

The First Congregational Church
Your Independent Worship Center



Deeply Rooted ~ Future Focused

Pastor Luke Schmalz 920-428-0030
Office Hours - Call the church office
Please call the church office to meet with the Pastor
Keyboard/Organist Rachel Poches, David VandenBelt, Lorene Witte
Secretary Lorene Witte 924-4710
CCLI 1401200 (cell) 231-282-0515
email: congo@fremontfcc.org Website: fremontfcc.org
Church: 231-924-4710 714 Hillcrest Drive - Fremont Mi 49412
Offering plates are located in the narthex. Today's service will be available
at our website - www.fremontfcc.org and also on Facebook and YouTube.



December 28, 2025

The Order of Worship
**please stand, if you are able*

Prelude
Announcements

Rachel Poches

Welcome

Call to Worship

Pastor: (Isaiah 6:7-9) The seraph touched my mouth with it and said, “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!” And he said, “Go and say to this people: ‘Keep listening, but do not comprehend; keep looking, but do not understand.’”

All: Praise the Lord.

Opening Prayer

***Opening Hymn - “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing” - Blue Hymnal #277**

Prayer of Confession

All: God of love, all year long we pursue powers and money, yet you come in weakness. All season long we covet great material gifts, when you alone offer what is lasting. Through the work of this Lord Jesus, who comes among us full of grace and truth, forgive us, heal us, correct us. Then open our lips, that we may sing your praise with the angels, and remake our lives, that we may witness to your transforming love. Through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

Prayer

Pastor: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Pastor: Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our god. People of God, through the coming of

Jesus Christ, whose birth we celebrate, the Lord has comforted and redeemed us too!

All: In Christ we receive the salvation of our God. Glory to God is the highest!

***Response - Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.

JeLy Bell! All kids are invited to go to the JeLy Room for JeLy Church!
(JeLy ~ Jesus Loves You)

Scripture

Hebrews 2:10-15, Matthew 2:13-23

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Message: “Blue Christmas”

Pastor Luke Schmalz

***The Apostle’s Creed** (see screen)

***Hymn - “What Child Is This?” - Blue Hymnal #281**

Prayers of the Congregation

The Lord’s Prayer (words projected)

***Doxology (As the offering is brought forward)**

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

***Prayer of Dedication**

Sending Hymn - “Angels We Have Heard on High” - Blue Hymnal #278
Remain Seated - the Noisy Offering will be taken while we sing

***Benediction**

The joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the Magi, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ child be yours this Christmas. And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

***The Peace of Christ**

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

***Sending**

Pastor Luke Schmalz

***Postlude**

Rachel Poches

Altar Rep: Jack Butterick

Greeting us today: Brian Webb

Next Sunday: Ted Caros

Song Leader: Pat Krehn

Scripture Reader:

Next Sunday:

Tech Booth - Thank you volunteers! Robin, Kendra, Jeff

Happy Birthday to ~

Pastor Luke Schmalz (28)

Happy Anniversary to ~

Prayer Requests ~

Duane VanDuzen - under Hospice Care

This Weeks Calendar

Sunday, December 28

10:00 a.m. Worship - Noisy Offering

11:15 a.m. Fellowship Hour - Fellowship Hall

Monday, December 29

9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Fellowship Hall

10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open - when two or three are gathered

Tuesday, December 30 - Church Office Closed

Wednesday, December 31 - New Year's Eve

9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Fellowship Hall

10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open - when two or three are gathered

Thursday, January 1- Church Office Closed

Friday, January 2- Church Office Closed

9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Fellowship Hall

10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open - when two or three are gathered

Saturday, January 3

Sunday, January 4

10:00 a.m. Worship with Communion

11:15 a.m. Fellowship Hour - Fellowship Hall



Our Church News

Welcome to worship! May this time of prayer and praise help you hold on a bit longer to Christmas joy and carry it into the new year.

Noisy Offering ... is today. Our Charitable Giving group appreciates your participation on our several projects e.g. giving towels to Community Closest, food to Hand 2 Hand and making monetary donations to a dozen charitable groups during the year. Thank you and Happy New Year. Charitable Giving/jb

Offering Envelopes for 2026 are available on the table by the office. They are marked with your name. If you would like a box of envelopes for giving please let Lorene know.

The Sound Booth is looking for volunteer help with operating the sound board or running the projector. If you are interested and willing talk with Pastor Luke or Jeff Stewart.

The Church office will be closed on Friday, January 2

January 4, Sunday, the congregation is asked to bring 2 dozen cookies to church and leave them in the kitchen. Pat Krehn's Small Group would like to start out 2026 by showing appreciation to groups of people in our community that go above and beyond to help others in need. Men's Fellowship will deliver them. If you can't bring cookies on Sunday drop them off on Monday. We will start with: Fire Department, Police Department, Ambulance, School Bus Garage, Post Office, City Hall.



Members & Friends - Mark your calendar - New Year Celebration Pancake Breakfast - Saturday, January 10, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. Attendance is very important as we plan for the New Year. FREE!

The Tuesday Small Group meeting at the home of Pat Krehn will be meeting at 10:00 a.m. on January 13 and 27.

