

First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn

Third Sunday of Creation

Sunday, September 27, 2026

WE GATHER AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

Psalm-Sonata No. 1, Movement II

Brenda Portman

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Jeannette Pryciak

**Please stand in body or spirit*

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: In the beginning, the Spirit of God hovered over the waters. And God called them good.

People: Come Holy Spirit and cleanse the waters.

Leader: The prophet saw a river flowing from the Temple, and wherever the river flowed, everything lived.

People: Come Holy Spirit and renew the face of the Earth.

Leader: Jesus cried out, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me... Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water."

People: Come, Holy Spirit and heal your people.

***HYMN #476**

Crashing Waters at Creation

***PRAYER OF LAMENT**

Leader: We look upon your waters, O God, and we grieve: Rivers run polluted. Oceans choke with plastic. Marine life disappears from warming seas. Coral reefs fade and fisheries collapse.

People: We have all been guilty.

Leader: The seas rise and swallow coasts. Storms grow stronger. Floods destroy homes. Drought cracks the Earth and children thirst.

People: We have all been guilty.

Leader: We confess that we have not guarded your waters. We have consumed water without restraint. We have polluted what you called good. We have forgotten that the river of life flows from your throne.

People: Forgive us, O God.

***ASURANCE OF GRACE**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Leader: God's forgiveness gives us joy, and our joy increases when it is shared. 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

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 147:12-20

SERMON

Frozen, Fallen, and Flowing

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

(from Lutheran Theological College, South India)

We believe in God, who creates all things, who embraces all things, who celebrates all things, who is present in every part of the fabric of creation. We believe in God as the source of all life, who baptizes this planet with living water.

We believe in Jesus Christ, seen in the suffering one, the poor one, the malnourished one, the climate refugee - who loves and cares for this world and suffers with it. And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life, who came to reconcile and renew this world and everything in it.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God, who moves with God and who moves among and with us today. We believe in everlasting life in God. And we believe in the hope that one day God will put an end to death and all destructive forces.

***GLORIA PATRI #581**

Glory Be to the Father

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Creation Sings

Lloyd Larson

***DOXOLOGY**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

WE FOLLOW THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***SENDING HYMN #475**

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Psalm-Sonata No.1, Movement III

Brenda Portman

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



Volunteers Needed!

The Tech Crew is looking for a few volunteers to work the tech booth during Sunday service and for future events. All ability levels are welcome. We will be happy to train those who have rusty skills or are new to the world of tech. Please contact Anne Witkowski if you would like to join our group.

Anne Witkowski can be emailed at: anne.e.witkowski@gmail.com

Calendar

Sunday, September 27

9:15 a.m. Music Practice
9:45 a.m. Nursery
10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship
11:15 a.m. Coffee Fellowship
11:30 a.m. Reformed Spirituality Class
South Parlor

Wednesday, September 30

10:00 a.m.– 4:00 p.m. Treasure Chest
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday, October 1

10:00 a.m. P.W. Bible Study

Saturday, October 3

6:00 p.m. First Step Benefit Concert

Sunday, October 4

Communion Sunday

9:15 a.m. Music Practice
9:45 a.m. Nursery
10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship
11:15 a.m. Coffee Fellowship
11:30 a.m. Reformed Spirituality Class
South Parlor

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 and
Music Director*

Tamera Metiva, *Office Administrator*

Rachel Woods, *Business Administrator*

Kristin Parden, *Custodian*

Reformed Spirituality and the Natural World: Talks on Desire

Description:

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

Source Text: Belden C. Lane, *Ravished by Beauty: The Surprising Legacy of Reformed Spirituality* (Oxford University Press, 2011).

Course Schedule:

September 27	Calvin and the World as a Theater of God’s Glory
October 4	The Schooling of Desire in the Puritan Tradition
October 11	No class
October 18	Jonathan Edwards on Beauty, Desire, and the Senses