

Firelands Presbyterian Church

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Jesus Walking on the Water

Daniel of Uranc, Armenia, 1433

August 9, 2026

Welcome to Firelands Church, a community of believers gathered by the Holy Spirit, growing together in Christ, and committed to serving God. Everyone is encouraged to stay for fellowship following the worship.

The Order Of The Liturgy

↑ Please stand in body or in spirit ↑

Prelude

Reflection

by Mark Hayes

On Jordan's Stormy Banks

by Durham/Hayes

↑ **Call to Worship** Psalm 67: 1,2 (*responsively*)

1 May God be gracious to us and bless us and make
God's face to shine upon us,

2 that God's way may be known upon the earth,
God's saving power among all nations.

↑ **Hymn 375**

Shall We Gather at the River (vs 1, 2, 3)

↓ **Call to Confession:** If we say we have no sin, the truth is not in us. We admit that we need to begin again for we have fallen short of the glory of God. So we come to the baptismal font seeking a fresh start. With confidence that God hears our prayers, let us confess our sins:

Prayer of Confession (*together*)

Lord God, we bow our heads before You in confession of the wrongs we have done, as well as the acts of love and mercy we have not done. We have bent the truth to serve our own purposes. We have been slow to apologize and swift to condemn. We have refused to make allowances for others while demanding others make allowances for us. We have coveted things we do not need. We have spoken more than we have listened, getting carried away by our self-importance. We have been slow to serve, but quick to demand service of others. We imagine we can manage the lives of other people when

we have not yet learned to manage our own with righteousness. For Jesus’ sake, forgive us these sins, as well as those particular wrongs we name in silence.

Silent prayer of confession.
During this summer season, help us follow him in all our thoughts, words and deeds. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, hear these words, and listen to this good news; the empires of this world will rise and fall, but the mercy of the Lord will never end.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, thanks be to God.

Glory to God - Hymn 585 verse 1 (together)

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the Highest. Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the Highest To God be glory forever.
Alleluia, Amen. Alleluia, Amen. Alleluia, Amen.

Prayer of Illumination (together)

God, source of all light, by your Word, you give light to the soul. Pour out on us the spirit of wisdom and understanding, that our hearts and minds may be opened to know your truth and your way. Amen.

The Old Testament Lesson: Psalm 85: 1 - 13 (responsively)

- ¹Lord, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
- ² You forgave the iniquity of your people; you covered all their sin.
- ³ You withdrew all your wrath; you turned from your hot anger.
- ⁴ Restore us again, O God of our salvation,

and put away your indignation toward us!

- ⁵ Will you be angry with us forever? Will you prolong your anger to all generations?
- ⁶ Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?
- ⁷ Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.
- ⁸ Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for God will speak peace to the people, to the saints; but let them not turn back to folly.
- ⁹ Surely God’s salvation is near to those who fear the Lord, that glory may dwell in our land.
- ¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other.
- ¹¹ Faithfulness springs up from the ground, and righteousness looks down from the sky.
- ¹² Yes, the Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.
- ¹³ Righteousness will go before us and make our footsteps a way.

Special Music You’ll Never Walk Alone Rodgers & Hammerstein
Grace Williams, vocalist

The Gospel: Matthew 14: 22 - 33
The Word of the Lord Thanks be to God!

Sermon: A Midnight Stroll on the Water

↑ Affirmation of Faith: Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn 516

For the Bread Which You Have Broken

↓ Presentation of Our Gifts, Offerings, and Thanksgiving

↑ Doxology - *Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.....*

The Peace - Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

↓ Prayers of the Church and the Lord's Prayer *(Sweet Hour of 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Communion Invitation

The Acclamation Let us praise the Lord.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. In Christ shall all be made alive.

Hear the words of the institution of the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ: The Lord Jesus, on the night of his arrest, took bread, and after giving thanks to God, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take, eat. This is my body, broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup, saying: "This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me." Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the saving death of the risen Lord, until he comes. With thanksgiving, let us offer God our grateful praise.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Supper *(approach the table using the center aisle - return using the side aisles)*

The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.

The cup of blessing which we bless is the communion of the blood of Christ.

Communion Meditation

What Wondrous Love is This

Prayer after Communion.

↑Hymn 353 *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less (vs 1,2,4)*

Charge and Benediction

As we go forth from this place, our service of worship comes to an end. May our lives of worship and service begin anew with tomorrow’s rising sun.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

Benediction Response Be the hands, the heart of God. Go into the world and share God’s spirit. Spread the message, be the song. Save a little bit, then pass it on. Save a little bit, then pass it on (softly). Save a little bit and pass it on.

Postlude *Blessed Be the Tie That Binds* by Naegeli/Bolks



Prayer Concerns

Connie Brand. David Douglas, Jim Layton, Bill Umlauf, Rob Constein, Rob Morris, brother of Judy Smithers; Linda & Garrett Holcomb; Linda Holcomb’s sisters, Lois & Carol; Bill & Pat Sharp; Karla Hoffman; Flona & Eric Pott; Karen Dietz; Anne Trombatore; Betty Layton’s friend, Sue; Dan Barlow and family; Sue Holman; All who travel this weekend.

Our Adult Sunday School returns on Sunday, September 13th at 9:30am. This adult class studies the Scripture lessons which are a part of the morning worship service. Follow the sign to the Conference Room at the end of the hallway.

Exploring Our Faith Bible Study meets Wednesday, August 9th, at 10:30pm. We meet in the Conference Room with our study guides “The Psalms: The Prayer Book of Jesus.” See the handout on the Narthex table for the chapter under discussion. Do not have a book? Bring your Bible as we will read the psalm together.

The House of David video series resumes Thursday, September 10th at 2:00pm.

This Week at Firelands: Office Hours 10am - 2pm, T - Th

Today 8/9	10:30am Worship and Fellowship. Assisting in worship is Karen Salzgeber (Reader). Communion servers are Gini and Mark Stevenson. Our guest musician is Grace Wlliams
Monday	10:00am Sewing Group 2:00pm Health & Exercise 4:00pm Bistrro Drive Thru Committee
Tuesday	9:00am Quilting at Maxine Wllson’s home 1:00pm Christian Education Meeting
Wednesday	10:30am Stein Hospice Healing Hearts 10:30am Exploring Our Faith Bible Study
Thursday	8:00am Cleaning service 3:00pm Choir Rehearsal
Next Sunday 8/16	10:30am Worship and Fellowship. The Reader assisting in worship will be Alan Jerram. Communion Servers will be Sally & Dave Wahlers