

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JULY 11, 2021



Elijah's Prayer
Anneke Kaai



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Ann Arbor | Michigan

Making God's Love Visible

GATHERING

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Amazing Grace

arr. Sandra Eithun

Sanctus Ringers

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Sing, sing of God's unalterable love!

All: **We will rejoice as we walk in the light of our God.**

One: Tell everyone around you of God's faithfulness.

All: **We will share the stories of the One who experienced our life in all its fullness.**

One: Shout out loud of God's presence with us,
on this day and in all the days to come.

All: **Justice and goodness are God's gifts to us;
truth and love walk by our side.**

Let us lift up our voices in worship!

* HYMN 372

O for a World

AZMON

1 O for a world where ev - ery - one re - spects each oth - er's ways,
2 O for a world where goods are shared and mis - er - y re - lieved,
3 We wel - come one world fam - i - ly and strug - gle with each choice
4 The poor are rich; the weak are strong; the fool - ish ones are wise.
5 O for a world pre - par - ing for God's glo - rious reign of peace,
where love is lived and all is done with jus - tice and with praise.
where truth is spo - ken, chil - dren spared, e - qual - i - ty a - chieved.
that o - pens us to u - ni - ty and gives our vi - sion voice.
Tell all who mourn: out - casts be - long, who per - ish - es will rise.
where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

It seems so simple, God of compassion, to offer a cup of cold water to a thirsty person, yet it is much easier to just ignore them. We are to open our hearts to others, but we think, maybe another day when I have more time. People are looking for places to lay their heads, yet our spare bedrooms continue to be the place where only the dust settles.

Forgive us, Radical Hope. You did not have to become one of us, but you did, so we might know your love. You did not have to welcome us into your family, but you do, so we might experience unexpected grace in

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.

Call to worship:

The worship of God is the central purpose of the church. The primary focus of worship is not to inspire or motivate us (although we may be inspired and motivated) but to love God for God's sake. The call to worship, then, grabs our attention and beckons us to focus on God. It reminds us why God is praiseworthy and deserving of our worship.

our lives. You did not have to die for us, but in Jesus Christ you did, so we might have life with you forever.

SILENT PRAYER

KYRIE



Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy on us.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE



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 Matthew 10:40-42

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING 2 Kings 4:8-37

The grass withers, the flower fades; **the word of the Lord endures forever.**

SERMON

Everything Is Gonna Be Alright

Rev. Dr. Flo Barbee-Watkins

RESPONDING

* HYMN 201

A Prophet-Woman Broke a Jar

HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING

This hymn is found on the next page of this bulletin.

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

How Firm a Foundation
Benton DeGroot, soloist

arr. Richard Walters

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in God's excellent word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

Fear not I am with thee, oh be not dismayed,
For I am thy God and will still give thee aid.
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
Upheld by my righteous omnipotent hand.

When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose
I will not desert to its foes,
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never forsake.

* Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

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.

Use these offertory moments to savor your gratitude for the abundance of God's love — and to consider your own response in loving service. As you consider making your offering, remember that the church's regular expenses continue in these difficult times. And the community around us needs your financial support: your faithful giving is like the breath of life to mission programs we love, neighbors in need, members who are hurting. Thank you for your faithful generosity!

Ways to give: click online at our First Pres website ... via "Text-to-Give" (855-904-1523) ... online at our First Pres website use our Give+ app ... put a check in the mail ... or scan the QR code below.



1 A proph-et-wom - an broke a jar, by Love's di-vine ap -
 2 A faith-ful wom - an left a tomb by Love's di-vine com -
 3 Though wom - an - wis - don, wom-an-truth, for cen - tu - ries were
 4 The Spir - it knows; the Spir - it calls, by Love's di-vine or -

point - ing. With rare per-fume she filled the room, pre -
 mis - sion. She saw; she heard; she preached the Word, a -
 hid - den, un - sung, un - writ - ten, and un - heard, de -
 dain - ing, the friends we need, to serve and lead, their

sid - ing and a - noint-ing. A proph-et - wom - an broke a jar,
 ris - ing from sub - mis - sion. A faith - ful wom - an left a tomb,
 rid - ed and for - bid - den, the Spir - it's breath, the Spir-it's fire,
 powers and gifts un-chain-ing. The Spir - it knows; the Spir - it calls,

the sneers of scorn de - fy - ing. With rare per-fume she
 with res - ur - rec - tion gos - pel. She saw; she heard; she
 on free and slave de-scend-ing, can tum - ble our di -
 from wom - en, men, and chil - dren, the friends we need, to

filled the room, pre - par - ing Christ for dy - ing.
 preached the Word, a - pos - tle to a - pos - ties.
 vid - ing walls, our shame and sad - ness mend - ing,
 serve and lead. Re - joice, and make them wel - come!

SENDING

* HYMN 302

When Hands Reach Out and Fingers Trace

O WALY WALY



1 When hands reach out and fin - gers trace the beau - ty
2 When fin - gers spell and signs ex - press our prayer and
3 When bro - ken bod - ies will not mend, we thank you,
4 And when the ways we learn and grow are not the
5 Your Spir - it gives us dif - fer - ing ways to serve you



of a loved one's face, we thank you, God, that
praise and thank - ful - ness, we thank you, God, that
God, for Christ our friend. In him, our heal - ing
ways that oth - ers know, we thank you, God, that
well and of - fer praise. When all are joined as



love re - lies on gifts of grace not seen with eyes.
hands can sing; you bless the si - lent songs we bring.
can be - gin: he wel - comes all the wound - ed in.
we have learned your love's a gift, and nev - er earned.
one, we'll be your a - ble, strong com - mu - ni - ty.

Please sign our virtual Friendship Pad.

If you are worshipping with us via YouTube, Facebook, or radio, either click below to let us know that you joined us for worship today or sign the pad on our website at <https://bit.ly/2Rliq2l>

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Today's cover art,

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CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Fugue in G Major, BWV 541

J. S. Bach



Please remain seated until the conclusion of the closing voluntary. The ushers will dismiss the congregation from the back of the Sanctuary forward.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

STAYING CONNECTED, our theme for this summer, invites us all to be linked together in a broad community of people, joined by the energy of a holy curiosity and an indefatigable courage. As the coronavirus lessens its grip, and we emerge into a new hybrid existence, it is vital that we re-connect, stay connected, or connect afresh. It takes curiosity and courage to remain connected to each other. Curiosity to see how we can creatively connect to one another, and courage to do it safely amidst a changing viral situation. This summer, we will explore ways we stay connected to the things that matter most. For some, it will be getting out for some fresh air and a brisk walk. For many, it will mean staying in touch virtually via livestream, Zoom, or even phone conversations. For others, it will mean traveling and reconnecting with family and friends whom we haven't seen in the flesh in a long time. All the while, First Pres will be an active community, vibrant and alive, connecting all to the power and grace of the God of all creation.



We welcome the Reverend Doctor Floretta L. Barbee-Watkins as our guest preacher. Born in Atlanta, and educated at Mercer University and Johnson C. Smith Seminary, an Interdenominational Theological Seminary in Atlanta, she was ordained as Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (USA). She began her service to the church as Presbytery Staff of Campus Ministry at South Carolina State University and Claflin College before serving as Pastor of Pleasant Ridge of Lancaster, SC and Hermon Presbyterian Church in Rock Hill, SC. In 1997, Reverend Barbee-Watkins was commissioned as a First Lieutenant in the United States Air Force National Guard as the first African American female Chaplain. After serving stateside, she was deployed to Elmendorf, AFB in Alaska, and Osan, South Korea. In June 2017 she retired from the Air National Guard with 20 years of service to our nation. In 2002 Reverend Barbee-Watkins started her service as Pastor at Seigle Avenue Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, NC. In 2020, she accepted the call to become the Transitional General Presbyter for our Presbytery of Detroit.

The Presbytery of Detroit is our regional governing body of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and it connects the more than 78 Presbyterian congregations in Southeast Michigan for mission, service and shared governance. This Presbytery traces its historical roots to 1827, when there were sufficient numbers of pastors and congregations in the new territory of Michigan to constitute a presbytery. In 2021, the mission of our Presbytery is: "Transforming and Strengthening Congregations to be Missional, Pastoral, and Prophetic." Our Transitional General Presbyter is the Rev. Dr. Floretta "Flo" Barbee-Watkins, our Associate Executive Presbyter is CRE Charon Barconey and the Rev. Marianne Grano, J.D. is our Stated Clerk. Elder David Bunch is the current Moderator of the Presbytery that will meet next on Tuesday, July 13, at Belle Isle in Detroit. The headquarters of the Presbytery is located at 17575 Hubbell Street, Detroit.

The Call to Worship and the Prayer of Confession are adapted from work by Rev. Thom M. Shuman.

Leaders of Worship: Welcome – Melissa Anne Rogers; Liturgists – Mark Mares and Evans McGowan; Scripture Reader – Gable MacArthur; Children's Message – Melissa Anne Rogers; Preacher – Flo Barbee-Watkins; Vocalist – Benton DeGroot; Organist – David Hufford; Conductor – Dave VanderMeer; Video Production – Bill Hall; Sound Production – Rol Kibler; Ushers – Nancy Fox, Keith Molin, Joe Schmidt and Angela Yang

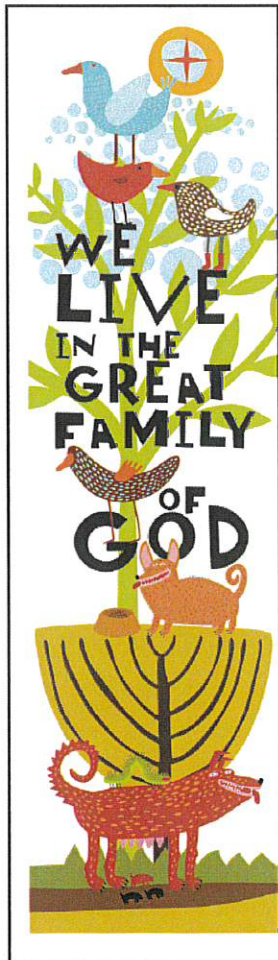
Chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Taylor Elizabeth Blair Calhoun by her Iowa and Michigan families in honor of her July 9, 1979, birthday.

Join us for Coffee Hour Sunday on the Circle Terrace (weather permitting) immediately following the Closing Voluntary. In case of rain, Coffee Hour will be in the Social Hall.

Fast Track to Membership. You already belong, of course — for all are welcome at First Pres, and **TODAY** membership is not required to participate in our ministries. However, by becoming a member formally, you have a voice and vote in congregational meetings, and express to us your commitment to First Pres to be an active part. Your joining allows us to support you more fully and help you stay engaged and grow in faith. The first step toward membership is to attend today's Fast Track meeting where you will get to know a few of our elders and staff. May the Spirit move you there! Join us today at 12:00 Noon, via Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84143125355>).

Summer Festival of Worship

Stay Connected!



Life is busy in the Great Family of God!

We know that most members of our First Pres family have lots of obligations in the summer. Perhaps you have little time to think about your faith, and how it can grow. We hope you can find an hour or so weekly to join us for an alternative worship offering. Come, strengthen your faith in the company of old friends – and friends you’ve yet to meet!

Tuesdays @ First Pres

August 3 @ 7:00 p.m.

Taizé worship is livestreamed from the Sanctuary on YouTube and Facebook.

Wednesdays @ First Pres

July 21 and August 18 @ 6:00 p.m.

Worship around the fire on the First Pres lawn

Thursdays @ First Pres

July 29 and August 26 @ 6:00 p.m.

Guided outdoor meditation at the Hilligs’ labyrinth

Saturdays @ First Pres

August 14 @ 5:00 p.m.

Jazz Vesper Service on the First Pres lawn

Meditation and Labyrinth Walking. As a part of our Summer Festival of Worship, on July 29 and August 26, you are invited to the home of Kurt and Kathy Hillig (7654 W Ellsworth Rd., Ann Arbor) to walk the labyrinth they have made on their property. Come anytime between 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. It takes about 20–30 minutes to go from your car to the labyrinth and back. Signs will guide you from the parking area to the labyrinth. There is a guided meditation podcast available to use while walking, or consider using that another time for a meditative moment. Being outside in silence in nature is very meditative. Note that tick season is in full gear so please wear closed-toe shoes and long pants. Questions? Contact Rev. Rogers, mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org. The guided meditation (put together by Rev. Mares) can be found at <https://www.faithbeats.com>.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Please contact Beca Torres-Davenport (btorres-davenport@firstpresbyterian.org), Coordinator of Children's & Family Ministry, for information about opportunities to connect and resources for children and families.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH AND FAMILIES

Please contact Rev. Mark Mares (mmares@firstpresbyterian.org), Minister of Youth & Families, for information about the numerous ways youth are connecting at this time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Support First Pres Youth by helping out with Art Fair Parking, the biggest youth fundraiser of the year! Money raised will be used for future mission and formation opportunities for our youth, with a small portion of the proceeds going to another local organization doing work in our community. Youth participants will decide who the recipient will be. The dates for volunteering run from the afternoon of Thursday, July 15 through the afternoon of Saturday, July 17. Contact Rev. Mark Mares, Minister of Youth & Families (mmares@firstpresbyterian.org) for more information and to volunteer.

T2A2 Small Group meets off-site at 7:00 p.m. Whether you are a believer or a seeker, a working professional or a grad student, we invite everyone in their twenties and thirties to come and build community with us as we share meaningful conversations and reflect on the Word together. For more information, please email t2a2@firstpresbyterian.org.

Greetings, College Students! We hope you will find a home away from home here at First Pres. We will gather virtually and in person at various times over the summer. Contact Rev. McGowan (campus@firstpresbyterian.org) to grab a cup of coffee or for more information. He would love to meet you, virtually or otherwise!

Women: Stay Connected! PW Moderator Ginny Bell sends out timely information in email blasts. Contact Ginny (virginiabell2013@gmail.com) to be added to the email list.

Mature Singles enjoy gathering for dinner in restaurants on Friday evenings. Please call Marcy (995-2519) for more information.

The prayer team meets Monday mornings via Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86466149357>) from 9:00–9:30 a.m. with Rev. Rogers. Join us to offer prayer for others or bring the needs of you and your loved ones for prayer. Questions? Contact Rev. Rogers.

Your Pastor Nominating Committee is committed to being open and transparent in our search for a Lead Pastor. We meet weekly and can be reached at pnc2021@firstpresbyterian.org. Information about our search is available at: <https://www.firstpresbyterian.org/about/staff-leadership/pastoral-transition-first-presbyterian>

We're at it again—sorting and packing school supplies and books for the Philippines. The need persists and the Filipino children and teachers wait for the boxes to arrive. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us in this mini-mission for part or all of Friday, August 20 and Saturday, August 21, 9:00 – 5:00 at 3102 Fairhaven Ct., Ann Arbor. There are jobs for all. *Salamat.*

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Robin Agnew, Administrative Assistant

Barbara DeLancey, Parish Nurse

J. P. DiMaggio, Interim Bridge Administrator

Pat Gilbreath, Welcome Center Coordinator

Almer Harris, Maintenance Specialist

David Hufford, Organist

Diane Knibbs, Assistant Welcome Center Coordinator

Reverend Mark Mares, Minister of Youth & Families

Reverend Evans McGowan, Assistant Pastor of Faith Formation and Campus Ministries

Kellie McInchak, Children's Choir Director

Anna Miller, Finance Manager

Allie Milot, Communications Coordinator

Stacey Pakela, Parish Nurse

Adrian Prundeanu, Facilities Manager

Linda Robinson, Office Manager

Reverend Melissa Anne Rogers, Associate Pastor

Reverend Jay Sanderford, Associate Pastor

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

David VanderMeer, Minister of Music & Fine Arts

Alyssa Walker, Finance Assistant



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