

fervent desire to spread the message of hope and salvation to our community. Ignite the fires of revival within our church. Help us to deepen our love for you and love for our neighbors. Empower us with the Holy spirit, filling us with the strength, wisdom, and courage to proclaim your gospel with clarity and conviction. May we long for our community's salvation as you do and help us to shine as beacons of hope to our community.

\*Sending

Pastor Luke Schmalz

\*Postlude

Lorene Witte

# 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

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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.

April 19, 2026

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

**Prelude**

**Lorene Witte**

**Announcements**

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship (Psalm 8)**

Pastor: O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.

**All: Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.**

Pastor: When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are humans that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them? Yet you have made them a little lower than God and crowned them with glory and honor. You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

**All: O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!**

**Opening Prayer**

**\*Opening Hymn-**“This is My Father’s World ” - **Blue Hymnal #143**

**Prayer of Confession**

**All: Heavenly Father, we were redeemed with the precious blood of Christ, a Lamb without blemish or defect. Yet, we forget this and fail to obey. We do not love one another sincerely. For all people are like grass and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord endures forever. Forgive us 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 (Romans 9:17-21)**

Pastor: Hear the Good News! For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

**All: Praise the Lord!**

**\*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:** Acts 2:14, 36-41; I Peter 1:17-25; Luke 24:13-35

Reader: The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Message:** “Like Grass”

**Pastor Luke Schmalz**

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

**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**

**\*Song of Preparation** - “Come to the Table” - **Blue Hymnal #464**

**Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**Communion Music** - “I Surrender All” - **The Voices of Six**

**\*Sending Hymn** - “For the Beauty of the Earth” - **Blue Hymnal #793**

**vs 1 & 4**

**\*Dismissal Prayer for Revival** (words projected - unison)

**Almighty God, we have gathered here today to worship you. As we prepare to leave we ask you to breathe new life into our church. May a renewed passion be kindled within us, a**

*continued on back page*

**Altar Rep:** Susan Stewart

**Greeting us today:** Ted Caris

**Next Sunday:** Carrie & Tony DeMull

**Song Leader:** The Voices of Six

**Scripture Reader:** Ruth Cowles

**Next Sunday:** Pastor Luke

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

**Happy Birthday to ~**

Arnie Dougan (19), Bill Black (21), Beth Hooker (24)

**Happy Anniversary to ~**

Arnie & Betty Dougan (19)

**Prayer Requests ~**

### **This Weeks Calendar**

#### **Sunday, April 19 - Creation Care Sunday**

9:15 a.m. Executive Council - Library

10:00 a.m. Worship with communion

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

#### **Monday, April 20**

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

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

#### **Tuesday, April 21 - Church Office Closed**

#### **Wednesday, April 22**

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. Women's Bible Study with Beth - Library

#### **Thursday, April 23 - Church Office Closed**

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

#### **Friday, April 24**

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

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

#### **Saturday, April 25**

#### **Sunday, April 26**

10:00 a.m. Worship

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

11:30 a.m. New Members Class - Library

### **Our Church News**

**April offers a beautiful reminder** of God's handiwork. Earth Day encourages us to care for creation with gratitude and stewardship. Consider small steps — reducing waste, planting something new or enjoying the beauty of God's world with fresh appreciation. Welcome to worship on this Creation Care/Earth Day Sunday as we give thanks for God's creation.

**A special shout out to** Arnie Dougan who is celebrating his 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday today and also anniversary greetings to Arnie and Betty Dougan who are celebrating their 71<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary today as well.

**The Charitable Giving has** decided for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter (April - June) to support Youth for Christ. Money will be collected for Summer Camp Scholarships.

**The New Members Class** will begin NEXT Sunday, April 26 following worship in the library.

**Women's Bible Study** led by Beth Hooker will be meeting at **6:30 p.m.** (note the time change) beginning April 1. All women are invited to attend.

**Small Group Meetings** for April will be April 28 at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Pat Krehn.



**Women's Fellowship presents** Pat Krehn's sister, Nancy Claus on Monday, May 4 at 12:00 to tell us about her experience for this past Christmas 2025 of White House Decorating. A chicken salad luncheon will be served. Please sign up on the sheet outside the office or in Fellowship Hall by April 26 to help with food preparation numbers.

