty, Majesty, Your grace has found me just as I am

Empty handed, but alive in your hands Majesty, Majesty

Forever I am changed by your love In the presence of your Majesty

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Jim Tanis

God of hope and God of glory, we recognize that you have created us to seek you, to love you, and to find our identity within the fellowship of your faithful people. We thank you for seeking us when we are lost, for bearing our griefs and carrying our sorrows, and for making us whole by the healing of the cross. Draw us close to the cross and wounded healer. Draw us close to you. Draw us close to one another.

***Response**

Praise Group & Congregation

“Thank You Jesus”

Grace that flows like a river Washing over me Fount of heaven,
love of Christ overflow in me

Chorus: Thank you Jesus, You set me free Christ my Saviour, You rescued me (repeat chorus)

Take this life delivered A vessel of Your love

Wholly now devoted To see Your Kingdom come

Chorus: Thank you Jesus, You set me free Christ my Saviour, You rescued me (repeat chorus)

Story Bell

Jim Tanis

“Doing the Right Thing”

Hymn of Preparation

Blue Hymnal #479

“Softly and Tenderly” (verse 1)

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, Calling for you and for me.

See, on the portals He’s waiting and watching,

Watching for you and for me.

Come home (come home) Come home (come home)

You who are weary, come home.

Earnestly tenderly Jesus is calling,

Calling, “O sinner, come home!”

Scripture Reading

Jack Butterick

John 10:10

103 N.T.

John 14:27

109 N.T.

Matthew 22:37-40

25 N.T.

Matthew 28:20

34 N.T.

Message

Jim Tanis

Crossing the Bridges of Life

***Hymn**

Blue Hymnal #705

“It Is Well With My Soul” (verses 1,3,4)

Prayers of the People and Silent Prayers

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

continued on back page

“Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!” We gather to praise God. Welcome!

*Visitors ~ Welcome! There is a Welcome Packet in the pew rack for you. Please fill out the Guest Information insert, place it in the offering plate and take the packet home for review of the other information. We are thankful you are here and hope that your time here is a special blessing to you and your family. Please let us know how we can best serve you.

*Large print Bibles and bulletins are available from the ushers. Quiet bags for children to use while they are in the worship service are available on the table in the narthex.

*Children are an important segment of the living body of Christ, so we welcome them in our worship services and grant to them the blessing of worshiping along side their parents, siblings and family in Christ. Families with young nursery age children are also welcome to use the “Family Room” in the balcony located on the 2nd floor.

*Our sanctuary is equipped with a T-Coil Hearing Loop. Please turn your hearing aid to the T-Coil position to access this feature. Other hearing devices are available at the sound booth upon request.

*The Deacons invite you to join us for a few moments of prayer in the library at 9:40 a.m. each Sunday morning. We want to ask God to prepare our hearts for worship, to guide those leading worship in word and song and invite the Holy Spirit to minister to our church family and visitors.

Following the worship service you are invited to join us in Fellowship Hall. Come meet new friends and have some refreshments. We look forward to meeting you.

Serving Us:

Altar Rep:	Jim Rynberg
Altar Flowers:	Cornucopia(today) Cornucopia(next week)
Greeters:	Barbara Blass-Frisbey(today) (next week)
Ushers:	Jim Rynberg & Mary Butterick(today) Jack & Mary Butterick(next week)
Compassion:	All Deacons
Keyboard:	Sylvia Lee
Sound System:	Rick St. Peter
Coffee Hosts:	Linda Oosterhouse & Pat Krehn(today) (next week)

Thank you to Barb Clark & Jim Rynberg for arranging the cornucopia display. Thanks to the Zeerips for the pumpkins. What a beautiful way to demonstrate the bounties that God gives us.

Celebrating this week:

Happy Birthday to ~

Luke Pfiesser, Raene` Redinger, Rosemary Tittle (19), Shirley Brooks, Loretta VanDuzen (21), Courtney Waldo (22)

Prayer Requests ~

Jerry Miller - now residing at Fountain View

Our shut-ins: Frank Blain, Bob Erber, Barb Lindner, Jean Morse, Siria Pinnick, Don Potter, Norma Purvis, Karen Zick

This Week’s Calendar

Sunday, November 17

8:45 a.m. Praise Group rehearsal - sanctuary
9:40 a.m. Prayer Time - Library
10:00 a.m. Worship
11:15 a.m. Fellowship Time - Fellowship Hall
SCRIP is available for purchase
5:30 p.m. ConGoEnJoyMeant - Fellowship Hall

Monday, November 18

9:00 a.m. Woodshop Open
7:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting - Library

Tuesday, November 19 - *Church Office Closed*

10:00 a.m. Book Circle - Jill Sondeen’s home
1:00 p.m. Woodshop Open
3:00 p.m. Violin Lessons - Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, November 20

9:00 a.m. Woodshop Open
7:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal - Fellowship Hall

Thursday, November 21 - *Church Office Closed*

10:00 a.m. Christmas Crafters - Fellowship Hall
1:00 p.m. Woodshop Open
6:30 p.m. Deacons’ Meeting - Library

Friday, November 22 - *Poinsettia Orders due*

9:00 a.m. Woodshop Open
Fellowship Hall carpet cleaning

Saturday, November 23

8:30 a.m. Fellowship Hall reserved

Sunday, November 24

8:45 a.m. Praise Group rehearsal - sanctuary
9:40 a.m. Prayer Time - Library
10:00 a.m. Worship
11:15 a.m. Fellowship Time - Fellowship Hall
SCRIP is available for purchase

Our Church News

We are happy to welcome back Jim Tanis. Jim has led our worship service many times and we are thrilled he is returning. My wife, Martha, and I have been married for 56 years and have lived in the White Lake Area most of that time. We have 2 grown children and 6 grandchildren. As an active member of the White Lake United Methodist Church for nearly 50 years, I have taught Sunday school and witnessed to my faith as a licensed Lay Speaker in many churches, community events. My working career was thirty-six years a Woodshop teacher at Mona Shores Public Schools. I love the Lord, I love life, and I love my family. I truly believe God has richly blessed me in so many ways. At 81 years of age, I feel blessed to have the gift of good health to continue doing the Lord's work.

Today we welcome Lorene Witte on the organ. She will be playing accompaniment along with Sylvia Lee this morning. Thank you Lorene & Sylvia.

Next Sunday, November 24, Rev. Nick Bowling, pastor of youth and family at Buttericks' summer church, Ferry Memorial (RCA), in Montague will be in our pulpit Nov 24. Nick is grateful to Trinity Christian College, Calvin Seminary and Western Theological Seminary for his learning and growth. Wife/Pastor Amy agreed to marry him after a hot air balloon ride over the Tetons 18 years ago. Today, they have three young children. My favorite part of ministry is studying deep questions of faith, says Pastor Nick. In his spare time he enjoys his family, kite-boarding on Lake Michigan, guitar and woodworking.

Book Circle will meet on Tuesday, November 19 at 10:0 a.m. at the home of Jill Sondeen. The program will be bring a book to share.

Friends and Members: The Home Tour is just around the corner. Decorative containers, glass jars, plastic bags and containers, etc. for Plum Pudding Shoppe are on display in Fellowship Hall. Please take some home and fill them up with goodies and return them to the church by Friday, December 6. You will find recipes, cook books and a sample of the information that must be included on you items. If you have any questions, please contact me. Mary B. Plum Pudding Coordinator 231 924 4581.

Attention Ladies: The Holiday Shopping & Home Tour will be here soon. I will be hosting the Complimentary "Tea, Coffee & cookies" and am asking for your help in providing whatever delicious treat you could.

If you make a bar type dessert, it is helpful if they are pre-cut in the pans. Please have them to the kitchen by Friday, December 6. Thank You so much! Shelli Waldo

Thanksgiving is a wonderful holiday for our families but there are many needy brothers, sisters just beyond our walls. Please search your pantry for duplicates of canned goods and items you won't be using, or buy a few cans from on sale displays at Bill's, and put them in the basket in the narthex near the east aisle. I'll take them to True North's food pantry on December 2. Thx for caring, Jack B

Lorene will be out of the office on Friday, November 22 (weather depending). You can reach me at 231-282-0515 if you need anything.

SCRIP is available for purchase in Fellowship Hall following worship. It's almost December and you might be looking for a gift in the way of a gift card. SCRIP has many to choose from. See Susan Stewart.

Requested Announcements

United Way – Newaygo County's Annual "Mistletoe & Music" luncheon is scheduled for Friday, December 6, 2019, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., at the Dogwood Center for the Performing Arts. In addition to a holiday lunch served by Executive Chef, Whitney Saylor, of Ridge Specialties, there will be interim music by pianist, Bernadine Johnson, with singer, Jean Howarth, and a seasonal-music program presented by members of Opera Grand Rapids. In addition, a variety of silent auction items will again be available – we have a Coach purse with the price tag still attached for auction! Tickets are \$40.00 per person or a table of eight (8) for \$300.00 Reservations can be placed by calling Jim Rynberg at Fremont City Hall, 924-2101, or at home, 924-6345.

Operation Christmas Child - Every year the third week of November is National Collection Week for Operation Christmas Child (OCC), a project of Samaritan's Purse. Volunteers throughout the country pack shoeboxes with non-liquid hygiene items, school supplies, toys and other items to send to children around the world. Last year over ten million shoeboxes were sent to over 100 countries and every year OCC aims to serve even more countries. OCC shoeboxes are much more than just a nice gift. It's an evangelism tool used to share the gospel and love of Jesus. Each child who receives a shoebox also gets a copy of the Greatest Gift, a small book written in the child's language that tells the

Plum Pudding ~ 2019

In accordance with the State of Michigan Food Requirements this is the required list of food items that can be made for Plum Pudding:

Breads - not frozen

Similar baked goods

Vinegar & flavored vinegar

Cakes - not refrigerated

Muffins

Cooked fruit pies

Jams & Jellies

in glass jars that can be stored at room temperature.

Cookies

Dry herbs and dry herb mixes

Dry baking mixes

Dry dip mixes

Dry soup mixes

Dehydrated vegetables or fruits

Popcorn

Chocolate covered pretzels, marshmallows, graham crackers, rice krispie treats

Coated or uncoated nuts

Dried pasta made with eggs

Roasted coffee beans or ground roasted coffee



All food items have to be labeled with a list of ingredients with your FIRST name, The First Congregational Church 231-924-4710 on the label.

Thank you for your cooperation,
Mary Butterick, Plum Pudding Coordinator