Firelands Presbyterian Church

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The Seven Acts of Mercy
Pieter Brugel, 1564-1638

November 22, 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 *We Gather Together* arr. Renfrow
Let There Be Praise Betty Roberts, soprano Tunney

↑ Call to Worship Psalm 67: 1 - 3 *(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 643 *Now Thank We All Our God*

↓ Call to Confession: We turn to God in prayer not because we are compelled but because God invites us. We come to God not because of our righteousness but because of God's grace. In that spirit, we offer this prayer of confession and unburdening. Let us pray together:

Prayer of Confession *(together)*

Caring God, in our anxiousness, we cling tightly to familiar people. Afraid to extend our hand, we bind up our gifts, fearing we won't have enough for ourselves. Loving Jesus, lacking trust in you, we clutch our possessions as if they are the meaning of life. Our hesitancy to share stops the flow of your compassion.

Gracious Spirit, we discount our ability and talents and miss what is possible when Christ blesses our offering.

Holy God, loosen our closed hands and tight hearts that we may offer the gift we are and the gifts we have, to touch the bruised world. Let your compassion flow through us. In the name of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, know that God hears our prayers which we say together and which we have lifted high in this sanctuary of safety and love. Today offers us a chance to begin again, knowing that God knows us through and through and loves us still.

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

Loving God, the psalmist wrote "The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord thunders over the mighty waters. The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is majestic" We are gathered to hear your voice in your Word. Amen.

The Old Testament Lesson Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Psalm 95: 1 - 7 *(responsively)*

1 Oh come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
2 Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!
3 **For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.**
4 In God's hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are God's also.
5 The sea is the Lord's, for God made it, and God's hands formed the dry land.
6 **Oh come, let us worship and bow down;**
let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!
7 For the Lord is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of God's hand.

Special Music *A Canon of Thanks* Elvey/Hopson

The Gospel Matthew 25: 31 - 46

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

Sermon The Final Judgment? How Quaint!

↑ The Affirmation of Faith: Nicene Creed

We believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father by whom all things were made; who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by

the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead, whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And we believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn *367* *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

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 high and low. Alleluia, alleluia! 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 *Thanksgiving*

Winston

Prayer of Thanksgiving

↑Hymn 263 *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (vs 1, 2, 4)*

Charge and Benediction

The world now is too dangerous, and too beautiful for anything but love. May your eyes be so blessed, you see God in everyone. Your ears, so you hear the cry of the poor. May your hands be so blessed that everything you touch is a sacrament. Your lips, so you speak nothing but the truth with love. May your feet be so blessed that you run to those who need you. And may your heart be so opened, so set on fire, that your love, your love, changes everything.

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

Postlude *Let All Things Now Living* Traditional

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Prayer Concerns Rob Constein • Karen Dietz • Dottie Douglas • Dottie's son, David Douglas • Remi Floro • Linda & Garrett Holcomb • Linda Holcomb's sisters, Lois & Carol • Sue Holman • Betty Layton's friend, Sue • Jim Layton • Judy Smither's brother, Rob Morris • Fiona & Eric Pott • • Anne Trombatore • Karen Salzgeber's friend, Becky Deredick • Bill & Pat Sharp • Bill Umlauf • John Vardyon • Bonnie Thomas • All those who are under a doctor's care • All who travel this week • All who need shelter from the cold of autumn • All who are food insecure.

The House of David video series does not meet this week, but resumes Thursday, December 3rd at 2:00pm. This video series dramatizes the life of David, with conversation to follow the video.

Our **Adult Suday School** meets next Sunday, November 29, at 9:30am in the Conference Room. This adult class studies the Scripture lessons which are a part of the morning worship.

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

Sunday 11/22	10:30am Worship and Fellowship. The Reader assisting in worship will be Gwen Aber. Communion Servers will be Janet Gray-Moore & Dave Moore. Coffee Fellowship Hosts are Janet Gray-Moore & Dave Moore.
Monday	2:00pm Health & Exercise 4:00pm Bistro 163 Drive Comm. meal 5:00pm Fresh Bread
Thursday	HAPPY THANKSGIVING !!!
Next Sunday 11/29 Advent 1 Elder Ed Carlson, preaching	10:30am Worship and Fellowship. The Reader assisting in worship will be Susan Rogers. Communion Servers will be Alan & Kathy Jerram. Coffee Fellowship hosts are Janet Gray-Moore & Dave Moore.