

July 27, 2025; 9:00 am

We Gather Together

***Welcome** to today's Service of Worship. Whether you are with us in person, joining us live on zoom, watching on our YouTube channel, or listening on KFIZ, we are glad you are here. For those in person, please use the time before worship to fill in the Friendship Pad in your pew. We extend a special welcome to our visitors, and if you have not already received your welcome gift, please pick one up as you leave the sanctuary after worship.*

Prelude: "Moonlit Garden" by Melody Bober

Anne F., guest pianist

Please use this time to prepare your heart for worship. As the Light of Christ symbolically enters this worship space, we are reminded of God's presence in our lives, calling us to be a reflection of the light of Christ in all we do and say.

Welcome & Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Pete W.

We gather here in anticipation,
seeking an encounter with our Holy God,
who comes among us when we least expect it,
who invites us to wrestle with our questions and doubts,
who richly blesses us,
and calls us each by name.
Let's worship God together!

*** Opening Prayer**

O God, we gather together in your presence with expectation, hungry for an encounter with you, eager to hear your word. Open our eyes and ears to the presence of your Holy Spirit. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, our teacher and our Lord. Amen.

***Sung Response: GTG 475 "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"**

Cheryl C.

***Call to Confession**

Pete W.

If God is for us, who can be against us? Nothing in all of creation can separate us from the Love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Remembering this promise from scripture, let us boldly approach the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Let us together confess our sins.

***Prayer of Confession**

Pete W.

God of mercy, we place our trust in tangible things—things we can see and touch—and question whether you are really there. Forgive us, Holy One, when we fail to recognize that you are always nearby, patiently waiting for us to recognize your presence and your glory. Help us when we lose our way, and forgive us when we forget to whom we truly belong.

Silent Confession

(In the silence of our hearts we confess our sins to God.)

Lover of justice, **open our eyes to see you; open our ears to hear you; open our hearts to love you; and open our hands to serve you. AMEN.**

***Assurance of God's Grace**

When we cry to God, looking for favor in God's sight, God answers: "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."

In the power of the Spirit and in the name of Jesus, we are forgiven! We will rest in God's mercy! Amen.

***Sharing God's Peace**

Hear these instructions from Ephesians 4:32: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The Peace of Christ be with you! **And also, with you!**

*(Please share the Peace of Christ with those around you using the ancient formula 'The Peace of Christ.' 'And also, with you.' Please be mindful of those who do not wish to shake hands or be too close. **We encourage you to use this time to send a text or emoji to someone who cannot be here.**)*

***Sung Response: "You Bless Me (Thank You)"**

Cheryl C.

God's Word Is Proclaimed

Old Testament Reading: Gen 32:22-32 (Common English Bible) *Pete W*
page 30 in the pew Bible (NRSV), page 40 (CEB)

Jacob got up during the night, took his two wives, his two women servants, and his eleven sons, and crossed the Jabbok River's shallow water. He took them and everything that belonged to him, and he helped them cross the river. But Jacob stayed apart by himself, and a man wrestled with him until dawn broke. When the man saw that he couldn't defeat Jacob, he grabbed Jacob's thigh and tore a muscle in Jacob's thigh as he wrestled with him. The man said, "Let me go because the dawn is breaking."

But Jacob said, "I won't let you go until you bless me."

He said to Jacob, "What's your name?" and he said, "Jacob." Then he said, "Your name won't be Jacob any longer, but Israel, because you struggled with God and with men and won."

Jacob also asked and said, "Tell me your name."

But he said, "Why do you ask for my name?" and he blessed Jacob there. Jacob named the place Peniel, "because I've seen God face-to-face, and my life has been saved." The sun rose as Jacob passed Peniel, limping because of his thigh. Therefore, Israelites don't eat the tendon attached to the thigh muscle to this day, because he grabbed Jacob's thigh muscle at the tendon.

Gospel Reading: Romans 7:18-25 (Common English Bible)
page 157 in the pew Bible (NRSV), page 1376 (CEB)

I know that good doesn't live in me—that is, in my body. The desire to do good is inside of me, but I can't do it. I don't do the good that I want to do, but I do the evil that I don't want to do. But if I do the very thing that I don't want to do, then I'm not the one doing it anymore. Instead, it is sin that lives in me that is doing it.

So I find that, as a rule, when I want to do what is good, evil is right there with me. I gladly agree with the Law on the inside, but I see a different law at work in my

body. It wages a war against the law of my mind and takes me prisoner with the law of sin that is in my body. I'm a miserable human being. Who will deliver me from this dead corpse? Thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then I'm a slave to God's Law in my mind, but I'm a slave to sin's law in my body.

Children's Time

Jennifer Zander

HYMN: "In Christ Alone"

Cheryl C.

Sermon: "All Star Wrestling"

Chaplain Darren Beachy

We Respond to God's Word

The Practice of Gratitude

In response to God's Word and remembering all things come from God, we offer with thanks a portion of that which God has entrusted to us. The ushers will collect God's tithes and our offerings. For those who have given in other forms, there are cards in the pew racks that you may use as a tangible action of gratitude to God. No matter what we return to God in material forms, may we spiritually place our hearts, and our very lives, in God's hands, to be re-shaped for ministry in Christ, furthering God's kingdom here on earth.

Offering Music:

"Morning Mood" (from Peer Gynt Suite, No. 1, Op. 46) by Edvard Grieg

Evelyn S., organist

***Offertory:** GTG 647 "Give Thanks"

Cheryl C.

***Offertory Prayer**

Prayers of the People

Alivia A.* (Tillie S. Family)	Jesse F.	Paige T.
Arnold L.	Joyce J.	Pass Family*
Avril N* (Pretorius' friend)	Kathy A.* (Kevin B sister)	Pat D.
Bob & Ollive B.	Laurie C.	Pat M.* (Bonnie H sister)
Brian C.	Liam A.	Paul W.
Brian M* (friend of Les M.)	Lindsay* (Bill/Mary daughter)	Pete D.
Chastity G. & Joan S.	Lynn M.	Qualine S.* (Jodi A mom)
Corinne C.	Marie L.	Rod M.* (Mary/Dan R friend)
Dick* (Laurie C uncle)	Mark M.* (Cheryl W BIL)	Sherry M.
Elias B.* (Laurie C grandson)	Mary C-A.*	Steven B* (Kevin B nephew)
Gib D.	Mike A.* (Kristina A. BIL)	Susan K.
Jack K.* (Jolene S BIL)	Mike F.	
James P.* (Ruth P. friend)	Mike P.	

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.
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who have sinned against us.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.
Amen.**

***Sung response: "You Bless Me (Thank You)"**

***Taking the Light of Christ into the World**

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude: "Crimson Rhapsody" by Timothy Brown

Anne F., guest pianist

Today's Guest Musician: Kristina Arellano

Kristina Arellano was born and raised in Fond du Lac. She has a B.A. in Church Music from North Central University and an M.A. in Ethnomusicology, with an emphasis on global worship, from Bethel University. She owns a private teaching studio called Paige School of Music and is about to publish her own piano method called *The Dynamic Pianist*. In addition to teaching, Kristina has accompanied for a variety of groups including churches, schools, weddings, choirs, and small ensembles.

While the Personnel Team is searching for our next Music and Worship Director, we are blessed to have several musicians filling in. Please welcome each one of them as we experience a variety of music leadership styles God is providing through them.

Today's Pulpit Supply: Darren Beachy

Darren Beachy, was Born and raised in Iowa, he is 1 of 4 boys. He worked as an auto mechanic for his dad before joining the US Navy at age 20. Married for 40 years, Darren and his wife Dede raised 3 girls and are now proud grandparents of 2 grandsons, Lincoln and Nico. For the past 30 years Darren has been in spiritual care first as a pastor and then as a hospital chaplain for the past 14 years. Fun fact: At the age of 20, Darren climbed Mt Fuji in Japan

Pastor Craig will be back in the office from continuing education tomorrow. The continuing education is a retreat as part of the Siebert Missional Leadership Cohort Pastor Craig was invited to join through Luther Seminary. Thank you to Dave Erickson and Evan Stark for covering pastoral needs during his time away.

Financial Giving and Gratitude

You can give online at www.fdlpresbyterian.org Giving page. (Click on 'Online Giving'.) You can also give by cash or check on Sunday morning, or by mail. We are so very thankful for your contributions that help us do God's work in our church and in our community.

WEEKLY STATISTICS FOR JULY 20, 2025

Individuals in Person: 78
Zoom Households: 0-Outside

<u>DATE</u>	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>NOTES</u>
07/20/2025	\$7851.55	Tithes/Offerings
	\$.00	Special Offerings
07/14- 07/18-2025	\$ 2950.00	Vanco Online "Tithes/Offerings"
	210.00	Vanco Special Offerings
	<hr/>	
	\$11,011.55	TOTAL INCOME FOR THE WEEK

GETTING CONNECTED:

Office Phone 920.922.0425

Website

www.fdlpresbyterian.org

Breeze Subdomain: FDLFirstPresb

Facebook [First Presbyterian Church, Fond du Lac](https://www.facebook.com/FirstPresbyterianChurchFondDuLac)

YouTube [First Presbyterian Church, Fond du Lac](https://www.youtube.com/FirstPresbyterianChurchFondDuLac)

Deacon of the Month: Kay Mullins

Elder of the Month: Todd Hayes

STAFF:

Rev. Dr. Craig R. Alwin

pastor@fdlpresbyterian.org

Jennifer Zander

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Mary Robotka

mrobotka@fdlpresbyterian.org

Tillie Statezny

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This Week

Sunday

9:00-10:15am

10:15-11:15am

10:15-11:15am

July 27

Worship in the Sanctuary

Fellowship Time in the Fellowship Hall

Growing Connections-Breeze, New Logo, New Website

Monday

1:00-2:30pm

4:00-6:00pm

July 28

Staff Meeting in the Office

Loaves and Fishes at Church of Peace

Tuesday

1:00-2:00pm

July 29

Loving Team Meeting in the Parlor

Wednesday

8:00-9:00am

July 30

Men's Breakfast at Pump & Pantry

Saturday

9:00-3:00pm

August 2

Officer (Elder/Deacon) Training

Sunday

9:00-10:15am

10:15-11:15am

10:15-11:15am

11:00am

6:00-7:30pm

August 3

Worship in the Sanctuary

Growing Connections-Sermon Discussion in the Parlor

Fellowship Time in the Fellowship Hall

Church Picnic

Boy Scout Committee Meeting and Troop Meeting

Looking Ahead

Loaves and Fishes

Church Picnic

Organ Recital-First Presbyterian Church-Henry Hayes

July 28 4-6pm

Aug 3 11:00am

Aug 14 12:15pm