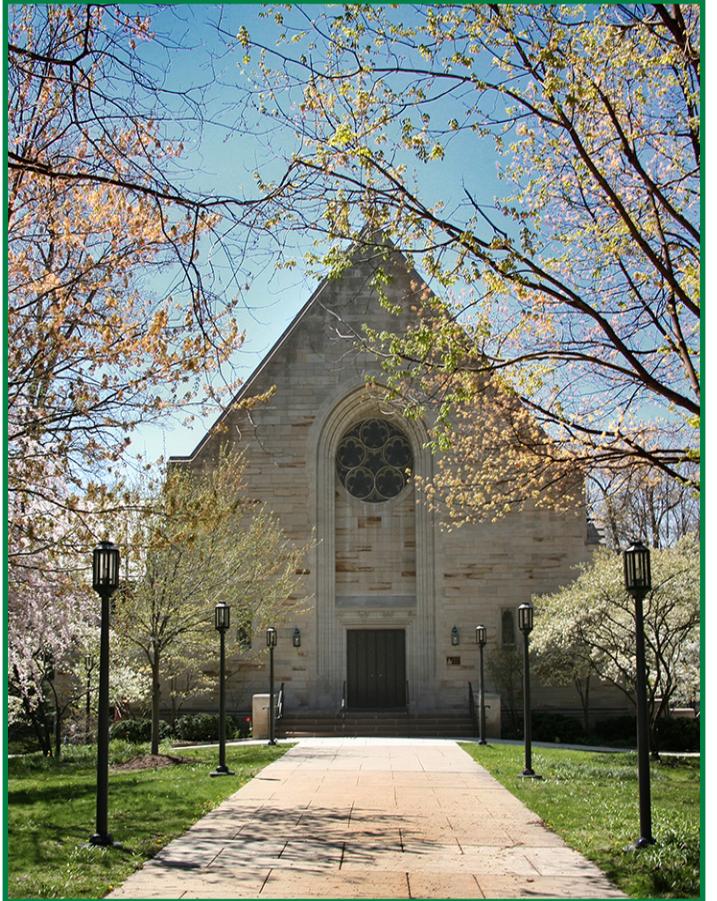
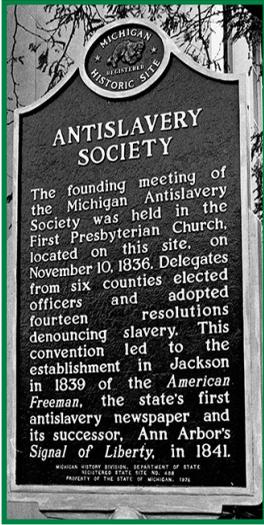


THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 195TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION August 22, 2021



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Ann Arbor | Michigan

Making God's Love Visible

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.

Gifts of Finest Wheat:

During the five weeks from July 25 through August 22, our gospel readings are from the sixth chapter of the gospel of John, and all are directly related to bread. Beginning with the feeding of the 5000, we hear Jesus remind us of the manna, the bread from heaven that fed the ancient Hebrew people in the desert, and distinguish it from the bread of life, the spiritual bread that was Jesus. "I am the Bread of Life," "I am the Living Bread," "If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever." "For the bread of God is that which comes down out of heaven, and gives life to the world." Like the bread in our scripture, the breads in our world can take many forms, just a few of which you will see on our communion table over the coming weeks.

The Call to Worship

was written by Thom Shuman.

GATHERING

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

FAITH IN ACTION 195th Anniversary

OPENING VOLUNTARY *A Trumpet Minuet*

Alfred Hollins

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: For cool mornings and rumbling afternoon storms,
for amazing days and even more ordinary evenings,
for deep friendships and shallow wading pools:

All: we give thanks to God!

One: For the laughing God who tickles us with joy,
for the broken-hearted Love who joins in our struggles:

All: we give thanks to God at all times!

One: For the Bread of heaven who feeds us hope,
for the Spirit of grace who teaches us to dance:

All: we give thanks to God at all times and for everything!

* HYMN 394

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God,

you poured your Spirit upon gathered disciples

creating bold tongues, open ears,

and a new community of faith.

We confess that we hold back the force of your Spirit among us.

We do not listen for your word of grace,

speak the good news of your love,

or live as a people made one in Christ.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Transform our timid lives by the power of your Spirit,

and fill us with a flaming desire to be your faithful people,

doing your will for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord...

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

Celebrating 195 years of ministry together!

August 21, 2021, marked 195 years of ministry by First Presbyterian Church in Ann Arbor! Our life as an open-hearted community of faith sprung to life on August 21, 1826, when Rev. Noah M. Wells, a Detroit pastor, travelled two days on horseback to Ann Arbor, and organized the First Presbyterian Church. Eighteen people joined that day, forming a small, vibrant congregation that has, over time, grown into the body of faith that we now know as First Pres.

In the early years our worship services were held in log schoolhouses, the ballroom of a tavern, and in Cook's Hotel. A small wood-frame sanctuary was erected in 1829, the first of several structures that would house our congregation. It was in that building that the Michigan Antislavery Society gathered for its organizational meeting November 10, 1836, reflecting the open hearts and just convictions of our congregation. Over the next 100 years, our congregation worshipped in a series of buildings in downtown Ann Arbor, until when on January 23, 1938, our present building was dedicated by Dr. William P. Lemon, our pastor.

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**God of ev'ry gift in heaven,
we, your children, bless your name.
By your glorious grace you sought us,
set us free from sin and blame.
Chosen from the world's foundation,
now, in Christ, your people cry:
Blessing, honor, glory, power,
Holy Maker, God Most High!**

from *Breathing Spirit into Dust* by David Gambrell

* LITANY OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIFE OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

For this place in which we gather
for praise and prayer, witness and service,
in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord,
we give you thanks, O God.

For your presence among us whenever
your word has been proclaimed,
your sacramental gifts of bread and wine shared,
we give you thanks, O God.

For those who have been made
your children by adoption and grace,
who in this place were cleansed of sin,
buried with Christ in the waters of baptism,
and raised to new and eternal life,
we give you thanks, O God.

For disciples young and old
who have been nurtured here in faith,
we give you thanks, O God.

For all who have come here
asking your blessing in marriage,
seeking to love with your love,
we give you thanks, O God.

For deacons, elders, and pastors,
residents, musicians and educators
who have led and loved us,
and by the offering of their gifts,
equipped us for the work of ministry,
we give you thanks, O God.

For faithful stewards among us
who have lived for others,
serving you by loving neighbors,
we give you thanks, O God.

For all the saints who have stood among us,
whose memory still enlivens our faith
and emboldens our witness,

The Litany of Thanksgiving is adapted from the *New Book of Common Worship* from the Presbyterian Church (USA).

For the ministries of worship and mission,
nurture and fellowship,
and for all whose lives have been touched by them,
we give you thanks, O God.

Receive our gratitude, Holy God, for the years through which you have led us, and open us to the future you promise. In the years that lie ahead, grant us your encouragement in the work of ministry, your consolation in our defeats, and your challenge to our complacency. Give us such trust in your abiding Holy Spirit, that we may find joy and peace in our common life, strength and courage to live in the world for your reign, and hope in the gospel of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING 1 Kings 8 (selected verses)

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

A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-16

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

HOMILY *With Eyes Open Day and Night*

RESPONDING

* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH FOR OUR 195TH YEAR**

Without exception or condition,
we love with Open Hearts.
Pursuing truth and integrity,
we learn with Open Minds.
Seeking fuller community and deeper faith,
we leave with Open Arms.
Making God's love visible and Christ's hope tangible,
we serve with Open Hands.

* **HYMN 308** *O God in Whom All Life Begins*

NOEL

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Prayer of Dedication

Our new Welcome Statement ("Open Hearts...Open Minds...Open Arms!") was developed by the Congregational Life Committee. The Affirmation of Faith was written by Rev. Rogers.

Offertory

Come Dwell in Solomon's Walls
Chancel Choir

Z. Randall Stroope

When the final timber lay 'gainst the measure stones,
With the doorposts in their place overlaid with gold.
The Lord appeared to Solomon, blessing all the house,
Also, the temple of the ark of God, pure and whole.
Come dwell in Solomon's walls, come and dwell in the house of the Lord,
Where the humble bow down, seeking wisdom and strength,
For the Lord dwells within and heals their land.
Come dwell in Solomon's walls, come and dwell in the house of the Lord,
Wisdom and righteousness, justice and holiness, join at the feet of God.
When the people of this house kneel and humbly pray,
When they turn from dark to light and your will obey,
O Lord of heaven and Lord of earth, show favor on this house,
And heal, restore, forgive and bless, Lord, we pray.
Come dwell in Solomon's walls, come and dwell in the house of the Lord,
Wisdom and righteousness, justice and holiness, join at the feet of God!
Come dwell!

* 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.

SENDING

* HYMN 321

The Church's One Foundation

AURELIA

* 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

Thou Art the Rock

Henri Mulet

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

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) ... use our

Give+ app ... put a check

in the mail ... or scan the

QR code below.



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/2Rlig2l>

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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. First Pres is an active community, vibrant and alive, connecting all to the power and grace of the God of all creation.

Welcome Residents! Today we welcome Megan Berry, Hannah Lundberg, and Matthew Warfield to our First Pres congregation and staff as Resident Ministers. Megan, Hannah, and Matthew are our 11th Resident Ministry Cohort and add their names to the list of 30 distinguished Residents who have served here previously. Megan is a recent graduate of Louisville Seminary and has roots in Kansas City, while Hannah is from southern California and completed her Master of Divinity degree at Union Theological Seminary in New York. Matthew was educated at Grand Valley State University and Western Theological Seminary in Holland and has deep Michigan roots. Please welcome them to our shared ministry.

Worship Leaders: Welcome – Evans McGowan ; Faith in Action – Sandy Herold and Meghan Bugosh; Liturgists – Evans McGowan and Melissa Anne Rogers; Scripture Reader – Heather Gerety; Children's Message – Beca Torres-Davenport; Preacher – Jay Sanderford; Musicians – Chancel Choir ; Organist – David Hufford; Conductor – Dave VanderMeer; Ushers – Nancy Fox, Keith Molin, Len and Ginny Rezmierski, and Joe Schmidt

Chancel flowers are given in honor of our long-time members; in honor of Rev. Rogers by Catherine Kendall; and in loving memory of Jim Wheaton by his wife Julie on their 39th wedding anniversary.

Join us for Coffee Hour on the Front Lawn immediately following the Closing Voluntary.

HONORING MEMBERS OF 50 OR MORE YEARS

David Anderson
Joan Anderson
Betty Anderson
Bill Anderson
Bill Austin
Patricia Austin
Earl Avery
Sue Beutler
Richard Bird
Rosie Bird
Donald Boettner
Roscoe Bonisteel
Robert Buchanan
Jeannine Buchanan
Beth Caldwell
Wanda Capps
Sue Cares
Jim Clark
Carolyn Crawford
Millie Danielson
Jim Dickinson
Tim Dickinson
Molly Dobson
Phyllis Eaton
Karen Edwards
Bob Ellis
Carol Eman
Curtis Estes
Marylou Estes
John Etter

Carol Fletcher
Becky Gaffney
Lynn Haddan
Karl Hauser
Kay Heise
Carole Hendrickson
Kathy Hentschel
Downs Herold
Sandy Herold
Bonnie Hughes
Phyllis Husted
Henry Johnson
Toni Keuning
Lloyd Kooyers
Jean Kraft
Peggy Laird
Dave LaMoreaux
Myra Larson
David Lutchka
Joan Lutchka
Norma Marshall
Lois Mayne
Bruce McCuaig
Jeannette Middleton
Angie Miller
Marie Moore
Ginny Moss
Cheryle Nicholls
Joan Nixon
John Nixon

Margaret Osterwisch
Katie Parker
Jo Pattinson
Nan Perry
Evelyn Pickard
Bob Pierce
Mary Ann Pierce
Jacqueline Piers
Jane Pilcher
Lorna Prescott
Helena Prince
Gale Redding
Betty Richart
Carolyn Roberts
John Santinga
Reda Santinga
Fritz Schafer
Kathy Schafer
David Schmidt
Carolyn Schultz
William Smith
Paul Stevenson
Kathryn Stevenson
Burt Voss
Ruth Weber
Wendy Weber
Carol Williams
David Williams
Richard Yarmain
Henry Zelisse

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tell Me More About This Church! Are you a prospective member, regular attender, frequent guest, or someone new who really wants to know more? Join us on September 12, at 4:30 p.m., at the Session Room (3685 Jackson Road) for a cool beverage, snacks, and good conversation on the patio. We'll answer any question you have and surely hear a few we didn't expect! It's a lively hour together for all ages. Contact Rev. Rogers so we know to look for you! (mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org; 734-355-2351)

We invite your participation in ministry at Alpha House, a shelter for children and their families experiencing homelessness, during the week of August 30 – September 5. Sign up online or during Coffee Hour. Questions may be directed to Ruth Jensen (ruthannjensen@gmail.com) Gail Einhaus (gail.einhaus@gmail.com), Paula Doering (paulahdoering@gmail.com), or Anne Gere (argere@umich.edu).

Our annual Ice-Cream Social will be Sunday, September 5, on the Circle Terrace, at 10:30 a.m. Join us!

Rev. Rogers will host a Virtual Coffee Hour the final Sunday of the month, beginning after the live-stream worship service on YouTube. Join Rev. Rogers next Sunday, August 29, from wherever you are for virtual fellowship with lively conversation!

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.

T2A2 Small Group meets off-site on Sundays, 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.

Mature Singles dine out on Friday evenings. Please call Marcy (995-2519) for more information.

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>.

The Prayer Team meets every Monday morning, 9:00–9:30 a.m., online. We have over 20 people who come together online to start the week and pray for the needs shared in worship, on the virtual friendship pad, and using the prayer request form. Would you like prayer for yourself or others? Use this form by Sunday evening: <https://firstpresbyterian.wufoo.com/forms/prayer-request/>. If you would like to join this group, email Rev. Rogers for information and the link (mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org).

Chancel Choir Begins Anew! You are invited to sing with the Chancel Choir (high school and adults) as they begin their new choir season for 2021–2022. The choir rehearses on Thursday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in Monteith Hall. A choir retreat will follow later in August on Friday and Saturday, August 27 and 28. For more information, please contact Dave VanderMeer, Minister of Music and Fine Arts at dvandermeer@firstpresbyterian.org.

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

For information about the numerous opportunities to connect for youth and families, contact Rev. Mares (mmares@firstpresbyterian.org), Minister of Youth & Families.

Habitat for Humanity needs four to six volunteers daily on September 11, 17, and 25. Contact Don Redding (734-276-8426; dredding58@yahoo.com) for more information and to volunteer.

Michigan Football is just around the corner, and that means our Food Rescue program returns!

Volunteers take cooked/processed food to the freezer at the end of football games (you can get in during the 4th quarter even if you aren't attending the game), and then return on Monday morning to load up the truck and drive to Detroit. You can sign up for any or all of three slots: food gathering after the game, food loading Monday morning, and food delivery Monday during the day. Sign up on this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/FoodRescue2021>.

Help us prepare for Dedication/Reformation Sunday. Red fabric strips are needed to help create red paraments for Dedication/Reformation Sunday, October 31, to support our Annual Giving Campaign theme: "Peace by Piece." Drop fabric off at the Welcome Center by Sunday, October 10.

Would you like to serve on the liturgical/visual arts team? We plan for our worship spaces and rotating art exhibits in our Social Hall. For more information, contact Dave VanderMeer, Minister of Music & Fine Arts: dvandermeer@firstpresbyterian.org.

The Men's Study Group will meet Friday, September 3, and continue until May, meeting on the first and third Friday mornings from 8:30 – 9:30 a.m., in the Curtis Room, for coffee, study, and conversation. This fall, we will read *The Difficult Words of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to His Most Perplexing Teachings* by Amy Jill Levine. Books are available in the Church Office for \$15.00. Questions? Contact Rev. Sanderford (jsanderford@firstpresbyterian.org or (734) 662-4466, ext. 340).

Our Summer Festival of Worship concludes on Thursday, 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.

Campus Ministries Update. Students have returned to campus, Michigan Football has returned, and some sense of normalcy is welcomed back to Ann Arbor. Each Sunday, students will have a special small group study time during our new 11:00 a.m. Faith Formation hour before breaking for lunch. Each of our Resident Ministers will play a key role in reaching out and building relationships with students. If you are interested in helping plan ministry events as part of our Campus Ministry Work Group, or would like to be directly involved in supporting a small group, service event, or University Sunday on September 19, please contact Rev. McGowan (campus@firstpresbyterian.org).

Pastoral & Program Staff

- Megan Beery
Resident Minister
- Barbara DeLancey
Parish Nurse
- David Hufford
Organist
- Hannah Lundberg
Resident Minister
- Rev. Mark Mares
Minister of Youth & Families
- Rev. Evans McGowan
Assistant Pastor of Faith Formation and Campus Ministries
- Kellie McInchak
Children's Choir Director
- Stacey Pakela
Parish Nurse
- 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 Warfield
Resident Minister

Administrative Staff

- Robin Agnew
Administrative Assistant
- J. P. DiMaggio
Interim Bridge Administrator
- Pat Gilbreath
Welcome Center Coordinator
- Almer Harris
Maintenance Specialist
- Kathy Houser
Technology Coordinator
- Diane Knibbs
Administrative Assistant
- Anna Miller
Finance Manager
- Allie Milot
Communications Coordinator
- Adrian Prundeanu
Facilities Manager
- Linda Robinson
Office Manager
- Alyssa Walker
Finance Assistant

