

Today, We ask you to breathe new life into our church. Grant us the grace to reach Fremont, sharing the Good News. May a renewed passion ignite within us, a fervent desire to spread the message of hope and salvation.

Help us to deepen our love for you, our Heavenly Father, and love for our neighbors. May we see the people of Fremont through your eyes, recognizing their worth and longing for their salvation as you do. Empower us with the Holy Spirit, filling us with the strength, wisdom, and courage to proclaim your gospel with clarity and conviction.

Our deepest desire is to see the people of Fremont and the surrounding communities accept Jesus as Lord and Savior. May we play a role in bringing this transformation to pass. Ignite the fires of revival within our church. May we shine as a beacon of hope, drawing people to you.

In the name of Jesus Christ, my Lord and Savior, we pray.  
Amen.

\*Sending

Pastor Luke Schmalz

\*Postlude

Rachel Poches



*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

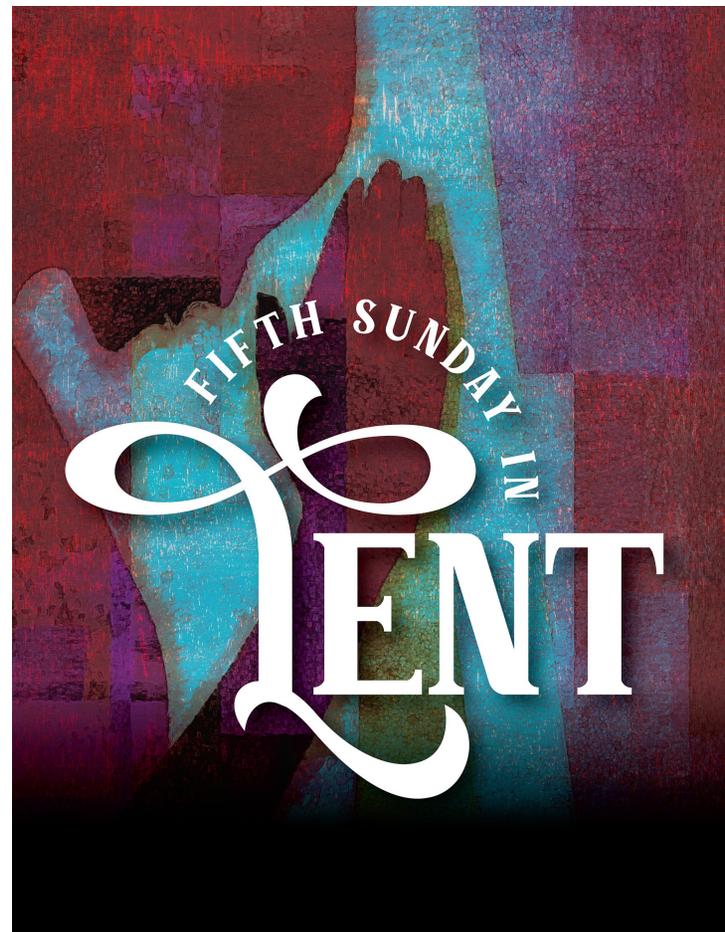
email: [congo@fremontfcc.org](mailto:congo@fremontfcc.org) Website: [fremontfcc.org](http://fremontfcc.org)

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](http://www.fremontfcc.org) and also on Facebook and YouTube.

## The First Congregational Church

Your Independent Worship Center



March 22, 2026

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

## Prelude

Rachel Poches

## Announcements

## Welcome

### Call to Worship (Psalm 130)

Pastor: Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD. Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

**All: If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?**

Pastor: But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.

**All: I wait for the LORD; my soul waits, and in his word I hope;**

Pastor: my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning. O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem.

**All: It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.**

## Opening Prayer

**\*Opening Hymn-** “Trust and Obey” - **Blue Hymnal #571** vs 1,2,4,5

### Prayer of Confession (Psalm 51)

**All: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. 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: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away, see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Receive the good news of the gospel!

**All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

### \*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** Ezekiel 37:1-14, John 11:1-45

Reader: The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Message:** “Dry Bones”

**Pastor Luke Schmalz**

**\*The Apostle’s Creed** (words projected)

**Special Music** - Stacey Church, Martha Kallenbach, Jack Brooks

## 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**

**Ministry Moment - Dean Morehouse**

**Special Music** - Stacey Church, Martha Kallenbach, Jack Brooks

**\*Sending Hymn** - “Oh How He Loves You and Me” - **Blue Hymnal #349**

**\*A Prayer For Revival Dismissal Prayer** (words projected - unison)

**Almighty God, we come before you today with a humble heart, acknowledging your grace and love. Your Word, declares your desire for all to experience salvation. We thank and worship you for this gift.**

*continued on back page*

**Altar Rep:** Susan Stewart

**Greeting us today:** Ted Caris

**Next Sunday:** Glenn & Robin Dickman

**Song Leader:** Bill Black

**Scripture Reader:** Pastor Luke

Next Sunday: Ruth Cowles

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

**Happy Birthday to ~**

**Prayer Requests ~**

Jim Rynberg

### **This Weeks Calendar**

**Sunday, March 22** - *Fifth Sunday of Lent*

- 10:00 a.m. Worship
- 11:15 a.m. Fellowship Hour - Fellowship Hall
- 11:30 a.m. Travelogue with Rachel Poches - Fellowship Hall (lunch provided)

**Monday, March 23**

- 9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Fellowship Hall
- 10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open - when two or three are gathered
- 6:30 p.m. Executive Council - Library

**Tuesday, March 24** - *Church Office Closed*

- 10:00 a.m. Small Group - Pat Krehn's home

**Wednesday, March 25**

- 9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Fellowship Hall
- 10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open - when two or three are gathered
- 4:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study with Beth - Library

**Thursday, March 26** - *Church Office Closed*

- 10:00 a.m. Christmas Crafters - Fellowship Hall

**Friday, March 27**

- 9:30 a.m. Men's Coffee Time - Fellowship Hall
- 10:00 a.m. Woodshop Open - when two or three are gathered

**Saturday, March 28**

- 9:30 a.m. Town Hall Meeting - Fellowship Hall

**Sunday, March 29** - *Palm Sunday*

- 10:00 a.m. Worship & Noisy Offering
- 11:15 a.m. Fellowship Hour - Fellowship Hall

### **Our Church News**

**As we worship you, Lord**, unite us in heart and purpose. Let our songs rise as one voice, our prayers blend as one offering and our faith be strengthened through our fellowship. May our worship today draw us closer to you and to one another. Amen.

**This morning we welcome** Stacey Church, Martha Kallenbach and Jack Brooks who will be sharing special music with us.

**Easter Invite Cards** are available on the bulletin table - take what you need to invite others to join in worshipping our Risen Lord.

**Women's Fellowship** presents a *Sloppy Joe (note the new menu) Lunch and Travelogue* with Rachel Poches TODAY following worship. Rachel will share pictures of her and Greg's travel to Banff Canada.

**Easter Lilies will adorn** the Altar on Easter Sunday. The price for a Lily is \$10. Please place your order in the Offering plate or give it to Mary, Jean or Lorene so that we know how many Lilies to order. Thank you! Altar Committee/Mary

**Volunteers are needed to** put candy into Easter Eggs or to bring eggs already filled for our Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday. Talk to Crystal Schmalz if you are willing.

**Men are invited to attend** the weekly Lenten Breakfast Series on Saturdays, at 8:00 a.m. at the Church of the Living Christ, through April 4, suggested donation \$5.00.

**Our next Town Hall meeting** will be Saturday, March 28 at 9:30 a.m.

**Thank you, thank YOU** for your donations of blankets for Community Closet. **There has been 5 (five) fires in Newaygo County** in the past month where the family lost everything. Community Closet is inundated with the need for blankets, towels and wash cloths. Based on this the Board of Charitable Giving is continuing the blanket drive (now including towels and wash cloths) until the end of March. We will complete our giving this quarter with a Noisy Offering next Sunday, March 29 with those coins also given to Community Closet.

**Included in today's bulletin is a survey regarding Small Groups - please fill this out and put in the basket on the small table by the church office so we can move forward with additional Groups.**

## EASTER FLOWER ORDER

\_\_\_\_\_ **6" Pot Easter Lilies: (\$10.00)**

to be used in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_ Following the worship service, I/we will pick up my/our flower(s).

\_\_\_\_\_ Following the worship service, the Altar Committee may take care of my/our flowers in an appropriate way.

**Given by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**In Memory of** \_\_\_\_\_

*or*

**In Honor of** \_\_\_\_\_

This completed form, along with your payment for each flower ordered may be placed in the offering plate, or in the church office by **March 22, 2026** (No Late Orders!)



## SMALL GROUP SURVEY

I am in a Small Group \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

I am not interested in attending a Small Group \_\_\_\_\_ Yes

If you are not part of a group and interested - what time works best for you to attend?

Sunday morning before the service \_\_\_\_\_ Yes

Morning (8:00 am - 11:00 am) \_\_\_\_\_ Yes

Afternoon (1:00 pm - 4:00 pm) \_\_\_\_\_ Yes

Evening (5:00 pm - 8:00 pm) \_\_\_\_\_ Yes

What day would be best for you?

Monday \_\_\_\_\_

Tuesday \_\_\_\_\_

Wednesday \_\_\_\_\_

Thursday \_\_\_\_\_

Friday \_\_\_\_\_

I would be interested in hosting a small group. \_\_\_\_\_ Yes

Other ideas:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**SMALL  
GROUPS**