

**Benediction**

**Rev. Bowling**

**\*Pastor:** The Peace of Christ be with you. **Congregation:** *And also with you.*

**\*Postlude**

**Sylvia Lee**

## **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:

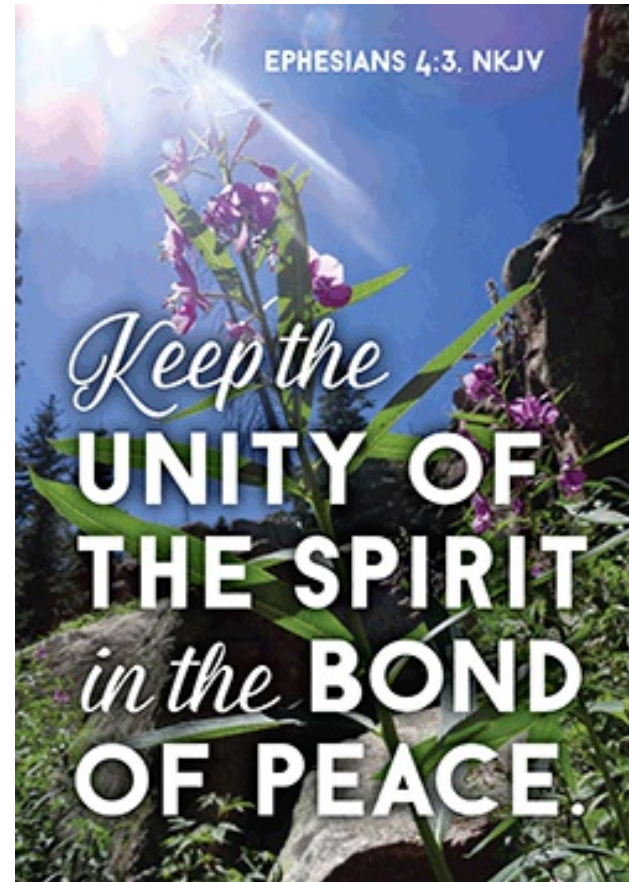
Breads - not frozen  
Similar baked goods  
Vinegar & flavored vinegar  
Cakes - not refrigerated  
Muffins  
Cooked fruit pies  
Jams & Jellies

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



## **The First Congregational Church**



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

## Reign of Christ

November 24, 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

Sylvia

Welcome

Jack Butterick

Call to Worship

Praise Group

“His Love Endures Forever”

Opening Prayer (*unison*)

Rev. Bowling

*Gracious God, lift us to where you are. Hear the song of our heart. We praise you for who you are; for your goodness, for your beauty. Send your Holy Spirit, to bless our worship, and to fill our hearts with songs of praise*

\*Opening Hymn

Blue Hymnal #797

“Come Ye Thankful People Come”

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

Rev. Bowling

\*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

Rev. Bowling

Hymn of Preparation

Blue Hymnal #479

“Spirit of the Living God” (verse 1)

Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 4:1-6

Message

*Unity, Diversity, Maturity*

\*Hymn

“We Are God’s People”

Prayers of the People and Silent Prayers

Prayers for the People

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

Offertory

\*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*)

*O God, your Church is so special to us. Within it are people with many different gifts. Thank you God for providing us with this place of belonging. We bring our own gifts to use in your Church and world, and as we do, we say how grateful we are that You have given us such caring friends. Out of gratitude we give, for you have given us so much and we are thankful to You. Amen.*

\*Closing

“The Church is One Foundation” (verse 1 & 4)

The Church’s one foundation Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;

She is His new creation By water and the word:

From heav’n He came and sought her To be His holy bride;

With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.

Yet she on earth hath union With God, the Three in One,

And mystic, sweet communion With those whose rest is won:

O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we

Like them, the meek and lowly, On high may dwell with Thee.

Rev. Bowling

193 N.T.

Jim Tanis

Blue Hymnal #399

Jack Butterick

Rev. Bowling

Sylvia Lee

Blue Hymnal #401

*We have come to praise the King of kinds and Lord of lords. May we learn from Christ our King that true power is reveled through love and mercy.*

\*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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

*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:	Pat Krehn(today) (next week)
Ushers:	Jim Rynberg, Shelli Waldo, Mary Butterick(today) (next week)
Compassion:	All Deacons
Keyboard:	Sylvia Lee
Sound System:	Rick St. Peter
Coffee Hosts:	(today) (next week)

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

#### ***Celebrating this week:***

*Happy Birthday to ~*

Dougan Church, Kyle Parks, Emma Robeck (25), David White (29)

*Happy Anniversary to ~*

Bill & Millie Sherman (26)

#### ***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 24**

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

##### **Monday, November 25**

9:00 a.m. Woodshop Open  
6:30 p.m. Executive Council - Library

##### **Tuesday, November 26 - Church Office Closed**

1:00 p.m. Woodshop Open

##### **Wednesday, November 27**

9:00 a.m. Woodshop Open  
No choir rehearsals

##### **Thursday, November 28 - Church Office Closed**

Happy Thanksgiving!

##### **Friday, November 29**

9:00 a.m. Woodshop Open

##### **Saturday, November 30**

##### **Sunday, December 1**

10:00 a.m. Worship with communion  
11:15 a.m. Fellowship Time - Fellowship Hall  
SCRIP is available for purchase

### **Our Church News**

**Today we welcome** 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.

**Next Sunday, December 1** our own Mat Emerick will be leading us in worship.

**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 your 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. Or, write a check to True North and put it in the offering plate. Thanks for caring, Jack B

**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 gospel. They are invited to attend a twelve lesson discipleship course called the Greatest Journey. On Saturday November 23rd from 2 – 4, Tracey and Kris Veenstra ( Deb and Mat's son and daughter – in – law) will host a packing party in our church Fellowship Hall. They are hoping to pack 100 shoeboxes. If anyone is interested in learning more about OCC, you are welcome to stop in and see what OCC is all about. They would love share with you their heart for this special ministry. You will also be welcome to back a shoebox if you desire.

**The River Country Community Christmas** Choir directed by Barb Boss, totals over 55 singers and invites YOU to a wonderful evening of sacred Christmas Music. The concert will be held at Grant Fine Arts Center, Sunday, Dec. 8 starting at 6 p.m. A freewill offering will be taken for Love in the Name of Christ. Come and celebrate the birth of Jesus! Following the concert, there is a time of refreshments and fellowship. Admission is free. Singing from our church are Bill Black, Sylvia Lee, Al Smalligan and Dave White.

**Creative Ministries Players present**

**"Help! It's Christmas!"**

- a special drama for worship with a fun and poignant look at the stresses and strains that many feel at this festive time. We sing "Peace on Earth" but often lack it in our souls. But there is Hope! We will find it! To include a special Children's presentation of the Christmas Story as well as special and uplifting music.  
Sunday, Dec 15, 10:00am.



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*Fremont First Congregational Creative Ministries  
presents:*

**Sunday, Dec 15, 5:30pm: Congo Carols and Cookies!**

Christmas Carol Sing-A-Long led  
by Louise Slager (Organ) and  
Sylvia Lee on Piano.

Come and give praise to God in  
this glorious season with the carols  
that help us remember that "Jesus is  
the Reason for the Season!"



Afterwards cookies, coffee and punch will be served in  
the church fellowship hall.

Fremont First Congregational Creative Ministries  
presents:

# **Congo Kids Christmas Party!**

All kids and families are invited!

Games, Christmas Cookies and Punch,  
as well as a...



Special Christmas Show with  
Juggling, Mime, Clown and  
Storytelling of the Birth of  
Jesus!

Then it's time for Santa who  
will give each child a fun gift  
and tasty treat!

Each child must be  
accompanied by an adult.



Saturday, Dec 21,  
11:00am-12:00pm

In the Church Fellowship Hall.