



*The Session and members of First Presbyterian Church Fargo extend a sincere welcome to you. We are grateful for your presence today! We welcome all persons regardless of race, nationality, disability, gender or sexual orientation. This includes an open invitation to membership, the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper, marriage, funerals, memorial services and to serve as an officer of the church.*

*Everyone is invited for coffee and fellowship in the Gathering Space after worship.*

*We recycle! If you are not taking your bulletin, please drop it in the blue bin at the door as you leave.*

*✠ Please rise in body or spirit.*

**January 25, 2026**

## **We Gather in Christ**

### **PRELUDE**

Matthew Pechtl, piano

### **WELCOME**

Rev. Sarah M. Bigwood

### **MOMENT OF SILENCE**

*God, my light and my salvation, you call me to follow Jesus into your kingdom. Give me courage to serve others with love and let my life point people toward your salvation. Through your Son, Jesus Christ, and the power of your Spirit, Amen.*

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rusty Bender

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **HYMN 662**

*Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies*

Christ, whose glory fills the skies; Christ, the true, the only light;  
Sun of Righteousness, arise; triumph o'er the shades of night;  
Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn unaccompanied by thee;  
joyless is the day's return till thy mercy's beams I see;  
till they inward light impart, cheer my eyes and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine; pierce the gloom of sin and grief;  
fill me, radiance divine; scatter all my unbelief;  
more and more thyself display, shining to the perfect day.

## CONFESSION AND DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Almighty God, we confess that we have not been faithful to you in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have pursued our own interests at the expense of others, allowed fear and mistrust to shape our decisions, and ignored opportunities to serve in love. We have spoken harshly when mercy was needed and remained silent when justice called. Shine your light into our hearts and minds, O God, so that we may see ourselves as you see us. Save us from our divisive ways and unite us in the mind and heart of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Friends, believe in the good news of the gospel,  
in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

## RESPONSE 581

*Glory Be to the Father*

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.

## ✠ PASSING OF THE PEACE

## GIFT OF MUSIC

*Standing On The Promises*

arr. Kirby Shaw

Sanctuary Choir; Bryan Poyzer, director; Drea Greenawalt, piano

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### The Word

## SCRIPTURE

*Isaiah 9:1-4, pp. 624*

*Matthew 4:12-23, pp. 879*

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

*What Still Remains?*

Rev. Sarah M Bigwood

## ✠ HYMN 720

*Jesus Calls Us*

Jesus calls us: o'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea;  
day by day his sweet voice soundeth saying, "Christian, follow me."

Jesus calls us from the worship of the vain world's golden store,  
from each idol that would keep us, saying, "Christian, love me more."

In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease,  
still he calls, in cares and pleasures, "Christian, love me more than these."

Jesus calls us: by thy mercies, Savior, may we hear thy call,  
give our hearts to thy obedience, serve and love thee best of all.

## ✦ PROFESSION OF FAITH

*Adapted from the Brief Statement of Faith*

**One:** In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

**All:** We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

**One:** With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## PASTORAL PRAYER

### 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.**

## Responding to the Word

### OFFERING MESSAGE

*Use the QR code to access the secure giving portal on our website!*

### OFFERTORY

## ✦ RESPONSE 606

*Doxology*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Christ, all people here below;  
praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION



## Bearing the Word into the World

### ✦ HYMN 697

*Take My Life, and Let It Be*

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise;  
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love;  
take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee,  
swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King;  
take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee,  
filled with messages from thee.

Take my sliver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold;  
take my intellect and use every power as thou shalt choose,  
every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne,  
it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;  
take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee,  
ever, only, all for thee.

### ✦ BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

*Thank you to Emily Erpelding and Tetteh Dottey on livestream and soundboard, Rusty Bender for leading in worship, and our Welcome Team: Colleen Ford-Dunker, Gayla McGoldrick, Kathleen Thomas, and our Youth for taking such good care of us this morning. A special thank you to our musicians: Matthew Pechtl, and the Sanctuary Choir directed by Bryan Poyzer.*