

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

**JESUS**

*The name  
above every  
name.*

Philippians 2:9

**March 23, 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 **“LENTEN PRAYER CARDS”**  
AND LEAVE THEM IN THE BASKET,  
THESE PRAYERS WILL BE LIFTED UP TO THE LORD AT THE  
GREAT PRAYER VIGIL - SAT., APRIL 19. 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.

**“3rd Sunday in Lent” 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**

“Open My Eyes”

Jesse Manibusan

*Lyrics: (sing along)*

Open my eyes Lord. Help me to see your face.

Open my eyes Lord. Help me to see.

Open my ears Lord. Help me to hear your voice.

Open my ears Lord. Help me to hear.

Open my heart Lord. Help me to love like you.

Open my heart Lord. Help me to love.

I live within you. Deep in your heart, O Love.

I live within you. Rest now in me.

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Introit**

“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”

arr. T. Waldrop

**\*Call to Worship (in unison)**

**O Wise God**

**You have come to us in the form of a vulnerable child;**

**You teach us that the last are first and the first, last;**

**You lead us on a Way to new life that leads through death.**

**Truly your wisdom is different than ours!**

**Meet us in this place and teach us your foolish wisdom**

**and your vulnerable power;**

**give us joy to receive it fully**

**and courage to live it foolishly,**

**through Jesus Christ, your Wisdom and Word.**

**Gathering in God’s Name**

**\*Opening Hymn**

“O for a World”

PH#386

**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)

Jesus, we confess it is hard for us, some days, to believe that you were fully human, and understood all of the emotions, pain and hardship that entailed. However, here we are, putting our whole human selves in your hands. Please hold our pain in your hands. We confess that we are trying to trust that you understand what we are going through- even as we am trusting that you can help us to walk through it, by holding our hands along the way. (Silent 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 *Philippians 2:1-11*

Anthem “Sweet Hour of Prayer” arr. Julie Turner

Second Scripture Reading *Hebrews 4:14-16*

Sermon “Why I’m Not Mad at God”

\*Confession of Our Faith - from the Heidelberg Confession

Q. What is your only comfort  
in life and death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul,  
both in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ.  
He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood,  
and has set me free from all the power of the devil.  
He also preserves me in such a way  
that without the will of my heavenly Father  
not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work  
together for my salvation. Therefore, by his Holy Spirit he  
also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing  
and ready from now on to live for him.

## Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

### Responding to God's Word

\*Closing Hymn "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" see attached

### Sending Forth in God's Name

#### Benediction and Blessing

Benediction Response "Spirit of the Living God" arr. Michael Joy

Postlude "Abide With Me" Eric Lewis

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The anthem today was purchased in memory of Mabel Jespersion, mother of Dale Hoerauf.

### Worship Participants:

Rev. Dr. Leanne Simmons, Pastor

Debi Rogers, Chancel Choir dir.

Lael Hoerauf, Westminster Chimes dir.

Arvy Smith, Keyboards

Mark Jensen, Youth Ministry dir.

Josh Stokka, Audio/Visual Specialist

Runick Fru, Lay Reader

Audrey Simmons, Cindy & Don Cross, Neva Carlisle,

Vic Sonneman, and Jan Gilchrist ~ Ushers

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

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

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## First Scripture Reading

*Philippians 2:1-11*

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion,<sup>2</sup> then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.<sup>3</sup> Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves,<sup>4</sup> not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

<sup>5</sup> In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

<sup>6</sup> Who, being in very nature God,  
did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

<sup>7</sup> rather, he made himself nothing  
by taking the very nature of a servant,  
being made in human likeness.

<sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man,  
he humbled himself  
by becoming obedient to death—  
even death on a cross!

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God exalted him to the highest place  
and gave him the name that is above every name,

<sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

<sup>11</sup> and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

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**LAY READERS NEEDED:**



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

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## Second Scripture Reading

*Hebrews 4:14-16*

<sup>4</sup> Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. <sup>15</sup> For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. <sup>16</sup> Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

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**PLEASE FILL OUT YOUR "PINK PRAYER REQUEST CARDS"**

**AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, THE USHERS WILL COLLECT THEM DURING  
THE OPENING HYMN. THANK YOU!**



**CCC Needs List for March: kleenex**

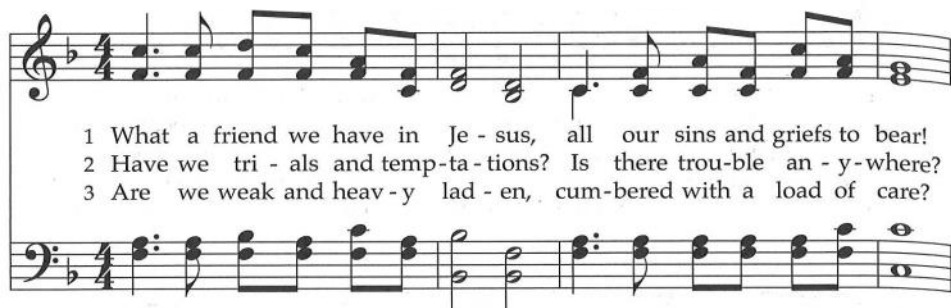
## **Collecting plastic grocery bags for a good cause!**

Our Hospitality Committee is collecting used plastic grocery bags for a project to make mats to give to homeless people. The bags must NOT have any holes. The committee is working with a woman who creates the mats, like the one pictured here, by hand-weaving the plastic bags. It takes about 500 bags to make one mat. The committee decided to test whether the congregation would support this effort, hoping this could be a long-term outreach (and environmentally friendly) project for our congregation. The mats will be given to groups who work with the homeless in our area!



## Closing Hymn

# What a Friend We Have in Jesus



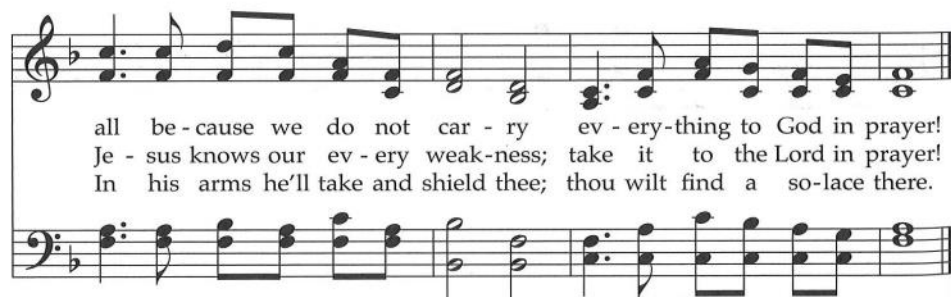
1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!  
2 Have we tri - als and temp-ta-tions? Is there trou-ble an - y-where?  
3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, cum-bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - ery-thing to God in prayer!  
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged; take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge; take it to the Lord in prayer!



O what peace we of - ten for - feit; O what need - less pain we bear,  
Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - rows share?  
Do thy friends de - spise, for - sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - ery-thing to God in prayer!  
Je - sus knows our ev - ery weak - ness; take it to the Lord in prayer!  
In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a so - lace there.

This text was written by an Irish-born immigrant to Canada to comfort his mother in Ireland when she was going through a time of special sorrow. The role of prayer as a source of strength and consolation is underscored by its repeated use as a rhyme word in all three stanzas.



## Calendar

- Mon., March 24 - **6:30pm** Scouts
- Tues., March 25 - **11:00am** Balance & Strength Class  
**2:00pm** Presby Friends  
**6:00pm** Session
- Wed., March 26 - **5:45pm** PAC/Teens  
**6:30pm** Bells  
**7:30pm** Choir
- Thu., March 27 - **11:00am** Balance & Strength Class  
**2:00pm** Yoga
- Fri., March 28 - *No Activities Scheduled*
- Sat., March 29 - *No Activities Scheduled*
- Sun., March 30 - **10:00am** Worship—4th Sunday in Lent

### Brag Box:

Parents and Grandparents: send us an email bragging about your child/grandkids accomplishments no matter how big or small!

(I would love pictures too)

We want to celebrate all the milestones by recognizing them in the monthly newsletter! **Deadline for April edition is 3/28/25**

[firstpresbyterian@fpcbismarck.com](mailto:firstpresbyterian@fpcbismarck.com)

### Hospitality Committee Donation Opportunity:

'Tis the season of sniffles and bubbly noses, so during March, the Hospitality Committee is supporting the Child Care Center with boxes of facial tissues! Any that land in the Childcare pack and play in the narthex will be greatly appreciated! This is an opportunity for the congregation to help defray Child Care Center costs by donating tissues, the two most-used disposable item consumed by the Center.

Please bring your donations to the Donations Box or the Donations Crib in the Narthex during March. Your gifts are much appreciated by the Child Care Center and by the little noses that benefit from the tissues!





The Hospitality Committee is sponsoring another pinochle card party on Sat., April 12, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the church parlor. This party is for all those who know how to play pinochle and those who wish to learn to play or to play better. Lunch and refreshments will be served. Come and bring friends & family! Have a good time socializing and playing pinochle! A sign-up sheet for attending and bringing something to share for lunch is on the bulletin board in the Narthex. For more particulars about the party see the April newsletter.



### **Easter Memorials**

Each Easter we offer the opportunity to give donations in memory of loved ones. Monies from these memorials are directed to the Deacon's *Gift of Giving* program which supports the work of the Deacons and provides assistance to people in need. If you would like to make such a donation, please provide the following information **by Monday, April 14** to the church office: 223-6091 or email at [firstpresbyterian@fpcbismarck.com](mailto:firstpresbyterian@fpcbismarck.com)

In Memory of

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Given by

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Amt \_\_\_\_\_

Donations can be made in cash or a check payable to 'First Presbyterian Church' with *Gift of Giving* indicated in the memo line. All memorials will be listed in the Easter Sunday bulletin (without amounts).



## **Christian Ed Committee:**

Christian Ed is asking for donations of Easter (individually wrapped) candy and plastic eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt on Palm Sunday! Please drop off in the church office by **Sunday, April 6th**. Thank you!



### **\*Easter Week Schedule\***



**Sunday, April 13- Palm Sunday at 10:00am  
followed by Easter Egg Hunt for the kids!**

**Thursday, April 17 - Maundy Thursday at 7:30pm  
(communion)**

**Friday, April 18 - Good Friday at Glencoe Sloan  
5:00pm - followed by soup & sandwiches**

**Saturday, April 19 - Prayer Vigil in Chapel - 11am-Noon**

**Sunday, April 20 - Easter Sunday at 10:00am (communion)  
(NO Sunday School)**

**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**



## **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



**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: [fpcbismarck.com](http://fpcbismarck.com) and click on the DONATE button. Thank you!

