

***Benediction**

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. Go 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 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

(cell) 231-282-0515

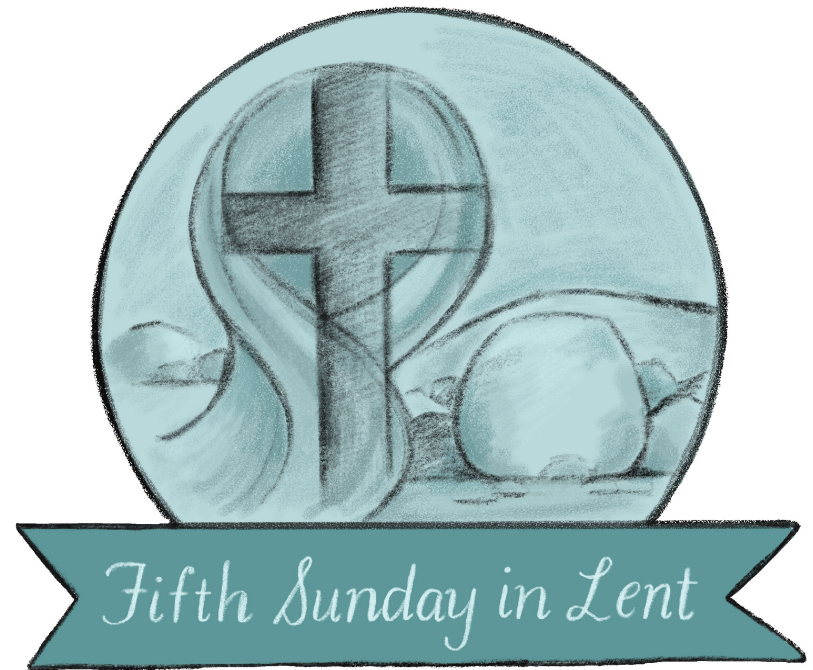
Website: www.fremontfcc.org email: congo@fremontfcc.org

Church: 231-924-4710 714 Hillcrest Drive - Fremont Mi 49412

Offering plates are located in the narthex. Today's service will be available at our website - www.fremontfcc.org and also on Facebook and YouTube.

The First Congregational Church

Your Independent Worship Center



March 17, 2024

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

Prelude: Lorene Witte

Welcome

Announcements

Call to Worship (Psalm 119:9-16)

Pastor: How can young people keep their way pure? By guarding it according to your word. With my whole heart I seek you; do not let me stray from your commandments. I treasure your word in my heart, so that I may not sin against you.

All: Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes.

Pastor: With my lips I declare all the ordinances of your mouth. I delight in the way of your decrees as much as in all riches. I will meditate on your precepts, and fix my eyes on your ways.

All: I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.

Opening Prayer

***Opening Hymn** -“My Faith Looks Up to Thee” - **Blue Hymnal #539** vs 1-3

Prayer of Confession

Pastor: Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree that we might die to sins and live for righteousness. By his wounds we are healed. Let us confess our sins.

Silent Confession

Response

All: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy immortal one, have mercy on us.

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 (Psalm 51:7-12)

Pastor: With joy we can say: Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

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

Scripture:

Jeremiah 31:31-34, Hebrews 5:5-10, John 12:20-33

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Message: “Wishing to See Jesus”- **Pastor Luke Schmalz**

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

Walk Up Choir “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross - **Blue Hymnal #324**

Moments of Praise & Prayer Requests

Prayers of the Congregation

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

***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**

***Closing Hymn** - “Hallelujah What a Savior” - **Blue Hymnal #311**

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Our Church News

Altar Rep: Barbara Blass-Frisbey

Greeting us today: Judy Nadeau & Brian Webb

Next Sunday: Ted Caris

Song Leader: Bill Black

Tech Booth - Jeff Stewart, Garrett Hanshue, Kendra Lachniet

Happy Birthday to ~

Betty Speet - 100 years!!(19), Bernie Denney (23)

Happy Anniversary to ~

Prayer Requests ~

Our shut-ins: Yvonne Lee, Siria Pinnick, Bill Sherman

Lorene will be out of the office Monday and Wednesday this week.

This Week's Calendar

Sunday, March 17 - 5th Sunday of Lent

10:00 a.m. Worship
11:15 a.m. Fellowship Hour - Fellowship Hall
11:15 a.m. Deacon's Meeting - Library

Monday, March 18

9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Fellowship Hall
Woodshop Closed
6:30 p.m. Trustees - Library

Tuesday, March 19 - Church Office Closed

Wednesday, March 20

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

Thursday, March 21 - Church Office Closed

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

Friday, March 22

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

Saturday, March 23

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

Sunday, March 24 - Palm Sunday

10:00 a.m. Worship
11:15 a.m. Fellowship Hour - Fellowship Hall

Welcome to worship! We are grateful for your presence - whether you are a visitor or a member. Join us following worship in fellowship hall for a cup of coffee and fellowship.

The Men's Lenten Breakfast have begun. February 17 - March 30, 8:00 a.m. at the Church of the Living Christ. All men of the community are encouraged to attend. This years topic is Fruits of the Spirit - Discover the joy of living on God's Kingdom path. Next weeks topic is "Gentleness and Faithfulness".

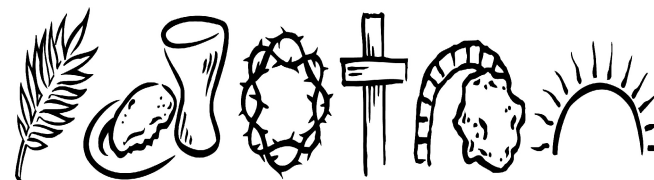
The Walk up Choir will sing this morning The song is "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" #324 in the Blue Hymnal.

Special Music Upcoming:

Palm Sunday - Stacey Church, Martha Kallenbach, Jack Brooks
Easter Sunday - Stacey Church
April 10 - Jean Howarth

Flower/Coffee Host sign up - The March/April sign up sheet is located on the counter in Fellowship Hall. Please consider signing up to serve coffee or donate flowers for the Altar. If you have flowers at home you would like to share on Sunday, we welcome those, or as you know, Jim is always willing to put an arrangement together for you too.

The Woodshop is closed for the next few weeks.



Palm Sunday - March 24 - 10:00 a.m.

Good Friday - March 29 - 6:00 p.m.

Easter - March 31 - 10:00 a.m.

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.

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.