



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
Ann Arbor | Michigan

FIFTH SUNDAY of EASTER
April 28, 2024 • 9:30 AM



Philip Catechizes the Ethiopian Eunuch

detail from a window in Exeter College Chapel, Oxford, England; Vanderbilt Divinity Library

1432 Washtenaw Ave, Ann Arbor, MI 48104
firstpresbyterian.org

FIFTH SUNDAY *of* EASTER

April 28, 2024 • 9:30 AM

* Please rise in body or spirit when you see this symbol,
and join in singing or reading aloud text in **bold**.

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY *Le P'ing* arr. Betty Garee
 Sanctus Ringers
 Sonia Lee, Violin and Judith Vander Weg, Cello

POURING of the WATER

WELCOME and LIFE IN THE CHURCH

FAITH in ACTION

* CALL to WORSHIP

Keep watch, cherished siblings.
God draws near!

The hope that left with Jesus' death has returned in glory with His resurrection!
God's love for us is constant, immovable, ever-present.

In the company of strangers and friends, with churches near and far,
and the witness of innumerable saints by our sides,
Let us draw near to God in worship.

* HYMN 366 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* HYFRYDOL

CALL to CONFESSION

PRAYER of CONFESSION

Conversational God, you speak to us through your word, the people around us, and through all of creation. Forgive us for not responding to what you say. Forgive us when we shortchange small conversations and zone out during long ones. Forgive us for feeling like we don't have anything meaningful to contribute. By your grace, Lord, make us present to the conversation of faith, responsive to how the Spirit pushes us, and attentive to what others have to say...

SILENT PRAYER

KYRIE

LAND OF REST



Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.



Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

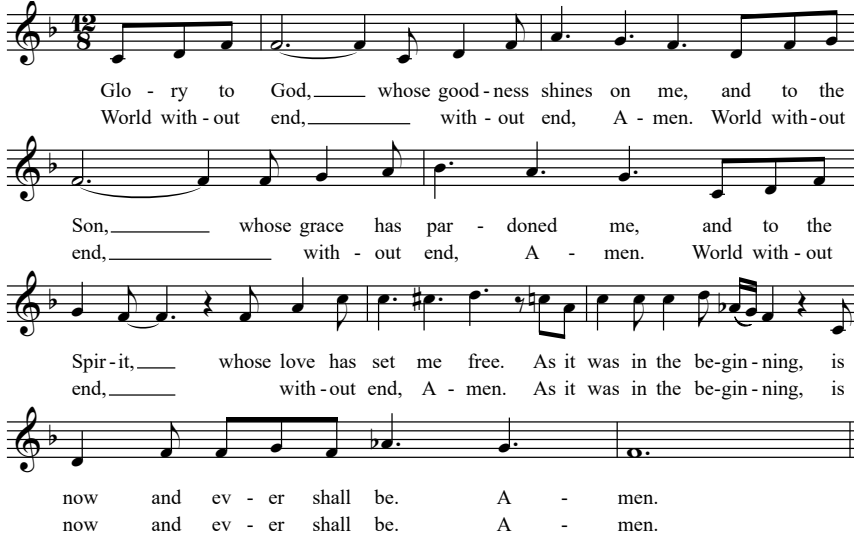
ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

* PASSING of the PEACE

You are invited to share signs with one another of the peace we experience as God's people. Greet one another saying, "The peace of Christ be with you," and respond, "And also with you."

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Paul M. Vasile



Glo - ry to God, _____ whose good - ness shines on me, and to the
World with - out end, _____ with - out end, A - men. World with - out
Son, _____ whose grace has par - doned me, and to the
end, _____ with - out end, A - men. World with - out
Spir - it, _____ whose love has set me free. As it was in the be - gin - ning, is
end, _____ with - out end, A - men. As it was in the be - gin - ning, is
now and ev - er shall be. A - men.
now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

PROCLAIMING *the* WORD

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

John 15:1-8

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A CONVERSATION with YOUNG DISCIPLES

Please join in singing as the children come forward.

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 8:26-40

The grass withers, the flower fades;

The word of the Lord endures forever.

SERMON

RESPONDING

* HYMN 316

Where Charity and Love Prevail

TWENTY-FOURTH

OFFERING of TITHES and GIFTS

Elementary-age children may attend Faith Formation classes on the Third Level following the Conversations with Young Disciples. Children are dismissed from their classrooms at the end of worship.

Ways to give:
Cash/Check
Place in the offering
plate or in the mail

Text-to-Give
Text the amount
you would like to
give to
855-904-1523

Online
[firstpresbyterian/
contribute](https://firstpresbyterian/contribute)

Vanco Mobile App



OFFERTORY

I Am the Vine

Alfred Fedak

Chancel Choir and Benton DeGroot, Soloist

O my people, O my church, what have I done to you?
How have I offended you? Answer me.
What could I have done that I have not done?
I planted you, my chosen vineyard;
I made you the branches of my vine.
But you yielded only bitterness.
When I was thirsty you gave me vinegar to drink.
And you pierced with a spear the side of your Savior.
Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy on us.
I am the vine, you are the branches.
Apart from me you can bear no fruit.
I am the vine, you are the branches,
Abide in me, and I will abide in you,
And you shall bear much fruit.
You are the vine, we are the branches,
Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us.
By this the Maker is glorified, so be my disciples.
As the Maker has loved me, so I love you.
Abide in my love, we will abide in Thy love.

* DOXOLOGY

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God above ye heavenly host.
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

* PRAYER of DEDICATION

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE and 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; and forgive us our debts, as we
forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver
us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the
glory, forever. Amen.**

SENDING

* HYMN 712 *As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought* LAND OF REST

* CHARGE and BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Toccata on HYFRYDOL

Thomas M. Kuras



*The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God to celebrate the ministry of
Rev. Hannah Lundberg who has served faithfully and well among us.
We bid her farewell today and look forward to today's Social Hour honoring
her and hearing more about her future plans.*

Music copyrights:
All music is
reprinted under
OneLicense.net
A-720542 and
under
CCLI license
#20971309. All
rights reserved.

WELCOME

Welcome to First. We Are Glad You Are Here!

New to First Pres?

We are so thankful that you have joined us today for worship. We would love to get to know you and help you get to know us. **Please sign the Friendship Pad.** The pads are located at the end of each pew. Sign it then pass it down to others.

Prayer

If you would like someone to pray with you, stop by Hillegonds Chapel after the service. Elders, Deacons, and Stephen Ministers are always there to assist those seeking prayer. Today's prayer partner is Nancy Oliver.

Childcare

Childcare is available for ages 5 and younger on the First Level. Children are always welcome to stay with their families during worship. Children's Bibles may be found in the pew and children's resources can be found in the narthex.

FAITH IN ACTION

School Supplies for the Philippines

For more than 25 years, members of First Pres have been involved in a Philippines mission project. They have built homes with local Filipinos and Habitat for Humanity. They have rescued and recycled discarded school supplies and books from local schools and shipped them to schools in the Philippines.

You can join this mission project in this, its last, year. If you own a pickup truck and are willing to transport donations from one of the schools any day June 3-14, email or call Ginny Rezmierski at 971-6221 or ver@umich.edu.

If you can count books, sort pens, crayons, pencils etc. join us at the Rezmierski garage for packing from 9:00-4:00 on Friday, June 28 and/or Saturday, June 29. All levels of ability and endurance are very much needed and welcome. Fellowship and joy are free.

LEADING IN WORSHIP

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Nathaniel Fryer, *Resident Minister*
Tommy Langejans, *Resident Minister*
Hannah Lundberg, *Transitional Pastor for RM*
Melissa Anne Rogers, *Associate Pastor*
Paula Thompson, *Lay Reader*
Ginny Rezmierski, *Faith in Action*

MUSICIANS

Chancel Choir
Sanctus Ringers
David Hufford, *Organist*
David VanderMeer, *Minister of Music & Fine Arts*

USHERS

Beth Gerwig
Delena Harrison
Dave Keil
The Majorprice Family
Mary Schudel
Carol Smith
Paul Smith
Pat Tamblyn
Angela Yang
Barbara Mueller, *Welcome Center*

TODAY AT FIRST

SUNDAY OFFERINGS

8:30 AM

**Contemplative
Communion
Service**
Monteith Hall

9:30 AM

Worship
Sanctuary &
Livestream

9:30 AM

**Children &
Youth Faith
Formation**

10:30 AM

Social Hour
Social Hall

10:45 AM

**Lemon Chapel
Singers (K-8 gr.)**
Lemon Chapel

11:00 AM

**Adult Faith
Formation**
Classrooms

11:15 AM

Worship
Monteith Hall

5:00 PM

**An Evening
with Irene
Butter**
Social Hall/
Sanctuary

7:00 PM

**Small Group
Bible Study**
offsite

CHILDREN & YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

Kindergarten & First Grade

9:30 am | Room 302

Children learn the Bible through a story-based curriculum. This week, they'll learn the story of "The Mustard Seed."

Second & Third Grade

9:30 AM | Room 303

Fourth & Fifth Grade

9:30 am | Room 304

Our 2nd through 5th graders are studying our last unit of the program year, The Body of Christ. Our lesson this week is "God's Gift of Love," based on 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 (p. 308 in the *Growing in God's Love Storybook*).

Middle School Youth (6th - 8th Grade)

9:30 am | Lower Level

Students use the same scripture passages used in worship to explore how they might speak to us in our lives today. There is art, games, and donuts.

SOCIAL HOUR

Fair Trade Coffee Sales during Social Hour

10:30 am | Social Hall

Since 2014, First Pres has participated in the Presbyterian Coffee Project, a partnership between the PCUSA and Equal Exchange, a worker-owned co-operative offering 100% fairly traded organic coffee. When you buy a bag of Fair Trade coffee at Social Hour, you not only support the coffee growers around the world, you also help the church financially for its many activities where coffee is served. Fair Trade Coffee sales are offered September through May during Social Hour. Stock up now for your summer coffee needs. (Remember, iced coffee is delicious too!) Fair Trade Coffee is also available for sale all year in the Welcome Center during office hours.

Farewell Reception for Rev. Hannah Lundberg

10:30 AM | Social Hall

Rev. Hannah Lundberg's tenure as our Transitional Pastor for Resident Ministry is coming to an end. Join us after worship to celebrate Hannah's ministry among us.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

EXPLORING THE FAITH

Exploring the Lived Impact of the Holocaust on the Second Generation

11:00 AM | Lewis Room

From the compelling collection of their recently published and award-winning book, *The Ones Who Remember: Second-Generation Voices of the Holocaust*, Rita Benn and Natalie Iglewitz will read excerpts highlighting the gifts and challenges growing up in the shadow of this history.

THE FIRST FRIENDS CLASS WILL JOIN THE EXPLORING THE FAITH CLASS THIS SUNDAY

BIBLE AT 11 O'CLOCK

New Testament: Epistles of John

11:00 AM | French Room & Zoom

Host: Ed Koster

Fast Track to Membership

11:15 AM | Pastor's Study

Interested in joining the church? Join our Fast Track to Membership class today in the Pastor's Study. Contact Mel Rogers for more information, mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org.

An Evening with Irene Butter

5:00 PM | Supper | Social Hall

6:00 PM | Presentation | Sanctuary

Join us for a presentation by Holocaust survivor, Irene Butter, as she shares her powerful story. This presentation is geared

toward young people and is recommended for 5th graders and older. A light supper will be offered at 5 pm in the Social Hall and a presentation at 6 pm in the Sanctuary. Childcare is available for children 4th grade and younger.

Young Adult Game Night

Young adults will not meet for their monthly game night tonight, as it conflicts with the upcoming Irene Butter panel. Game night has been moved to next week (5/5) at the same time and place (6-7:30pm in the Vance room).

Small Group Bible Study

7:00 - 9:00 PM | Chris Wahl's home

Open to all. Contact Chris Wahl, cgwahl@umich.edu.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Music & Fine Arts Summer Camp

July 29 - August 2

9:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Get ready for an unforgettable week filled with music, art, and endless fun at our Music & Fine Arts Summer Camp! Camp will run from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM July 29 through August 2. Reserve your spot today at firstpresbyterian.org.

Honoring Graduates

Graduation time is here! If you or your family member will be graduating this spring, please let us know so that we may honor our grads in the June 9 bulletin. To submit the name and photo, complete the online form at firstpresbyterian.org.

MATURE MINISTRIES

LUNCH AND LEARN

Stopping Climate Change:

A Citizen's Guide to Actions

Thursday, May 9

12 PM | Social Hall

Our guest speaker will be Mary Garton, a volunteer with the Ann Arbor chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby. She will share ways to handle one's own climate anxiety and work towards viable solutions.

WORSHIP

Taizé

Tuesday, May 7

7:00 PM | Monteith Hall

We invite you to a moment of tranquil reflection at our upcoming Taizé Prayer Service on May 7. As part of Mental Health Awareness, this month's service will be a wholeness and healing service. Join us as we center our hearts, quiet our minds, and connect with the divine in a gentle, meditative way.

Ordination of Nathaniel Fryer

Sunday, May 19


3:00 PM | Sanctuary


The Presbytery of Detroit and First Presbyterian invite you to joyfully celebrate the ordination of Nathaniel Fryer as Minister of Word and Sacrament on Sunday, May 19. A reception will follow in the Social Hall.



Scan with your phone
to visit our website

First Presbyterian Church

1432 Washtenaw Avenue 
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

734 · 662 · 4466 

info@firstpresbyterian.org 

firstpresbyterian.org 

Follow us   