



Large-print bulletin are available in the Narthex.

TWELFTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST August 20, 2023 • 9:30 a.m.

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

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Hymn Sing

POURING OF THE WATER

WELCOME and LIFE IN THE CHURCH

FAITH IN ACTION

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Let all who long for salvation come find each other.

Deliverance will lead us out from under evil's hand.

In the days of liberation, there will be a holy transformation.

Material and lasting, the world will breathe anew.

May the struggling be lifted.

May the powerful repent.

A righteous reckoning is close at hand.

May God help us to be faithful.

* HYMN 372

O for a World

AZMON

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of particularity, you know us intimately and honestly. As individuals, as communities, as people with histories different and shared, you do not always call us down the same paths. Teach us how to reckon with a freedom that is not one size fits all. Meet us in all our specific privileges and powers, gifts and liabilities. That we may find our way and support one another....

SILENCE



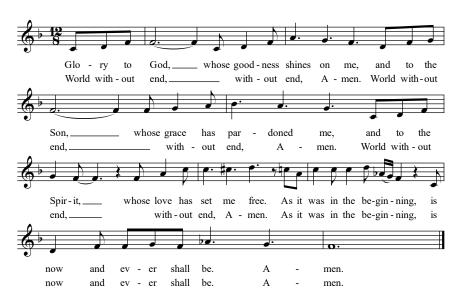
ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

* 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

GLORY TO GOD



PROCLAIMING the WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 133

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

Matthew 15:10-20, 21-28

The grass withers, the flower fades;

The word of the Lord endures forever.

SERMON

Worship LAB is

a place where children explore the flow of worship through multisensory experiences. Children ages 5 through 5th grade are invited to join in Worship Lab each week.

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

https://bit.ly/FPCvanco

Vanco Mobile App



RESPONDING

* HYMN 436

O QUANTA QUALIA

OLD HUNDREDTH

God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY Hine Ma Tov arr. Neil Ginsberg Choral Ensemble and Brandon LePage, Flute

Hine ma tov uma naim shevet achim gam yachad. Lai. How good it is and how pleasant for people to dwell together.

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

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 756

O God of Every Nation

LLANGLOFFAN

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Please be seated for the Closing Voluntary.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

J. S. Bach

Vivace, Trio Sonata No. 2, BWV 526

4 4 4

The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Susan Rose Reynolds by her family who will always miss and cherish her. First Pres is grateful for the Susan Rose Reynolds Pilgrimage Fund which helps financially support members and friends undertaking spiritual pilgrimage. Susie was a treasured member of the 2013, 2016, and 2018 pilgrimages to the Community of Iona, Scotland, and the Camino de Santiago in Spain and Portugal.

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^{*} Prayer of Dedication

WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE HERE!

WELCOME TO FIRST PRES

We are so thankful that you have joined us today for Worship. If you are looking for a church to grow in your faith, you are welcome here at First Pres! We look forward to personally meeting you. **Please let us know you were here** by signing the Friendship Pad in the pew, then passing 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.

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

Children ages 5 through 5th grade are invited to Worship LAB — a multi-sensory worship experience just for them held during 9:30 a.m. worship. Children are dismissed after the Conversation with Young Disciples and return to the Sanctuary before the worship service concludes. Childcare is available for ages 5 and younger on the First Level during the worship service. Children are always welcome to stay with their families during worship.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. David Prentice-Hyers Rev. Hannah Lundberg

Rev. Mark Mares

Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers

Rev. Jay Sanderford

Lector Will Wood

Faith in Action Al Beery

Musicians

Choral Ensemble

Brandon LePage, Flute

Organist

David Hufford

Minister of Music & Fine Arts

David VanderMeer

Ushers

Joe Schmidt, Captain

Pam Ehrhart

Greeters

Catherine Kendall Dawn Pankopf John Pankopf

NEWS & EVENTS

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

Huron River Tubing

Sunday, August 20

2:00 pm

High school youth are invited to join us for an epic adventure on the Huron River with tubing on Saturday, August 20, at 2 pm. And guess what? It's absolutely FREE!

Blessing of the Backpacks

Sunday, August 27 9:30 a.m. Worship

August is here! For many that means school is just around the corner! Here at First Pres, on Sunday, August 27, we want to celebrate and bless the beginning of another school year. Students are encouraged to bring their school backpacks to church to receive the blessing during the 9:30 a.m. worship service.

Tailgate @ First

Friday, September 8 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Get ready to kick off the ultimate pre-game party at First Presbyterian on Friday, September 8! Join us for an electrifying tailgate extravaganza from 5 to 7 pm.

Faith Formation

We are looking forward to our 2023-24 Children and Youth Faith Formation classes and Youth Group program year beginning on Sunday, September 10. If you are interested in serving as a Faith Formation teacher for our children this year, reach out to Rev. Mark Mares, mmares@firstpresbyterian.org.

Join Our Team

We are seeking a part-time (20 hrs/week) Coordinator of Children and Family Ministries. The Coordinator provides faith formation leadership, training, coordination, and support for children (birth through fifth grade), families, and volunteers. If you or someone you know is interested, apply online at firstpresbyterian.org.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Stephen Ministry's Recommended Reading

A new book has arrived in the Stephen Ministry Library- *Bitter Sweet*. Susan Cain, the author says, "The idea of transforming pain into creativity, transcendence, and love— is the heart of this book." Come in and check it out. The Stephen Ministry Library is located in Hillegonds Chapel.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Ice Cream Social

Sunday, August 27 11:00 a.m.

Join us for the fun-filled ice cream social on August 27! Come enjoy a sweet treat and socialize with others in the community. We'll have some vanilla, chocolate, and strawberry, along with the top three winners of the ice cream vote. We hope to see you there!

Engagement Fair

Sunday, September 10 10:30 a.m. | Social Hall

Mark your calendars for a celebration of our ministries. On September 10, we will host an Engagement Fair during Social Hour. Come find ways to use your gifts and talents to volunteer at First. Representatives from each ministry area will be present in the Social Hall to answer questions.

MISSION

Food Rescue Program

Our food rescue program from U of M football games begins September 2. Five or six volunteers are needed for each home game to help pick up the food and place it in a freezer at the stadium. It takes about two hours to collect, sort, and place the food in the walk-in freezer. The food collected at each game is donated to one of our local food ministry partners. Sign up online at firstpresbyterian.org. If you have questions, contact Don Redding at dredding58@yahoo.com



Alpha House Week of Service

August 28 - September 3

Our ministry with local mission partner Alpha House is an opportunity to support children and their parents who are experiencing homelessness. If you are interested in taking part during our next week of service, Monday, August 28 - Sunday, September 3, you may sign up either online or during Social Hour to help provide a meal or assist with child care.



Caring for Our Detroit Neighbors

Non-perishable food will be collected this morning for our monthly Communion Food Offering benefitting the Hunger Ministries Program of the Presbytery of Detroit, or you may drop off donations throughout the month in the Welcome Center. You may also give by check or online via the First Pres Monthly Food Offering.

MUSIC & FINE ARTS Chancel Choir Retreat

August 25-26

Join the Chancel Choir (High school - Adults) for their annual retreat on Friday and Saturday, August 25 - 26 in Monteith Hall. All are welcome! For more information, contact Dave VanderMeer, dvandermeer@fpca2.org



FALL KICKOFF

2023

September 10, 2023

- 8:30 a.m. Contemplative Communion Service
 - A short communion service with simple morning prayer liturgy and no music.
- 9:30 a.m. Worship

Worship in the Sanctuary that includes scripture, sermon, prayer, and choral and instrumental music. This service is live-streamed.

9:30 a.m. Children and Youth Faith Formation

Children move to classrooms with their teachers after the Conversation with Young Disciples during worship. Youth classes begin at 9:30 a.m.

10:30 a.m. Engagement Fair

Find ways to use your gifts and talents to volunteer. Representatives from each ministry area will be present in the Social Hall to answer questions.

10:45 a.m. Children's Choir

Children's Choir is open to students ages 5 through 5th grade and meets in Lemon Chapel from 10:45 to 11:15 a.m.

11:00 a.m. Adult Faith Formation

Adult formation classes meet from 11 to noon. Children and youth classes meet at 9:30 a.m.

11:15 a.m. Worship

Distinctly different from the 9:30 service, this 12-week season of worship will be experimental, creative, and participatory.

Childcare is available from 9:20 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.