

***WELCOME TO***  
**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
***OF BISMARCK, ND***

**A SERVICE OF HEALING  
AND WHOLENESS**



**April 27, 2025**

**10:00a.m. Service**

**Our Mission**

We are a community called to love God through worship and prayer, receiving and serving our neighbors with the compassion of Christ, open to new beginnings and the spiritual growth of children, youth and adults.

WE WELCOME OUR GUESTS THIS MORNING AND  
INVITE YOU TO MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME!



PLEASE FEEL FREE TO JOIN US FOR  
**COFFEE HOUR** FOLLOWING WORSHIP.

**PLEASE FILL OUT YOUR “PINK PRAYER REQUEST CARDS”  
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, THE USHERS WILL COLLECT THEM DURING  
THE OPENING HYMN. THANK YOU!**

### **ATTENDANCE BOOKS**

You will find an Attendance Pad at the end of each pew.  
Please fill it out and leave it in pew for the church office to collect.  
(please include any updated address information) Thank you to  
everyone for helping us with collecting attendance and statistics  
we submit to the Presbytery.

**“Service of Wholeness” 10:00am**

# **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

*(\*Asterisks indicate that all who are able are requested to stand,  
**bold** texts are to be read in unison)*

**Prelude**                      “The Prayer”                      Carole Bayer Sager/David Foster

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Minute for Mission**    Ron Carlisle

**Introit**                                      “As the Deer”                      Michael Nystrom

**\*Call to Worship** (responsively)

We see light, hope, and joy;

**We bring heart, soul, mind, and body;**

We share blessings and fears;

**We bring faith and doubt.**

With all that we are and all that we have, let us worship God.

## **Gathering in God’s Name**

**\*Opening Hymn**                      “Hear My Prayer, O God”                      see attached

**Call to Confession**                      “Sanctuary”                      Thompson/Scruggs

**Lord Prepare me to be a sanctuary**

**Pure and holy, tried and true**

**With thanksgiving I’ll be a living**

**Sanctuary for you.**

**Prayer of Confession (in unison)**

**Holy God, hear our prayer:**

**For the mending of our hearts, torn apart by our unkindness;**

**For the healing of our souls, wasting away from the despair**

**around us; For the forgiveness we seek for the sin we have**

**allowed to persist; For the reconciliation of the world,**

**whose division condemns us;**

**We pray for the courage to admit our fault,**

**The strength to amend our actions,**

**And the hope that your grace awaits us.**

**Through Christ we pray. (Silent, Individual Confession) Amen.**

## **Assurance of Pardon**

**\*Gloria Patri and Passing of the Peace of Christ**

Hymnal #579

**Young Disciples Message**

**\*Prayer of Gratitude for the Grace of Giving**

**\*Doxology and Dedication of Gifts**

Hymnal #592

## **Proclamation of the Word of God**

**Prayer of Illumination**

**First Scripture Reading**

*Psalm 143*

**Anthem**

“A Prayer for Healing”

Joseph Martin

**Second Scripture Reading**

*James 5:13-16*

**Sermon**

## **ANOINTING WITH OIL**

**Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer**

## **Responding to God’s Word**

**\*Closing Hymn** “O God, May We Hold On to Love” C.W. Gillette  
(tune: "Though I May Speak")

O God, may we hold on to love —  
and in the times when love is lost,  
send down your mercy like a flood  
and show us love is worth the cost.

When righteous anger fills our plate  
and harms us — body, mind and soul —  
may we forgive and so create  
a feast that makes the wounded whole.

May we let go of might-have-beens  
and leave regrets, and choose to live.  
We give you all our pain and sins —  
for you will heal, and you forgive!

May we push back at all the fear  
that, like a storm, is raging round.



May we work hard for justice here  
till walls of hate come tumbling down.

God, give us grace to set aside  
the things that hurt and tear apart,  
till we find love has opened wide  
a path to life, a whole new start.

### **Sending Forth in God's Name**

#### **Benediction and Blessing**

**Benediction Response**      "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Runyon/Chisholm

**Postlude**      "Canticle of the Sun"

arr. Paul A. Tate

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#### **LAY READERS NEEDED:**



Please sign up to be a **Lay Reader** on the bulletin board.

#### **Worship Participants:**

Rev. Dr. Leanne Simmons, Pastor

Debi Rogers, Chancel Choir dir.

Arvy Smith, Keyboards

Mark Jensen, Youth Ministry dir.

Josh Stokka, Audio/Visual Specialist

Runick Fru, Lay Reader

Lori Lee, Neva & Ron Carlisle, Alice & Dave Nix,  
and Jacquie Ellis ~ Ushers

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**First Scripture Reading***Psalm 143 - A psalm of David*

- <sup>1</sup> Lord, hear my prayer,  
listen to my cry for mercy;  
in your faithfulness and righteousness  
come to my relief.
- <sup>2</sup> Do not bring your servant into judgment,  
for no one living is righteous before you.
- <sup>3</sup> The enemy pursues me,  
he crushes me to the ground;  
he makes me dwell in the darkness  
like those long dead.
- <sup>4</sup> So my spirit grows faint within me;  
my heart within me is dismayed.
- <sup>5</sup> I remember the days of long ago;  
I meditate on all your works  
and consider what your hands have done.
- <sup>6</sup> I spread out my hands to you;  
I thirst for you like a parched land.
- <sup>7</sup> Answer me quickly, Lord;  
my spirit fails.  
Do not hide your face from me  
or I will be like those who go down to the pit.
- <sup>8</sup> Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love,  
for I have put my trust in you.  
Show me the way I should go,  
for to you I entrust my life.
- <sup>9</sup> Rescue me from my enemies, Lord,  
for I hide myself in you.
- <sup>10</sup> Teach me to do your will,  
for you are my God;  
may your good Spirit  
lead me on level ground.
- <sup>11</sup> For your name's sake, Lord, preserve my life;  
in your righteousness, bring me out of trouble.
- <sup>12</sup> In your unfailing love, silence my enemies;  
destroy all my foes,  
for I am your servant.
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## Second Scripture Reading

*James 5:13-16*

<sup>13</sup> Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. <sup>14</sup> Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup> And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. <sup>16</sup> Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

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### APRIL DONATION OPPORTUNITY

During April, your Hospitality Committee is supporting Heaven's Helpers Soup Café. This is an opportunity for our congregation to help defray the costs to the Soup Café in providing a warm meal to the neediest and most marginalized in our community.

We would like to provide the Soup Café with the materials and ingredients for "to-go" snack bags (i.e., square 5"x 5") snack Ziplock bags, peanuts [without shells], M&Ms, raisins, dried cranberries, chocolate chips, Reece's pieces, crackers, Chex mix, sunflower seeds, quick bulk oatmeal [no packets]. For more gift ideas see [www.soupcafe.org](http://www.soupcafe.org) website and go to "Wish List". Your gifts will be much appreciated by the good people at the Soup Café and the needy people they serve. God's Blessings...

*Heaven's Helpers*

*Soup Cafe*



# Opening Hymn

# Hear My Prayer, O God

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of staves. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and rests. The lyrics are a 21st-century paraphrase of Psalm 143.

1 Hear my prayer, O God, and lis - ten to my plea;  
2 Hound-ed by a foe who crushed me to the ground,  
3 An - swer soon, O God; my spir - it faints in me;  
4 Keep me safe, O God, and help me learn your will;

faith - ful, righ - teous One, give ear and an - swer me.  
I am like the dead or those in pris - on bound.  
do not hide your face, or I will cease to be.  
let your Spir - it lead through lev - el path - ways still.

Judge me not, I pray; no mer - it dare I claim;  
Hope - less, numbed by fear, I pon - der all your care;  
When the morn - ing dawns, make known your love a - new;  
For your great Name's sake, my griefs and fears dis - pel;

know - ing my own faults, I trust in your just Name.  
thirst - y as parched earth, I lift my hands in prayer.  
show me how to walk, for I will trust in you.  
free me from my foes, that I may serve you well.

This text is a 21st-century paraphrase of Psalm 143, the last of the seven penitential psalms. Internal references suggest that the original psalm was associated with a night of prayer in the Temple. It is set to a chant-like tune composed especially for these words.

## FREE–HOME FIRE SAFETY VISIT

At no cost, our teams will:

- \*check your existing smoke alarms
- \*install new alarms with 10-year batteries as needed
- \*help you plan emergency escape routes

To schedule an appointment or more information scan this QR code:



We also have a sign up sheet on our volunteer bulletin board... we will get the information to the Red Cross contact person, to help you make an appointment.



**American Red Cross**  
Western North Dakota

**CCC Needs List for April: dishwasher soap (powder ONLY) & bleach**



## Calendar

Mon., April 28 - **6:30pm** Scouts  
Tues., April 29 - **11:00am** Balance & Strength Class  
Wed., April 30 - **5:45pm** PAC/Teens  
**6:30pm** Bells  
**7:30pm** Choir  
Thu., May 1 - **11:00am** Balance & Strength Class  
**2:00pm** Yoga  
Fri., May 2- *No Activities Scheduled*  
Sat., May 3 - ***Youth Retreat - May 2nd-4th***  
Sun., May 4 - **10:00am** Worship “3rd Sunday of Easter”  
**Monday, May 5– 6:00pm Suzuki Spring Recital!**



**Youth Retreat at FPC Bismarck**  
**on**  
**May 2 - 4, 2025**

**We are planning a Father's Day slide show  
to honor our fathers!**

**Please email your picture along with names  
a brief message to: [firstpresbyterian@fpcbismarck.com](mailto:firstpresbyterian@fpcbismarck.com)  
or bring into the office to be scanned  
by Monday, June 9th**



## **The First Presbyterian Church Scholarship Committee**

is pleased to announce the availability of a limited number of scholarships for our church community. To be eligible for consideration to receive a scholarship, a student must be an active member of First Presbyterian Church of Bismarck or must have been an active participant in the life of the church for at least three years. Students at any level of study beyond high school are eligible to receive a scholarship award.

Students are eligible to receive a scholarship for a maximum of four years: the years do not need to be consecutive. Graduate students may apply for scholarships, providing they are within the four-year maximum. Applications are available in the Narthex, in the church office, and for download from the front page of the church website at [www.fcpbismarck.com](http://www.fcpbismarck.com) The deadline to apply is Friday, **May 16, 2025**.



**You can view our church's worship services  
on public access television, Sundays at noon!**

**Midco channel #12 or #612 (Community Access TV)**

**We are so grateful for all the blessings God has given us!**  
We no longer pass the offering plates, our offering baskets are next to the exits of the Sanctuary. If you would like to give a donation to the ministry of this church you can also go to our website: [fcpbismarck.com](http://fcpbismarck.com) and click on the DONATE button. Thank you!



## **STAFF**

Rev. Dr. Leanne Simmons, Pastor  
Maureen Chrest, Administrative Assistant  
Carol Thompson, Financial Assistant  
Carmen Bryhn, Parish Nurse  
Erik Hein Sr., Maintenance  
Arvy Smith, Pianist/Organist  
Gail Snustad, Pianist/Organist  
Debi Rogers, Chancel Choir Director  
Lael Hoerauf, Westminster Chimes Director  
Josh Stokka, Audio/Visual Specialist  
Judy Lentz, Membership Services Coordinator  
Shawn Stettner, Child Care Center Director  
Vanessa Hein, Assistant Child Care Director  
Mary Jones, and Laci Rauser, Nursery  
Mark Jensen, Youth Ministry Director  
Erik Hein Jr., Sunday Security  
Ruth Jensen, Christian Ed. Intern

