

First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn

Fourth Sunday of Creation

Sunday, October 4, 2026

WE GATHER AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele, BWV 654

J.S. Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Don Mys

**Please stand in body or spirit*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

(attributed to Meister Eckhart, d.1328)

Leader: Apprehend God in all things,

People: for God is in all things.

Leader: Every single creature is full of God, and is a book about God.

People: Every creature is a word of God.

Leader: If one were to spend enough time with the tiniest creature - even a caterpillar - one would never need to hear a sermon,

People: so full of God is every creature.

*HYMN #19

God of Great and God of Small

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(adapted, Isaac the Syrian, 7th century)

This is a charitable heart: It is a heart burning with love for the whole creation, for humans, for the birds, for the beasts, for all creatures. One who has such a heart cannot see or call to mind a creature without having eyes being filled with tears by reason of the immense compassion which seizes the heart; a heart which is softened and can no longer bear to see or learn from others of any suffering, even the smallest pain, being inflicted on a creature. That is why such a person never ceases to pray also for the animals, that they may be preserved and purified. This person will even pray for the reptiles, moved by the infinite pity which reigns in the hearts of those who are becoming united with God.

[silent confession]

*ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Leader: Friends, hear the good news of the gospel:

People: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation! The old life is gone, and everything has become new.

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Leader: It is a joyful thing to be in the presence of a forgiving God. Friends, the peace of Christ be with you

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

(Please greet your neighbors in the ways you are comfortable.)

***RESPONSE #587**

Alleluia!

WE HEAR THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

John 7:37-39

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Ezekiel 47:1-12

SERMON

Flowing in All Directions

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Hymnal page 35)

The 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 sitteth 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.

***GLORIA PATRI #581**

Glory Be to the Father

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Table

The Great Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(Prayer continues...)

Sanctus #552

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.

(Prayer continues...)

The Lord's Prayer

Breaking of the Bread and Sharing of the Cup

Communion of the People

(As you are able, please come forward as directed by the ushers.)

Communion Hymn #507

Come to the Table of Grace

Prayer after Communion

WE FOLLOW THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING HYMN #375

Shall We Gather at the River

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Here I Am

Owen Neill- Providential Fire

Owen Neill and Jeannette Pryciak, soloists

Participating in this morning's service are Rev. Tom James; Liturgist, Gene Smith; Organist and Music Director, Dr. David Stultz; The Sanctuary Choir

Calendar

Sunday, October 4

9:15 a.m. Music Practice

9:45 a.m. Nursery

10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship

11:30 a.m. Reformed Spirituality Class-S.P.

Tuesday, October 6

6:00 p.m. Worship & Arts Mtg.

Wednesday, October 7

10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Treasure Chest

1:00 p.m. Personnel Mtg.

7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday, October 8

10:00 a.m. PW Bible Study

Friday, October 9

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Rummage Sale

6:30 p.m. Game Night

Saturday, October 10

10:00 a.m. -4:00p.m. Rummage Sale

Sunday, October 11

9:15 a.m. Music Practice

9:45 a.m. Nursery

10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship

11:15 a.m. Family Lunch

Reformed Spirituality and the Natural World: Talks on Desire

A key question in Christian spirituality is, "What do we do with our desire?" The question is very practical in nature, and yet it opens out to broad theological questions about human nature in its created goodness and in its sinful distortions. The Reformed tradition has been known to take a dim view of desire, and yet a careful reading of some of the key theologians in the tradition suggests that, although desire is a problem, it is also the solution. In these talks, we consider the ways John Calvin, Jonathan Edwards, and the English-speaking Puritan tradition understood the natural world as a kind of invitation to a transformed relationship with our natural desires. In nature, we see a marvelous and often severe beauty, and we are invited beyond our customary obsessions and preoccupations toward a wider appreciation of God's glory. We will meet in the South Parlor, or for a ZOOM link, contact Tami in the church office.

September 20th—October 18th following worship

(Class will not meet on October 11th)

SAVE THE DATE

FPCD is once again sponsoring a meal packing event for the Kids Coalition Against Hunger. Please plan on helping us pack nutritious food packets on Saturday, November 21st at noon. Spread the word and bring friends!

The First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn

600 N. Brady Road, Dearborn MI 48124
(313) 274-1313, info@firstpresdearborn.org

Come Home to God's Love

Office hours: Mon-Thurs 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Church Staff

Rev. Tom James, *Pastor*

Dr. David Stultz, DMA, *Organist & Music Director*

Tamera Metiva, *Office Administrator*

Rachel Woods, *Business Administrator*

Kristin Parden, *Custodian*