

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

April 24, 2022 • 9:30 a.m.



Christ Shows Himself to Thomas
Rowan and Irene Le Compte

Please join in reading and singing those parts of the service printed in **bold**.

* When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit.

Soaring overhead again in our Sanctuary is a brilliantly hued representation of the prayers of the people.

Each flash of color is an origami crane. And inside each bird is written the name of a church member who was prayed for as the bird was folded. Yet the focus of this artwork is larger than any individual or congregation. The work – made up of over 3500 cranes – is a reminder that prayers for world peace are greatly needed.

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Fanfare

John Cook

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

FAITH IN ACTION

Pastor Nominating Committee

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: When Thomas touched the wounds of Jesus and set himself free,

All: it was Easter day.

One: When Peter's three yeses to Jesus finished his three denials,

All: it was Easter day.

One: When Mary, ready to embalm the dead,
ran in fear from the empty tomb,

All: it was Easter day.

One: When Emmaus became synonymous with welcome
and breaking bread with strangers,

All: it was Easter day.

One: When Paul was blinded by the light
and recognized the voice calling in his head,

All: it was Easter day.

All: When the hungry are fed at the same table as the rich,

All: it is Easter day.

One: When weapons are beaten to plowshares and peace is lived among us,

All: it is Easter day.

One: Every day is Easter Day.

All: We worship a resurrected Christ! Alleluia!

* HYMN 536

Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen

SURGE ECCLESIA

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the empty tomb and of our empty hearts, when we are afraid to speak our faith in the world, forgive us and help us find our voice. When we are afraid to forgive and to love again, forgive us and give us the power to forgive. When we are afraid to stand up to misguided authority, join us with the weak to make us all strong. When we are confined by our hurts, touch us with your wounded hands and set us free. When we are locked behind our doubts and fears, affirm us and open our hearts to a world bigger than we can imagine...

SILENT PRAYER

KYRIE



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.

This is Hymn 551: *Lord, Have Mercy* (LAND OF REST).

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

This is Hymn 587, *Alleluia* (CELTIC ALLELUIA).

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Acts 5:27–32

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING John 20:19–31

The grass withers, the flower fades;

the word of the Lord endures forever.

SERMON

This week's *Growing in God's Love Bible story*, *Thomas Wants to See*, is found on page 278.

RESPONDING

* HYMN 256

These Things Did Thomas Count as Real

KEDRON

During the Laying on of Shawls

you'll see the sacred ritual of blessing as our Confirmands are blessed with prayer shawls draped over them by their parents as they each hear the words, "you are a blessed child of God. Welcome to the family of faith and the membership of this church." These prayer shawls were knitted and held by the prayers of the Knit Night group here at First Pres.

Use these offertory moments to savor your gratitude for the abundance of God's love — and to consider your own response in loving service.

Ways to give:

click here:

<https://secure.myvanco.com/YM88/home>

or give via "Text-to-Give" (855-904-1523) ... use the Vanco Mobile app ... put a check in the mail ... or scan the QR code below.



PRESENTATION OF CONFIRMATION CLASS

The Confirmation Class of 2022 is presented. Members are Jacob Edwards, Cael Finnane, Jack German, Jamie Hollingsworth, Liam Phillips, Emma Schneidewind, and Aaron Wisniewski.

Questions of Confirmands

*Affirmation of Faith

One: Do you believe in God, the Father almighty?

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

One: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

All: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

One: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

All: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer

Laying on of Hands (Shawls) and Anointing

* 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."

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Offertory

Peace I Leave with You

Giacomo Perti

Chancel Choir

Peace I leave with you, my peace I leave with you.

Let not your heart be troubled; do not be afraid.

I am the way, the truth, the life.

My peace I give to you.

* 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 691** *Lord, When I Came into This Life* LAND OF REST

* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

* **BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

In the name of Jesus —
Let us Love...**with Open Hearts!**
Let us Learn...**with Open Minds!**
Let us Serve...**with Open Arms!**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY *Christ ist Erstanden* Herman Schroeder
Please be seated for the Closing Voluntary.

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WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

We are glad you are here! Please sign our Friendship Pad. If you are worshiping with us via YouTube, Facebook, or radio, please sign the pad on our website to let us know you are here.

The 9:30 worship service is broadcast on WAAM 1600 radio at 11:00 a.m.

Worship Leaders: Welcome – Melissa Anne Rogers; Liturgists – Evans McGowan, Mark Mares, Jay Sanderford, and Melissa Anne Rogers; Scripture Readers – Jamie Hollingsworth and Jack German; Children’s Message – Hannah Lundberg; Preachers – Megan Berry and Mark Mares; Musicians – Chancel Choir; Organist – David Hufford; Conductor – Dave VanderMeer; Ushers – Len Rezmierski (captain), Marolin Bellefleur, Beth Gerwig, Clem Gill, Keith Molin, Joe Schmidt, Dick and Elsa Stuber, and Angela Yang

Today is Confirmation Sunday, the day when our Confirmands are welcomed, celebrated, and affirmed in their faith. Confirmation is a milestone for these young folks that creates space for them to lean into their wonder and curiosity. Since September, these Confirmands (and their parents, as we held our first Parent/Adult Class this year) have met each Sunday to ask questions of faith, theology, and the world, participated in worship, served with our local mission partners, and participated in a retreat and other activities, all as we worked towards this moment. This year our confirmands wrote their very own 'Faith Expression' as a way to mark their journey so far. Please welcome these bright, compassionate, open-minded, and committed new members of First Pres.

Shawls for Confirmands were prayerfully made by these members of the Friday Knit Night group: Beth Caldwell, Heidi Dodson, Marilyn Gibson, Georgia Goodman, Cheryl Gulbranson, Prue Heikkinen, Sandy Herold, and Deb Lisull. Contact Prue Heikkinen (prueannarbor@gmail.com) to learn more about Knit Night.

Chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Graydon Krapohl by his wife Greta and daughter Grace; and in loving memory of Susan Rose Reynolds by her family who will always miss and cherish her.

A pink rosebud celebrates the birth of Otilia Merritt Upton, daughter of Thompson and Constance Upton, born March 25, 2022. Otilia is the granddaughter of Bill and Dusty Upton.

A pink rosebud celebrates the birth of Natalie Jayne Daniels, daughter of Catherine Pickard and Paul Daniels, born March 25, 2022. Natalie is the granddaughter of Lori and Bruce Pickard.

A red rosebud celebrates the birth of Theodore Lee Hazekamp, son of Laura and Nick Hazecamp, born April 6, 2022. Theodore is the grandson of Jim and Linda Cameron.

The prayer team is available for those desiring prayer in Hillegonds Chapel after the 9:30 service. Prayer team volunteers are Jeanette Kibler and Carolyn Schultz. "The ship of prayer may sail through all temptations, doubts and fears, straight up to the throne of God." – C. H. Spurgeon

Join us for Coffee Hour today in the Social Hall immediately following the Closing Voluntary.

Children's Choir rehearses at 10:45 a.m.

The Session has called a Special Meeting of the Congregation of First Presbyterian Church, Ann Arbor, for Sunday, May 1, 2022, at 10:30 a.m. (or at the end of the worship service) to present a call from the Pastor Nominating Committee for the sole candidate to become the Lead Pastor for First Presbyterian Church. The Congregational Meeting will occur at the conclusion of the 9:30 a.m. Worship Service that will feature a sermon by the candidate, and will be both in-person and via Zoom. Following the Congregational Meeting, there will be a reception to welcome the candidate.

"Evenings with Jenna" Bible Study meets this Thursday, April 21, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m., in the Curtis Room or Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84155918470>). This friendly and informal group, led by Jenna Mares, is open to ALL ...women, men, members, visitors! The discussion is always varied and lively. Contact Jenna for more information at (712) 299-1971 or jenna.harms66@gmail.com.

Ukrainian Appeal: Our Presbyterian response to the situation in Ukraine will include both financial and technical assistance as the network of faith communities providing humanitarian assistance grows in the months ahead. The needs for the response are great. God's people are called on to stand in the "GAP" – Give | Act | Pray: **Give:** Gifts may be made to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance through First Pres. Checks marked "Ukraine" may be placed in the offering plate on Sunday or mailed to First Pres. Give online here: <https://secure.myvanco.com/YM88/campaign/C-115MR>. **Act:** Send gifts. **Pray** for peace.

Our April donations and financial contributions support Community Action Network (CAN) of Washtenaw County. CAN envisions the closing of socio-economic gaps by providing educational and enrichment programs for children and teens, supportive services for families who are under-resourced, and challenging systems rooted in racism and inequality. Non-perishable food may be placed in the bin provided in the Social Hall on Sundays, Mondays – Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Fridays, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Financial gifts may be made by check or online. Donations will be coordinated by the Local Missions Team.

Help us continue to support dear friends abroad. We are collecting fabric again for our friends in the Philippines – men and women in the Dumaguete Habitat villages who are learning to sew. Light-weight fabrics of cotton and linen are preferred, a minimum of one yard in length. Collection boxes are in the Welcome Center until May 15. Send love by donating any unused fabric that you have stored or any new fabric that you might choose to purchase to donate. Questions? Call Harriet Brouwer: (734) 426-6908.

Join Mature Ministries (60+) as we prepare to prowl Toledo Zoo on May 3, departing First Pres at 8:30 a.m. and returning at 4:00 p.m. For our final bus trip of the spring, come with us for a private, behind-the-scenes tour of highlights from the wonderful Toledo Zoo. The Zoo will be closed to the public that day and only our First Pres seniors will have access to the park. We'll have lunch at the original Tony Packo's Café with a choice of four selections. Learn more on our website and sign up there, or call the Church Office! The cost is \$50 and scholarships are available. Note: This trip has been carefully designed to be walkable and enjoyable for seniors of all levels of ability.

Faith Formation Hour is at 11:00 a.m. There are classes for all ages. See our website for more information.

A special thanks to Katie Brown for leading our *Dare to See* weekend events, including time with our children today at 11:00 a.m., in the Social Hall. We also owe a debt of gratitude to Presbyterian Women for helping coordinate and plan the morning events, and to Dan Musser and Marlee Brown for hosting last evening's gathering.

Come one...come all...to a Katie Brown workshop at 11:00 a.m. this morning in the Social Hall. This special presentation of stories will be creatively illustrated through interactive art and conversation about how-to find God in the everyday that will encourage all to explore their own daily walk with faith.

For information about children's ministry, contact Beca Torres-Davenport, Coordinator of Children's and Family Ministries at btorres-davenport@firstpresbyterian.org.

For information about youth ministry, contact Rev. Mark Mares, Minister of Youth and Family Ministries, at mmares@firstpresbyterian.org.

First Friends meets in the Lewis Room to watch and discuss "Understanding the New Testament: Thessalonians and Paul's Ministry."

Exploring the Faith meets in the Social Hall to attend the Katie Brown *Dare to See* event.

Bible Study at 11 o'clock meets in the Curtis Room and via Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86117387186>).

Join us next Sunday, May 1, in the Social Hall, at 11:00 a.m., for the May First Sunday Event! We will be tying no-sew care blankets for palliative care patients at the U-M Cardiovascular Center.

Refugee Resettlement Update:

Donations of household goods to furnish an apartment for the refugee family First Pres will be co-sponsoring with Jewish Family Services in the coming months are now being accepted. View the list of needed items and sign up to donate here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0d4dadad29ab9-furniture>. Monetary donations are also welcome. Contact Rev. Lundberg (hlundberg@firstpresbyterian.org) if you have questions or would like to be involved further.

Please contact the Church Office to:

- order a First Pres name tag. Cost is \$9 for either clip or magnet style.
- request a baptism.
- inform us of any changes to your basic contact information.
- let us know if you are hospitalized.
- purchase a bag of Fair Trade coffee (\$12) for use at home to support the PC(USA) Coffee Project.
- sign up to sponsor Chancel Flowers in memory or in honor of a loved one. Cost is \$75.
- apply for a security device (fob). Cost is \$10.

The Men's Study Group meets on the first and third Friday mornings, 8:30–9:30 a.m., in the Curtis Room for coffee, study, and conversation. All meetings are hybrid with both in-person gatherings as well as via Zoom. All men are welcome! Questions? Contact Rev. Jay Sanderford, jsanderford@firstpresbyterian.org.

Journeys Bible Study is a women's group that meets via Zoom on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. A Resident Minister facilitates the discussion on a rotating basis. Contact Coordinator, Beth Gerwig, at bgerwig@comcast.net for more information.

Pastoral & Program Staff

Eric Banitt
Accompanist / Pianist

Rev. Megan Berry
Resident Minister

Barbara DeLancey
Parish Nurse

David Hufford
Organist

Rev. Hannah Lundberg
Resident Minister

Rev. Mark Mares
Minister of Youth & Families

Rev. Evans McGowan
Assistant Pastor of Faith Formation and Campus Ministries

Stacey Pakela
Parish Nurse

Shayla Powell
Children's Choir Director

Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers
Associate Pastor

Rev. Jay Sanderford
Associate Pastor

Beca Torres-Davenport
Coordinator of Children's & Family Ministry

David VanderMeer
Minister of Music & Fine Arts



Rev. Matthew J. Warfield
Resident Minister (In Memoriam)

Administrative Staff

Robin Agnew
Administrative Assistant

Nick Dibacco-Vaidya
Finance Assistant

Pat Gilbreath
Welcome Center Coordinator

Almer Harris
Maintenance Specialist

Brent Ivey
Technology Coordinator

Diane Knibbs
Administrative Assistant

Anna Miller
Finance Manager

Adrian Prundeanu
Facilities Manager

Linda Robinson
Church Operations Manager

195th
ANNIVERSARY

First Presbyterian Church Ann Arbor

1826-2021

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