



## Firelands Presbyterian Church

[www.firelandschurch.org](http://www.firelandschurch.org)

**July 13, 2025**

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Welcome to Firelands Church, a community of believers gathered by the Holy Spirit and committed to serving God and growing together in Jesus Christ.

We invite all of our worshippers to stay for fellowship following the service so that we might become better acquainted.

### The Order Of The Liturgy

\*Those who are able are invited to stand.

### Gathering

#### Welcome and Announcements

#### Prelude

“Shall We Gather at the River”

Lowry/ Bober

#### \*Call to Worship

We gather together in the presence of God  
**and we do not meet alone.**

With the angels in highest heaven,  
**we gather to worship this present God.**

With the saints of every age,  
**we gather to worship this present God.**

With the church throughout the world,  
**we gather to worship this present God.**

We meet together in the presence of God  
**Together we will praise the Lord!**

**\*Opening Prayer**

Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, you have made us for yourself, so that our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Bless us, O God, with a reverent sense of your presence. Center us, O God, to worship you this day. Remove our needless armor. Be our stronghold. Grant us calm. Give us joyful hearts and ready minds, that we may be open to your grace, hungry for your Word, and eager to learn and live, always for your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**\*Hymn**

“Here in this Place”

Hymnal #401

**Call to Confession**

Unlike ours, God’s anger does not last. Yet God’s favor, God’s grace, and God’s forgiveness are for us, not just in this moment, but forever. How can we not confess to one who is so willing to heal? Please join me as we pray together.

**Prayer of Confession**

Merciful God, you are generous to all who call on you. You bless without condition or distinction, inviting all to know your love. We confess that we are often hesitant to follow in your footsteps. We can be stingy with our affections, ignoring the needs of others, speaking without thinking, and rendering harsh judgments. We sow seeds of hurt and anger, and wonder why we harvest so much bitterness. We neither listen nor speak the good news. We spend too much time comparing ourselves to those around us, and too few moments in following Christ’s example. Forgive us, O God, when we are small of heart. Have mercy when we refuse to love our neighbor. By your Holy Spirit assure us of your goodness and grace and enlarge our understanding of others, that in word and deed we may proclaim your salvation to the world and know the peace of our Savior Christ Jesus. In his name we pray. Amen.

**Silent Meditation**

Kyrie:

“Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us”

Hymnal #574

The image shows the musical notation for the Kyrie 'Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us' from Hymnal #574. It consists of three staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains measures 1 through 4, with lyrics 'Lord, have mer - cy up -'. The second staff contains measures 5 through 8, with lyrics '- on us. Christ have mer - cy up - on us.'. The third staff contains measures 9 through 12, with lyrics 'Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.'. The music is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef.

## **Words of Assurance**

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. As far as heavens are above the earth, so great is God's love for those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has God removed from us our sin.

Brothers and sisters, let us believe the good news of the gospel! In Christ Jesus we are a forgiven people. This is God's glory!

This is God's glory!

**Praise and thanks be to God!**

**\*Response:**

**“Glory to God”**

**Hymnal #582**

**“Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

## **WORD**

### **Prayer for Illumination**

Almighty God, in you are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Open our eyes that we may see the wonders of your Word. Give us grace to clearly understand and courage to freely choose your will and way; for the sake of Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **First Lesson: Isaiah 25:1-9**

O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt. Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled. On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

### **Second Lesson: Matthew 22:1-14**

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, “Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.” But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, “The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.” Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

‘But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, “Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?” And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, “Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” For many are called, but few are chosen.’

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon**

**Affirmation of Faith** (from The Nicene Creed and the Theological Declaration of Barmen)  
**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, our wisdom, our righteousness, sanctification, and redemption, who, as he is attested for us in Holy Scripture, is the one Word of God which we have to hear and which we have to trust and obey in life and in death. As Christ is God’s assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins, so in the same way is he also God’s mighty claim upon our whole life. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the giver of life, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified now and forever. Amen.**

**Offering Our Life and Gifts**

**Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

**\*Doxology Blue Hymnal # 593**

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

**The Prayers of the Church**

<b>Hymn</b>	<b>“Dear Lord and Father of Mankind”</b>	
	vss. 1,2,&4	Hymnal #169

**COMMUNION**

**Invitation**

**Great Thanksgiving**

**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, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Communion Meditation“Love Medley”Arr. by Marilyn Hamm

Post Communion Prayer

SENDING

\*Hymn“Grace Alone” (in Sing the Faith)next page

**\*Charge**  
Go out into the world in joy. Walk in faith. Go in safety, for you cannot go where God is not. Go in love, for love alone endures. And go in peace, for this is God’s gift to all those in Christ Jesus.

**\*Benediction**  
May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the comfort and challenge of God the Holy Spirit surround, sustain, and uphold us all this day and every day.

**\*Benediction Response "May You Run and Not Be Weary"**



The image shows a musical score for a three-part setting of the Benediction Response. It is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "May you run and not be wea-ry. May your heart be filled with song. May the love of God con-tin-ue to give you hope and keep you strong. May you run and not be wea-ry. May your life be filled with joy! May the road you trav-el al-ways lead you home." The score consists of three staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The second staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The third staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The lyrics are written below the notes.

**Please quietly remain in place for the short postlude.**

Postlude“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”Converse/Shackley

Grace Alone  
By Scott Wesley Brown

Every promise we can make, every prayer and step of faith  
Every difference we can make is only by His grace  
Every mountain we will climb, every ray of hope we shine  
Every blessing left behind, is only by His grace

Grace alone, which God supplies  
Strength unknown He will provide  
Christ in us our cornerstone  
We will go forth in grace alone

Every soul we long to reach, every heart we hope to teach  
Everywhere we share His peace is only by His grace  
Every loving word we say, every tear we wipe away  
Every sorrow turned to praise, is only by His grace

Grace alone, which God supplies  
Strength unknown He will provide  
Christ in us our cornerstone  
We will go forth in grace alone

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We will go forth in grace alone

### **Ministers in This Sunday's Service**

Preacher: Bobbie Bella  
Reader: Mary Caracci  
Musician: Kay McIntosh  
Greeter(s) & Usher(s): TBD  
Communion Assistants & Ushers: Janet and Dave Moore  
Refreshment Host: Debbie & Tim Flora

### **Ministers in Next Sunday's Service**

Preacher: Bobbie Bella  
Reader: Karen Salzgeber  
Musician: Susan Larcey  
Greeter(s) & Usher(s): TBD  
Communion Assistants & Ushers: Jay and Karen Viery  
Refreshment Host: Bill & Marilyn Umlauf

### **Prayer Concerns**

JoAnn McIntosh, Rob & Cindy Constien, Garrett Holcomb, Bill Sharp, Vince Decker, Lois Harris, Simon Edwards, Deb, Danny, Kevin Reffitt, Janet Miller, John McLaughlin, Kenny Ambrozy, Peggy And Jerry Boroff, John Shuman, Susie, Judy, Dennis & Jeanette Walls, Former Pastor Mark & Jill Cooper, Gene Bailey, Jean Witkowski, Carrie, Daisy, Nancy, Chris, Eric Pott, Susan Larcey's niece Julia, Karla's 5 year-old great granddaughter, Betty Layton and Our brothers & sisters in the Fremont Presbyterian churches who are in the process of uniting congregations.

If you have a name to add to the prayer list, please contact the office. Names remain on this list for up to one month unless they are resubmitted.

### **OFFERING CHANGE**

An offering change was determined by the Worship and Music Committee. Please note that the offering plates are in two places. (On a green covered table by the front entrance or on the glass topped table by the side entrance.) Please leave your offering in either of these places before the service starts. An usher will then bring the plates forward when we sing the doxology.

# TOOLS FOR SCHOOLS

During the month of July our church will be collecting school supplies for needy children in Ottawa County. Let’s show the love of Christ by helping every child start the school year prepared and confident! Thank you for your generosity.

The following supplies are needed: Loose leaf paper (wide rule), 2 pocket folders, Children’s Scissors, Composition notebook, erasers, 2 pencils, Expo dry erase markers, Highlighters, pencil sharpeners, crayons (24 count), box of tissues, backpacks, post-it notes, colored pencils, washable markers (wide tip), headphones (corded), 1” 3 ring binder, ballpoint pens (red, blue, black), zippered pencil pouch (mesh), liquid glue, scotch tape, Disinfectant wipes, glue sticks, thin markers, 2” binder.

# THIS WEEK AT FIRELANDS

Today	9:30 am Worship with Communion followed by Fellowship
Monday	10:00am - 2:00pm Office hours 10:00 am - 1:00 pm Monday Sewing Group 4:00pm Bistro 163 Drive-thru Community Dinner
Tuesday	1:00pm Christian Ed Meeting 2:00pm Dulcimer 4:00pm Reach Out Camp Overnight 4:30pm Session Meeting
Wednesday	10:00am - 2:00pm Office hours 10:00am Healing Hearts Stein Hospice 6:00pm Happy Quilters
Thursday	Cleaning Ladies
Friday	9:00am Men’s Group 10:00am - 2:00pm Office Hours
Saturday	
Next Sunday	9:30 am Worship followed by Fellowship

Pastor Bobbie's office hours are variable at this time.  
Typically she will be in the office on  
Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday.  
She is always available by cell.