Firelands Presbyterian Church

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Entrusted Talents by Paulamaria Walter
Part of “Paths to Art”, a sculpture path in Schwäbisch Gmünd-Straßdorf.

November 15, 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 service.

The Order Of The Liturgy

↑ Please stand in body or in spirit ↑

Prelude *A Closed World of Fine Feelings* Koehne
Come Thou Font of Every Blessing arr. James

↑ Call to Worship Psalm 67: 1 - 5 *(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.
3 Let the peoples praise Thee, O God;
Let all the peoples praise Thee!

Hymn 436 *God of Compassion, In Mercy Befriend Us*

↓ Call to Confession: Remember that our Lord Jesus can sympathize with us in our weaknesses, since in every respect he was tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with boldness approach the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Let us pray together:

Prayer of Confession *(together)*

O God, Who brought us from the rest of last night into the joyous light of this day, bring us, we pray, from the light of this new day into the guiding Light of eternity! O God, You are our King: Maker of heaven and earth; Creator of the moon, the sun, the beloved stars. And still, You know our

finite needs, for You are a God of Mercy and of Life.

Each day that we move, each morning that we awaken, we sadly confess the gloom and distress we cause to vex You, O Lord of Hosts Who loves us.

In Jesus name, be with us throughout the day, just as You watched over us throughout the night. As the psalmist prays, so we pray this day, "Cast us not away from Your Presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit from us."

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

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

We Are Forgiven - Hymn 447 *(together)*

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Illumination *(together)* Psalm 29:3-4

God, source of all light, by your Word you give light to the soul. Pour out upon us the spirit of wisdom and understanding that, being taught by you in Holy Scripture, our hearts and minds may be opened to know the things that pertain to life and holiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Old Testament Lesson: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Psalm 123 *(responsively)*

123:1 To you I lift up my eyes, O you who are enthroned in the heavens!

123:2 **As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the Lord our God, until God has mercy upon us.**

123:3 Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us, for we have had more than enough of contempt.

123:4 **Our soul has had more than its fill of the scorn of those who are at ease, of the contempt of the proud.**

Special Music *Ray of Hope* Raybould

Janet Gray Moore, Dave Wahlers and Susan Larcey(flute, guitar, piano)

The Gospel Matthew 25: 14-30

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

Sermon The Talented Tea Pots!

↑ **The Affirmation of Faith:** Nicene 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 309 *Come, Great God of All the Ages (vs 1,2,3)*

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

↓ **Presentation of Our Gifts, Offerings, and Thanksgiving**

↑ **Doxology** - Hymn 609 *(together)*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word and Spirit one.. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

↓ **Prayers of the Church and 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. 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 and 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 Consecration

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 *Wherever You Go* Brickman

Prayer of Thanksgiving

↑**Hymn 719** *Come, Labor On*

Charge

Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold on to what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Benediction

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 ***May you run and not be weary. May your heart be filled with song. And may the love of God continue to give you hope and keep you strong. And may you run and not be weary. May your life be filled with joy! And may the road you travel always lead you home.***

Postlude *The Lord Bless and Keep You* Traditional

Prayer Concerns

Rob Constein • Karen Dietz • Dottie Douglas • Dottie's son, David Douglas • Remi Floro • Linda & Garrett Holcomb • Linda Holcomb's sisters,Carol on recent passing Of their sister, Lois • Sue Holman • Kathy Jerram (after surgery) • Betty Layton's friend, Sue • Jim Layton • Janet & Dave Moore's friend, Kendra-Judy Smither's brother, Rob Morris • Flona & Eric Pott • • Anne Trombatore • Karen Salzgeber's friend, Becky Deredick • Bill & Pat Sharp • Bill Umlauf • John Vardyon • Kay McIntosh's family on Terry Webster's recent passing • All those who are currently under a doctor's care • All who are traveling this week. All who are food insecure.

Announcements

This morning's Prayer of Affirmation and Confession is adapted from the morning prayers found on pages 37 – 38 of Celtic Vision, edited by Esther de Waal.

Exploring Our Faith Bible Study concluded the study of the Apostles' Creed, We will resume for the season of Lent in 2027.

The House of David video series resumes Thursday, October 15th at 2:00pm. This video series dramatizes the life of David, with conversation to follow the video.

Our **Adult Sunday School** meets at 9:30am in the Conference Room. This adult class studies the Scripture lessons which are a part of the morning worship service.

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

Sunday 11/15 Honoring All Veterans	10:30am Worship and Fellowship.The Reader assisting in worship will be Karen Dietz. Communion Servers will be Sally & Dave Wahlers. Coffee Fellowship hosts are Janet Gray Moore and Dave Moore.
Monday	2:00pm Health & Exercise
Tuesday	2:00pm - Dulicmer 4:00pm
Wednesday	3:00pm Choir Practice Serendipity Singers
Thursday	8:00am Cleaning service 2:00pm House of David
Friday	8:00am Men's Group @ Fulton St Cafe
Next Sun 11/22	10:30am Worship & Fellowship. The Readers assisting in worship will be Gwen Aber. Communion Servers will be Janet Gray - Moore & Dave.Moore. Coffee Fellowship hosts Janet Gray -Moore & Dave Moore..