

I'D LOVE TO TELL THE STORY



SUMMERTIME STORYTELLING SERIES

July's Theme - Understanding

**July 28, 2026
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**

**First
Presbyterian
Church** of Northville



248-349-0911 • www.fpcnorthville.org

Welcome

to First Presbyterian Church of Northville

Thank you for worshipping with us!

We invite you to write your name and contact information on the Friendship Pad and pass it down the pew for others to sign.

If you would like a children's folder, large print bulletin, wireless hearing assistance device or back pillow, the ushers will be happy to assist you. We currently offer two types of hearing assistance devices: one with earphones, and one which works with "T" coil hearing aids.

If you are visiting with us, and don't have a Bible you can read and understand, please take one from your pew as our gift to you! Please also stop by the Welcome Center desk to receive a welcome bag.

Please join us for coffee or tea in Boll Hall after the service.

We Believe

We believe relationships are key to understanding God and enjoying life together.

We seek to create a community that mirrors God's unconditional acceptance and love.

We value and are centered in scripture.

We honor and worship a God who is constantly at work for the good of every person in every place.

We welcome all regardless of politics, gender, race, sexual orientation, or any other distinction.

We are called to love as God loves.

We're glad you're here!

Order of Worship

~ The prelude is to be a time of reflection and preparation for worship ~

Welcome

Prelude

Meditation

William Scott

Announcements

Introit

Surely, It Is God Who Saves Me
Summer Choir

#71

***Call to Worship** (read responsively)

One: Give thanks to God and call on God's holy name.

All: We will tell of God's wonderful works!

One: Let the hearts of those who seek God rejoice.

All: We will sing God's praises!

One: Give glory to God, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.

All: We will remember God's mercy in all our words and actions.

***Opening Prayer**

***Hymn**

O Lord My God

#625

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess we are not always merciful people. We turn away in anger rather than seeking peace and solutions. We criticize those who differ from us in culture or conviction, rather than seeking understanding. We hold grudges and hurt for a lifetime, rather than forgiving as you have forgiven us. In your mercy, give us peace, amend who we are and direct who we shall be.

(Silent Confession)

Assurance of Forgiveness

* Please rise in body or spirit.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings

First Scripture Reading—Roman 8: 26-39

²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Second Scripture Reading—Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52

³¹[Jesus] put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

³³He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

⁴⁴"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." ⁵²And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Introductory Music

I Love to Tell the Story
(verse 1 and refrain)

#462

**1 I love to tell the story
of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory,
of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story,
because I know 'tis true;
it satisfies my longings
as nothing else could do.**

Refrain:

**I love to tell the story;
'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story
of Jesus and his love.**

Call for the Offering

Offertory

Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven
Summer Choir

John Goss

***Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

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

***Sending Hymn**

As the Wind Song

#292

***Benediction**

***Sung Response**

God Be With You Till We Meet Again

#541

Postlude

Postlude in G Major

J.S. Bach

* Please rise in body or spirit.

To The Glory of God...

*The flowers in the chancel are given by
Beth and Gary Heberlein in loving
memory of their parents,
Margaret & Richard Free and
Ruth & Edward Heberlein.*



Worship Leaders and Staff:

Program Ministry

Rev. Jacqueline Spycher, Senior Pastor

Stephen Flavin, Director of Congregational Care, Youth, & Children

Music Ministry

Tom Bowman, Children's Choir Director

Dr. Jerry Custer, Chancel Choir Director

Nancy Plumley, Te Deum Handbell Director

Dr. Dave Wagner, Organist/Accompanist

Liturgist

Deb Gammons

Technology

Lexanna Sims, AV Tech Associate

Preschool

Lisa Higley, Director

Cynthia Korpela, Assistant Director

Office Staff

Kelly Sartorius, Church Administrator

Kelly Clarke, Accounting Clerk

Hannah Johnson, Communications Associate

Sextons

Nicole Andreolli, Sunday Sexton

Zak Bugosh, Sexton



IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

Congregation: Marilyn Atkinson; Barb Bakewell; Judy & Ron Blackburn; Phil & Ginny Cavaretta; Rev. Jamie Faile; Sarah French & family; Carol Geake and the family of Bob Geake; Neyssa Gill; Ron & Lois Housman; Barb Johnson; Donna Kennedy; Mary Kirn; the family of Maxine Lapham; Dale Robison; Karen Seaman; Alan & Judy Somershoe; The Strom and Gessert Families; Darleen Sweeney; June Tervo; Linda Todd; The Ward Family; Dick Werther; Debbie Wood.

Friends and Family: Steve Atallah (husband of Elaine Atallah); James Atkinson Jr. (son of Marilyn Atkinson); Carolyn Blaszowski (friend of Deb and Tim Gammons); Jeff Brown (friend of Dick Werther); Peg Custer (mother of Jerry Custer); Ron Chandler (brother-in-law of Nancy Plumley); Rick De Hart (friend of Georgeann Stringer); Brant Doty (brother of Tim Doty); Annette Duchamp (mother of Vivienne Ward); Elisabeth Fannin (granddaughter of Marilyn Atkinson); Stan Gill & family (brother of Bev Hines); Susan Grant (friend of Coline Coleman); Dick Grignon (relative of Deb and Tim Gammons); Andy Gutman (friend of Kathy Gricius); Connie Hassaballa (sister of Sandy Robison & Judy Russell); The Henderson Family (relatives of Tammy Fulton); Lynne & Mark Ivankovics (sister-in-law & brother-in-law of Tim Doty); Jaxson Lindquist (grandnephew of Ann Werther); Makayla (granddaughter of Neyssa Gill); Kim Myers (sister-in-law of Denise Myers); Dave Nickel (son-in-law of Kathy Gricius); Nina & Nikolai (residing in Ukraine, relatives of Marcia Booth); Wes & Penny Norton (parents of Guy Sartorius); Barbara Onofrio (friend of Georgeann Stringer); Marshall Riggs (nephew of Sean & Stephanie Smith); Carol Sarver (friend of Bev Hines); Kathy Schillaci (friend of Kathy Gricius); Alicia Sims (mother of Lexanna Sims); Mary Spranger (stepdaughter of Bev Hines); Billy & Trish Stamper (family of Neyssa Gill); Amy Svendsen (niece of Barbara Gough); Lita Thomas (friend of Marilyn Thibodeau); Terry Wingblad (friend of Darleen Sweeney); Randy Wisner (cousin of Darleen Sweeney); Cathy Yount (daughter of Marilyn Atkinson).

All Caregivers

All Military Personnel currently serving here and abroad.

*To add a name to this list, please call your deacon, or the church office at 248-349-0911. Please note that names are added to the Prayer Ministry list only with the individual's permission. This list will be purged and reprinted periodically. **Kindly let us know when to remove a name. Thank you.***

Cards are available for the congregation to sign on the **third Sunday** (or occasionally the second Sunday) of each month.

The Bulletin Board

New Member Class—A new member class is being planned for later this summer. Membership in the church allows you to vote at congregational meetings and hold leadership roles in the church, but more, it solidifies a commitment to our church family. If you are interested in learning more about the church and becoming a formal member of the congregation, we'd love to have you! Please contact Pastor Jackie with your interest. Our new member class is a casual meeting on a Sunday after worship; it usually lasts 45–60 minutes.

Declan Carter Victory Run: August 29—Join us for the second annual Declan Carter Victory Run in downtown Northville on Saturday, August 29. Choose between a 5k Run/Walk starting at 9 a.m. or the Mighty Mini Mile (1 mile course) beginning at 8:30 a.m. There is a \$40 race fee for the 5k and a \$25 race fee for the Mighty Mini Mile. Register by August 16 to avoid increased fees. Both races start and finish at Our Lady of Victory (133 Orchard Dr., Northville, MI 48167). All money raised goes toward the Declan Carter Foundation. If you would like to participate, you may scan the QR code to join the FPCN team.



Crossroads of Michigan: Children's Summer Lunch—Throughout the summer, Crossroads of Michigan hosts a free Children's Summer Lunch program that is open to children under 18 years old and their caregivers. Each day, they rely on volunteers to help provide kid-friendly programming to build community and to make the day's hot lunch. This program runs Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., now through August 22. Please scan the QR code to sign up for a volunteer shift.



Blessing of Backpacks and Beyond—Mark your calendars! All are invited to bring a backpack, purse, briefcase, sports bag, or other "holder of important things" to worship on August 30. Each of you will receive a blessing that is meant to help you keep the words and actions of Jesus with you, whether in school, at work, at an activity, or at home. Children having backpacks blessed may then go to the Narthex to pick out a new FPCN pencil and a writing pad. Thanks for considering taking part in this opportunity to carry Jesus with you wherever you may go.

Children's Sunday School Schedule—Children's Sunday School is paused for the summer. During the summer months, your children will be able to either go back to the Toddler Room or remain in worship.



Ice Cream Social





Mission Possible: Packing Backpacks



WEEK OF JULY 26, 2026 — AUGUST 2, 2026

Sun. 7/26

8:45 am Kerygma, Gathering Room
10:00 am Worship, Sanctuary and Facebook Live
11:00 am Coffee Hour, Boll Hall

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Mon. 7/27

Tue. 7/28

12:00 pm Rotary, Boll Hall
5:00 pm Congregational Nominating Committee, Zoom
7:00 pm Caregivers Group, Youth Room
8:00 pm AA Meeting, CLC
8:00 pm Al-Anon Meeting, Boll Hall

Wed. 7/29

8:00 am Men's Morning Small Group, via Zoom
10:00 am Walking Group, Ford Field (Northville)

Thurs. 7/30

11:00 am Prayer Group, Study
7:00 pm Men's Discussion Group, Gathering Room

Fri. 7/31

Sat. 8/1

Sun. 8/2

8:45 am Kerygma, Gathering Room
10:00 am Worship, Sanctuary and Facebook Live
11:00 am Coffee Hour, Boll Hall
11:15 am Children & Youth Committee, Youth Room

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost and Communion Sunday