

ORDER OF WORSHIP | NOVEMBER 22, 2026 | THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

First Rochester | An American Baptist Church | www.rochesterfbc.org

Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon, senior pastor | Rev. Katie Jo Suddaby, assistant pastor
Jessica Irfan, CE Coordinator | Carl Galland, music director | Samuel Baker, organist
Naomi Chad, soprano; Paige Robinson, alto; Jonathan Ellwanger, tenor; Kit Chan, bass

Order of Worship

Feel free to use any gender-neutral language in hymns or responses.

Prelude *Thanksgiving* arr. Charles Callahan
(We Gather Together and *Now Thank We All Our God)*

Chiming of the Hour

For Meditation: *I love thee to the depth, and breadth and height*
Excerpt of a sonnet, *"Let me Count the Ways,"* by Elizabeth Barrett Browning

Music for Meditation *Thanks Be to Thee* G. F. Handel,
First Rochester Choir arr. Channing Lefebvre

Welcome and Prayer Carol Misra

Invitation To Worship

One: This is the day that the Lord has made.
All: We turn to each other and to the worship of God.
One: This is another day to give God thanks and praise.
All: We worship our great God together with voice and spirit.
One: We come with hearts full of gratitude and love.
All: Thanks be to God.

*Hymn *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* #721

Scripture *Psalm 46* Carol Misra

Morning Prayer, sharing our joys and concerns
with the First Nations Version** of the Lord's Prayer **see next page

O Great Spirit, our Father from above, we honor your name as sacred and holy.

Bring your good road to us, where the beauty of your ways in the spirit-world above is reflected in the earth below.

Provide for us day by day - the elk, the buffalo, and the salmon; the corn, the squash, and the wild rice. All the things we need each day.

Release us from the things we have done wrong, in the same way we release others for the things done wrong to us.

Guide us away from the things that tempt us to stray from your good road, and set us free from the evil one and his worthless ways.

Aho! May it be so!

(First Nations Version: An Indigenous Translation of the New Testament, Downer's Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2021)

*if able, please stand

Special Music *Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life* Harold Friedell
First Rochester Choir

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life!
Such a Way as gives us breath,
Such a Truth as ends all strife,
Such a Life as killeth death.

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength!
Such a Light as shows a feast,
Such a Feast as mends in length,
Such a Strength as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart!
Such a Joy as none can move,
Such a Love as none can part,
Such a Heart as joys in love.

Children's Time Pastor Joanne

The Spirit In Me Anonymous,
Andrea Tao, directing; Carl Galland, piano arr. Cynthia

*Hymn *For The Fruit of All Creation* #723

Scripture and Prayer *Romans 5:1-11 and I Thessalonians 5:16-18*

Sermon *"How do I love you, let me count the ways!"* Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon

Giving our Gifts to God and Dedication of Gifts and Pledges

Music for Response *Now Thank We All Our God* arr. Paul Manz

Doxology *Praise God*

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, the heavenly host;
Creator, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Invitation to Mission and Ministry

*Closing Hymn *Praise and Thanksgiving* #722

Benediction

Postlude *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* arr. Charles Callahan

**The dynamic equivalent translation of the Christian Scriptures imagines how these sacred texts might speak if they were being told in the tradition of the indigenous storytellers using the practices of oral cultures. Created by the Translation Council, made up of a group of Native North Americans, diverse in tribal affiliations, age, gender, and denomination, the First Nations Version seeks a faithful rendering of the original text through the cultural lens of Native Americans. It is an invitation to see how God is still speaking in ancient and traditional ways at the intersections of sacred scripture and indigenous spirituality, experiences, and storytelling. Our church and surrounding area sits upon the ancestral lands of the Seneca Nation of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy.

***if able, please stand**

INVITATION TO MISSION AND MINISTRY

We welcome you to First Rochester, regardless of race, class, gender, physical challenge, place of origin, or sexual orientation. If you're new with us, please fill out the connection card found in your pew and drop it in the offering plate. You may also make a prayer request on the reverse side. We look forward to getting to know you better and praying with you.

Today:

- Thank you for singing in worship today, First Rochester Choir! Our choir rehearses on most Sundays at 9:15 AM. If you would like join the choir regularly or sing in this year's Musical Advent Service, you are welcome to join us.
- Thank you to our children for singing in worship this morning. They will leave worship following the Children's Time. There will also be Children's Choir during Second Hour.
- Thank you to the many volunteers who make our Sunday programs work.
- Immediately following worship, we will have a time of Fellowship in the Garden Room, adjacent to the sanctuary, where you will find treats and conversation.
- In Second Hour today, you are invited to stay for a brainstorming group about the future of the church. As was mentioned in the October 25 discussion, our current financial practices are not sustainable for the long term. We have time to adjust and rethink how we spend, but we need everyone's expertise and ideas to do it! Please join us for a discussion with your pastors. This will be the first of many future planning groups. We can't wait to hear your ideas!

Upcoming Events:

- No Wednesday Study this week due to Thanksgiving. Join us in December for a 3-week Advent series on December 2, 9, and 16. This series will be held on Zoom at 6 PM.
- OWLS (Older Wiser Learning Seniors) will not meet on November 26, Thanksgiving Day. We will see you in December! .
- Mark your calendars for First Rochester Choir's Musical Advent Service on Sunday, December 6. Our children are preparing to lead us in worship on Sunday, December 13. You won't want to miss both of these special Advent Sundays!
- Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be held on Thursday, December 24 at 5:00 PM.

Giving:

- On Communion Sunday, the first Sunday of the month, December 6, is when we accept canned pasta with meat and jellies for the Center for Youth's Food Nook. Since July of 2025, we have donated **919** to the youth at risk and in need that the Center serves.
- The STAR program gifts for children served by Cameron Community are on the tree with only a few left. We need these gifts returned by Sunday, December 6. We will accept your donations of wrapping paper, large gift bags, tissue paper, and tape that you may place under the Giving Tree. Gift wrapping will be done that Sunday.
- There are just 3 more Sundays left to receive your hat, scarf, mittens, or gloves donation to decorate the Giving Tree for Cameron Community to be delivered after Sunday, Dec. 13.
- Our next 5th Sunday Mission Project will be on November 29, when we will pack cold weather kits for the Street Ministries of Cameron Community and House of Mercy.

Sign-ups in the Garden Room:

- Sign-ups are available in the Garden Room for December Readers, Ushers, and Fellowship.

Upcoming Meetings:

- Mission Meeting: 3rd Sunday of the month. Watch for details about a December meeting.
- Trustees will meet one week early next month on December 14 on Zoom at 6 PM.
- Council is currently **not** scheduled to meet in December. Watch your emails to see if a meeting is necessary. If one is, it will be held on Zoom on the 3rd Tuesday.