

Fall Presbytery Meeting

First Presbyterian Church of Moorhead, MN

Joyfully Living Into Our Calling

Led by: Pastor Jamie Norstog and Rev. Ruth Sanders

Pianist: Joni Lordemann

GATHERED IN JOY

PRELUDE *Dr. Albina Khaliapova and Dr. Eduard Tergulov*

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION TO WORSHIP

+CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Leader: We come with different gifts, different stories,
different callings.

People: *Yet the same Spirit has gathered us here.*

Leader: Some know exactly where God is calling. Some are
still listening.

People: *Still, God has given each of us something to offer.*

Leader: So come—not because the work is always easy, but
because God is faithful.

People: *We will serve the Lord with gladness and rejoice in
hope.*

Leader: Come, let us worship the God who calls us.

People: *And let us answer with joy.*

+OPENING HYMN Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee **611**

+PASSING OF THE PEACE

CALL TO CONFESSION

God has given each of us gifts, yet we compare them, dismiss them, or hold them back. God calls us to serve yet sometimes fear speaks louder than joy. Still, God meets us with grace—not demanding perfection but inviting faithfulness. Trusting in that grace, let us confess together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Gracious God, you have given us gifts, and too often we wish we had someone else's. You call us to serve, and we convince ourselves that what we offer is too small, or that someone else could do it better. Sometimes we serve without joy, forgetting why we said yes in the first place. Forgive us. Free us from comparison, fear, and weariness. Help us recognize the gifts you have placed within us, the gifts you have placed within one another, and the joy that comes when we offer them together. Call us again, Lord. And give us the courage to say yes. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Responsive)

Hear the good news: God does not wait for us to get everything right before calling us again. Grace meets us in our fear, our weariness, and our uncertainty. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and set free to begin again with JOY. Friends, believe the good news: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

GIFTED AND CALLED

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (Unison)

Holy Spirit, you have given each of us gifts, and you are still calling us to use them. As your Word is read, quiet the voices that tell us who we should be, so we might hear who you are calling us to be. Open our hearts. Stir our imaginations. And give us joy for the work you place before us. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Nehemiah 8: 9-12

PSALM READING Psalm 100

EPISTLE READING Romans 12:4-8, 11-12

SERMON/CONVERSATION

Serve the Lord Joyfully

+HYMN OF CONTEMPLATION Take My Life **697**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Leader: What do we believe?

People: **We believe in the God who creates us, calls us, and gives us gifts to share.**

Leader: What do we believe about our calling?

People: **We believe no gift is too small, no calling insignificant, and no faithful act wasted in the hands of God.**

Leader: How then shall we live?

People: **We will follow Jesus Christ, trusting the Spirit to lead us. We will offer what we have, make room for the gifts of others, and serve the Lord with joy.**

Leader: And when the way is difficult?

People: **We will rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer, and trust that God is still at work.**

All: **We are gifted. We are called. We are not alone.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

+HYMN OF RESPONSE I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me 700

FED FOR SERVICE

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer (*debts/debtors*)

Words of Institution

Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup

Communion

Prayer After Communion

SENT IN JOY

SPECIAL MUSIC *The Heather and Thistle Pipes and Drums*

+BLESSING & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *The Heather and Thistle Pipes and Drums*

WELCOME

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2026

THE JOY OF THE LORD IS OUR STRENGTH

SERVE THE LORD

Joyfully



Presbytery of the Northern Plains