

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 29, 2021



The Good Samaritan
Vincent Van Gogh



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.

The Call to Worship was written by Thom Shuman.

GATHERING

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

FAITH IN ACTION Technology Update

OPENING VOLUNTARY *Psalm-Prelude Op. 32 No. 2* Herbert Howells
"But the meek shall possess the land and delight themselves in the abundance of prosperity."

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We come, bringing our souls to God.

All: God delights in us, just as God has found wonder in every generation.

One: We come, bringing our hands to Jesus.

All: Jesus challenges us to see each person as the neighbor we are to serve.

One: We come, bringing our hearts to the Spirit.

All: The Spirit teaches all we need to know so that we may be faithful in our lives.

* HYMN 63

The Lord Is God

AZMON

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, called to walk with the vulnerable, we run to catch up with the powerful. Asked to pray constantly for others, we are too busy bragging about ourselves. Challenged to notice and to care for those tossed aside by the world, we rush by with our to-do list in our hands.

Have mercy on us, God who loves us completely. May we be the grace that a lonely person needs this week; may we be the hope the forgotten are looking for; may we be the peace that the broken long for in every moment, even as Jesus, our Lord and Savior, has been our peace, our hope, our grace, and so much more in our lives...

SILENT PRAYER

KYRIE



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

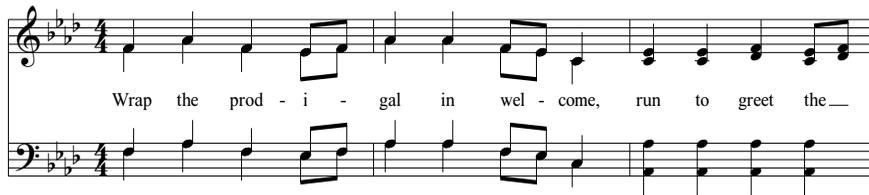


Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

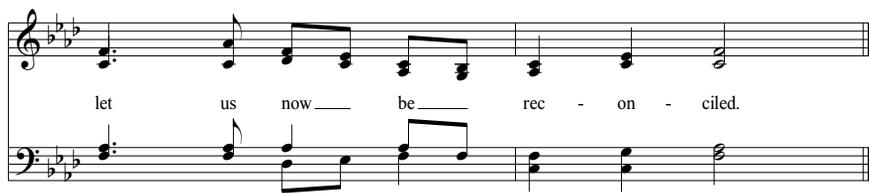
* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE



Wrap the prod - i - gal in wel - come, run to greet the —



way - ward child. All is fin - ished and for - giv - en,



let us now — be — rec - on - ciled.

David Gambrell (RESTORATION).

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Deuteronomy 5:12–15

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Luke 10:25–37

The grass withers, the flower fades;

the word of the Lord endures forever.

SERMON

RESPONDING AND SEALING

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

In keeping with the reverence of worship, photos may not be taken during the service.

Jenny and Ben Bernstein present their sons, Oliver Hudson Bernstein, born July 1, 2017, and Miles Quincy Bernstein, born March 12, 2020, for baptism.

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>

It is important to remember that baptism is not so much something we do, but rather something that God does. In Baptism God claims us and names us as one of God's own children. Baptism is both God's gift and our acceptance of the gift of God's saving grace. We baptize in response to the God who first loved us, and we remember that we did not choose God, but God chose us.

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.



*** Affirmation of Faith** *The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Thanksgiving over the Water and Baptism

Hymn 486 *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise* KINGDOM
Please sing stanzas 1 and 2.

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory *For God Shall Give the Angels from Elijah*
Felix Mendelssohn

Chancel Choir

For God shall give the angels charge over you;
That they shall protect you, in all your living keep you.
For God shall give the angels charge over you;
For their hands shall uphold and guide you,
Lest you dash your foot against a stone.

*** 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 774** *There Is Now a New Creation* STUTTGART

*** 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 *Fugue in G Major, Op. 37, No. 2*

Felix Mendelssohn

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!

We welcome back to First Pres the Rev. Angela Ryo, Senior Associate Pastor for Christian Formation at Kirk in the Hills Presbyterian Church.

Angela served as a Resident Minister here at First Pres from 2015–2017, serving along with Emily Beghin and Daniel Ervin. She brings experience as a teacher at many levels, successful developer of small groups, and rich experience in working with children. Angela received her Masters of Divinity (2013) from McCormick Theological Seminary and a Masters in Teaching (2006) from National Louis University. Angela and her husband, David, have two children (Luke – a student at UM, and Love – a recent high school graduate taking a gap year) and a Border Collie named Astor.

Worship Leaders: Welcome – Evans McGowan; Faith in Action – Rol Kibler; Liturgists – Hannah Lundberg, Melissa Anne Rogers, Megan Berry, and Matthew Warfield; Scripture Reader – Jean Song; Children's Message – Beca Torres-Davenport and Jay Sanderford; Preacher – Angela Ryo; Musicians – Chancel Choir; Organist – David Hufford; Conductor – Dave VanderMeer; Ushers – Nancy Fox, Keith Molin, Joe Schmidt, and Angela Yang

Chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Nancy Ferguson by Alice Holderby.

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

Join Rev. Rogers today from wherever you are for virtual fellowship at 10:35 a.m., after worship ends! (Virtual Coffee Hours are planned for the final Sunday of each month, beginning after the livestream worship service on YouTube.) **Today's spiritual prompt:** "Is there a time when you remember feeling like you were a Good Samaritan? Or a time when someone served in that role to help you?" Join us via Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/329423603>.

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Today's cover art:

The Good Samaritan by Vincent Van Gogh, is used with permission from "Art in the Christian Tradition," a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.



First Presbyterian Church Ann Arbor
1826-2021

First Presbyterian Church — Ann Arbor
CELEBRATING 195 YEARS OF MAKING GOD'S LOVE VISIBLE

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Arms
Fall 2021 Schedule Beginning September 12

- 8:00 a.m. Worship with Communion in Monteith Hall
Coffee Hour follows on the Monteith Hall Terrace or in the Welcome Center
- 9:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary with the Chancel Choir
Service livestreamed on our YouTube page and Facebook
Worship Lab for Children in Room 300 (at 9:55 a.m.)
Childcare available by reservation for infant through Pre-K
- 10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour on the Front Lawn
(Moves to Social Hall for inclement weather)
- 10:30–10:55 a.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal
- 11:00–11:50 a.m. Faith Formation for All Ages
Classes for Children, Youth, Confirmation, and Adults, including
Exploring the Faith, First Friends, and The Bible @ 11
Campus Ministry Group followed by College Lunch
Childcare available by reservation
The 9:30 Service is broadcast on WAAM 1600 at 11:00.

Youth Groups meet on Sunday afternoon at 6:00. Chancel Choir rehearses on Thursday evening at 7:00. Orchestra rehearses Sunday afternoon at 1:30. Bell Choir rehearses on Monday evening at 7:00. Prayer Team meets Monday morning at 9:00.

We are welcoming several guest preachers started with Dr. Tom Long who joins us September 12. Rev. Lal Rodawla, former Resident Minister, returns to First Pres on October 3. Dr. Margaret Aymer preaches on October 17. Rev. Sarah Wiles, former Resident Minister, returns to First Pres on October 31. Former Campus Pastor Rev. Amy Morrison Heinrich returns on November 14. Rev. Scott Black Johnson visits on January 30. Our 8:00 a.m. preaching rotation will regularly include our new Resident Ministers.

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 next Sunday, September 5, on the Circle Terrace at 10:30 a.m. Join us!

Greetings, College Students! We hope you will find a home away from home here at First Pres. 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!

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).

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Opportunity in Haiti. A continuing disaster faces Haiti after the August 14 earthquake left almost 2,200 people dead, thousands more injured, and an unknown number still missing. At least 13,000 homes were destroyed and roads, bridges and communication systems have been severely damaged. Every church building in the city of Les Cayes was damaged, leaving few viable community institutions standing. This catastrophe comes on top of Haiti's ongoing struggles with endemic hunger and poverty, Covid-19 and continuing civil unrest. On top of it all, Tropical Storm Grace inflicted more misery on the region with flooding rain and wind. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is providing emergency relief and short-term recovery in the impacted areas through our established local partners. The PC(USA), through PDA, will remain active throughout the entire recovery process. The Haiti Nursing School, located in nearby Leogane, was not damaged in the quake and continues its mission. **Please give.** Gifts can be made through First Pres, with checks or contributions marked: Haiti Earthquake Relief, or online pma.pcusa.org/donate. **Please pray.** As this earthquake continues to cause destruction and loss of life, please pray with us that the communities affected by this event and those offering assistance will be strengthened, have their needs met and be reminded of the hope found in God.

Women: Stay Connected! PW Member 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 (mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org) for information and the link.

Chancel Choir Begins Anew! You are invited to sing with the Chancel Choir (high school, college, 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. 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 September Communion Sunday Food Collection will support Food Gatherers, the main supplier of food to local food banks in Washtenaw County. The Covid-19 pandemic continues to create a "perfect storm" of increased demand for food and declines in donated food. As we are fed at the Lord's Table, we also come to feed others and lend support to our neighbors in need. Non-perishable food may be placed in the bin provided in the Social Hall Sundays, Monday–Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Fridays 9:00 a.m. –12:00 p.m. Financial gifts may be made by check or online. Personal Care items are of particular need since they cannot be purchased with Bridge Cards. The most needed food items include low sodium soups, canned meats and vegetables, pasta, rice, cereal, oatmeal, granola bars, nut butters, jelly, baby food and formula, and Ensure or other nutritional supplement drinks. The most needed personal care items are diapers, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, and disposable razors.

Pastoral & Program Staff

Megan Berry
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



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