



...how often should
I forgive?

"Not **SEVEN** times,
but, I tell you,
**SEVENTY-
SEVEN**
times."

Matthew 18:21-22, NRSV

September 13, 2026
Sixteenth 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, or back pillow, the ushers will be happy to assist you.

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

Aubade

Louis Vierne

Announcements

Introit

Brethren, We Have Met to Worship
Chancel Choir

#396

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

One: Praise the God of life.

All: Let us praise God together.

One: For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is
God's steadfast love;

**All: as far as the east is from the west, so far God removes
our sins.**

One: So, let us rejoice in God's gracious presence.

All: Let us praise the God of mercy together.

***Opening Prayer**

***Hymn**

Morning Has Broken

#664

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, our lives do not always reflect your transforming power. You are gracious, but we cling to judgment. You are kind, but we can be cruel. You are forgiving, but we nurse grudges and old wounds. Forgive us, O God. Fill us with your Holy Spirit, and make us new through Christ, your Son and our Savior.

(Silent Confession)

Assurance of Forgiveness

Children's Message

Stephen Flavin

Prayer for Illumination

* Please rise in body or spirit.

Scripture Readings

First Scripture Reading—Romans 14:1–12

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Second Scripture Reading—Matthew 18:21–35

²¹Then Peter came and said to him, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him. ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’

²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Jacqueline Spycher

Call for the Offering

Offertory

Be Thou My Vision
Chancel Choir

arr. Alice Parker

***Doxology**

#607

**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.**

* Please rise in body or spirit.

***Sending Hymn** *Go, My Children, with My Blessing* **#547**

***Benediction**

***Sung Response** *Jesus Loves Me!* **#188**

Postlude *Toccata in F Major* D. Buxtehude

* Please rise in body or spirit.



Fall at a Glance

September 13	All Church Picnic @ Waterford Bend Park
September 20	First Regular Youth Group Sunday Gathering
September 27	Annual Meeting
October 4	New Member Class (received Oct. 11)
October 18	Boo Bash
October 25	Simple Lunch
November 1	All Saints Day & Community Brainstorming
November 22	Thanksgiving Service, Location TBA
November 24	Hanging of the Greens

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

Beth Heberlein

Technology

Nakia Pollard, 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

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IN OUR

Thoughts and Prayers



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

Friends and Family: Melissa Altomare (sister of Debby DeLaby); 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); 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); Sarah Gilbert (friend of Pastor Jackie); 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); Marie Wilkie (sister-in-law of Coline Coleman); 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

Mum orders due today—This is a reminder that today is the last day to turn in order forms and payment for our mum fundraiser. Orders will be available for pickup at the church on Friday, October 2.

Agape Women's Bible Study—Please join us for *James: Living a Life of Genuine Faith* by Jen Wilkin. The format is a downloadable workbook (which we can print out for you) along with an audio guide (tinyurl.com/2ve64an2). Please scan the QR code to access the workbook. We will meet on Fridays from 9:30–11 a.m. in the Gathering Room. The study starts on September 18. All are welcome, so bring a friend. For more information, please contact Gretchen Mizerowski.



New Member Class—A new member class is scheduled for Sunday, October 4 at 11:15 a.m. in the Gathering Room. 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; it usually lasts 45–60 minutes. New members will be received in worship on Sunday, October 11.

Adult Education Book Study—Beginning in October and running through May, Pastor Jackie will lead a monthly study on the book *Appreciate These Things*. The study will take place on the second Sunday of the month at 11:15 a.m. in the Gathering Room. Books are \$10 and will be available for purchase at the Welcome Center desk on September 20 and 27.

The Call of an Annual Meeting: Sunday, September 27, 2026

As is required by the Book of Order and our congregational bylaws, the Session of First Presbyterian Church of Northville calls for an Annual Meeting of the Congregation to be held at 11 a.m. on Sunday, September 27 in Boll Hall; the Annual Meeting of the Corporation will immediately follow. The Annual Meeting will consider such business as electing officers, hearing reports of the Session, and approving our senior pastor's terms of call. All active members in the church are invited to attend and vote; friends of the church are welcome to attend and observe.

JOIN US FOR

“Resisting Disinformation: How Not to Misinform”

PRESENTED BY

League of Women Voters of
Northwest Wayne County

FEATURING GUEST SPEAKER
Carrie Moon-Dupree, President

Lunch provided!

Sunday, October 25

11:30 a.m. | Boll Hall



The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization dedicated to educating voters and defending democracy.

Topics covered:

- What disinformation and misinformation are
- How disinformation works
- Why disinformation sticks
- When and how to respond to disinformation

FPC Northville All Church

PICNIC TODAY!!!

Coffee hour at church: 11:00–11:15 a.m.

Picnic time: 11:30 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

Food served: Starting at 11:45 a.m.

Location: Waterford Bend Park
(on the corner of 6 Mile & Northville Rds.)

Wear your picnic clothes and pack your lawn chairs!

FAMILY FUN | GAMES | FOOD



**All are
welcome!**

Water &
iced tea
provided

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2026 — SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

Sun. 9/13		Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
	8:45 am	Kerygma, Gathering Room
	10:00 am	Worship, Sanctuary and Facebook Live
	10:15 am	Children's Sunday School, Children's Wing
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour, Boll Hall
	11:30 am	Church Picnic, Waterford Bend Park
Mon. 9/14		
Tue. 9/15	6:00 pm	Fellowship Activities Meeting, Library
	7:30 pm	Session, Library & via Zoom
	8:00 pm	AA Meeting, CLC
	8:00 pm	Al-Anon Meeting, Boll Hall
Wed. 9/16	8:00 am	Men's Morning Small Group, via Zoom
	10:00 am	Walking Group, Ford Field (Northville)
	7:00 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
Thurs. 9/17	11:00 am	Prayer Group, Study
	7:00 pm	Handbells Rehearsal, Music Center
	7:00 pm	Men's Discussion Group, Gathering Room
	7:00 pm	Yoga, CLC
Fri. 9/18	9:00 am	Victorian Festival, Boll Hall
	9:30 am	Agape, Gathering Room
Sat. 9/19		
Sun. 9/20		Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost, Baptism of August Walter Heise, and Reaffirmation of Ron Housman's Baptism
	8:45 am	Kerygma, Gathering Room
	10:00 am	Worship, Sanctuary and Facebook Live
	10:15 am	Children's Sunday School, Children's Wing
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour, Boll Hall
	11:15 am	Children & Youth Committee, Youth Room
	2:00 pm	POD Youth Event, CLC