



Pastoral & Program Staff

Eric Banitt
Accompanist / Pianist

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 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

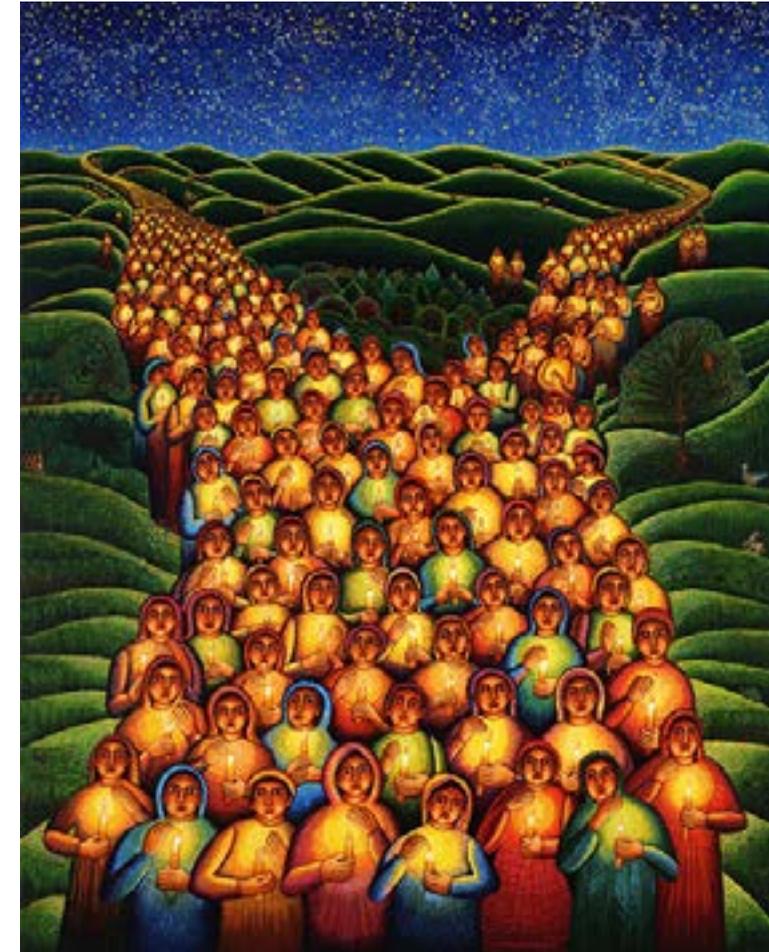
Adrian Prundeanu
Facilities Manager

Linda Robinson
Office Manager

Alyssa Walker
Finance Assistant

REFORMATION • DEDICATION SUNDAY

October 31, 2021 • 8:00 a.m.



Festival of Lights
John August Swanson



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Ann Arbor | Michigan

Making God's Love Visible

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY *Here I Am, Lord* arr. Paul A. Tate

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God of Sarah and Hagar,
All: We praise you for protecting and guiding us.
One: God of Moses and Miriam,
All: We thank you for liberating your children from oppression.
One: God of Peter and Paul,
All: We bless you even in the midst of conflict.
One: God of Hildegard and Julian,
All: We glory in your tangible presence among us.
One: God of Luther and Calvin,
All: We rejoice in your Spirit's presence in all times and places.
One: Alpha and Omega, Beginning and End,
All: Holy God, we welcome you to this place today!

* HYMN 363 *Rejoice, the Lord Is King!* DARWALL'S 148TH

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, our fears and prejudices run deep. Sometimes we can only see our own point of view. We stick with those who are like us, rarely venturing outside our comfort zones. We do not hear those crying for justice and true peace. We blame those who are suffering and in need, instead of standing by them. We deny the power of your gospel to unite us with those who are different from us. We hoard our own resources, prefer our own values and ignore possibilities to be generous givers. Lord, give us eyes to see and ears to hear. Open us to new possibilities of life for all of your people, and use us to enact the new life given in Christ...

Visit the Virtual Art Exhibit, "The Peace of the Earth" by local Ann Arbor Artist, Joan Cohen Jones. The exhibit is found at www.fpca2art.org.

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. This fall, we will read *The Difficult Words of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to His Most Perplexing Teachings* by Amy Jill Levine. Contact Rev. Sanderford for more information at jsanderford@firstpresbyterian.org or (734) 662-4466.

Journeys Bible Study meets via Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/295007173>) on the first and third Thursdays of the month through December from 11:30 to 1:00. The schedule is November 4, November 18, December 2, and December 16. For more details contact Resident Minister and facilitator, Matthew Warfield, at mwarfield@firstpresbyterian.org or Coordinator, Beth Gerwig at bgerwig@comcast.net.

The Prayer Team meets every Monday morning, 9:00–9:30 a.m., online. 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 (mr Rogers@firstpresbyterian.org) for information and the link.

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

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ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES @ 11:00

The Bible at 11 o'clock (Curtis Room)

Join our study of Isaiah either in-person or via Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86117387186>).

Exploring the Faith (Lewis Room)

Rev. Sarah Wiles, Pastor of Blacksburg Presbyterian Church, Blacksburg, VA, and former Resident Minister, leads a discussion on “What’s Missing?” The parables of the lost sheep, lost coin, and prodigal son can be read from the perspective of the one who is lost, but what happens when we flip them and consider what we’ve lost and what we need to find? .

First Friends

Class does not meet today. Join us next week.

T2A2 Small Group (Founders Room)

All in their twenties and thirties are welcome to come and build community with us as we share meaningful conversations and reflect on the Word together. For more information, email t2a2@firstpresbyterian.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Resident Minister Megan Berry will be ordained next Sunday, November 7. All are invited to attend the service as it is live-streamed from Megan’s home church in Missouri at 4:00 p.m. EST. You may access the live-stream here: <https://fb.me/e/2qJy0jcb1>.

Making God’s Love Visible, Peace by Piece. Thank you for your generous and faithful support of First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor! To date, you have pledged \$806,705 and 129 Opportunity to Serve forms. Your pledge of financial support and volunteer time is the backbone of everything this church does to *Make God’s Love Visible*. Pledge and opportunity to serve forms may be submitted in person, by mail, or online at firstpresbyterian.org/contribute/donate/stewardship-2022.

Mature Singles meet on Friday nights. Please call Marcy (995-2519) for more information.

All are invited to our next monthly Taizé Prayer Service on Tuesday, November 2, at 7:00 p.m., in Monteith Hall. This service is live-streamed on our Facebook and YouTube pages.

A Hope Clinic and First Pres Thanksgiving. This year for Thanksgiving we are donating bags of food to Hope Clinic. Please visit the Social Hall to get a list of the food that goes into the bags. Your bag is due back to the Social Hall by 3:00 p.m. on November 19.

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Treasure, too, you have entrusted,
gain through powers your grace conferred:
ours to use for home and kindred,
and to spread the gospel word.
Open wide our hands in sharing,
as we heed Christ’s ageless call,
healing, teaching, and reclaiming,
serving you by loving all.

This is stanza 3 of Hymn 716 (BEACH SPRING).

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 58:6–9a
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Philippians 4:4–9
The grass withers, the flower fades; **the word of the Lord endures forever.**

SERMON *Practices of Peace* Rev. Sarah Wiles

RESPONDING AND SEALING

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

**Prayer of Dedication for our Offerings
and Annual Giving Commitments for 2022**

One: Creator of all, the earth is yours, the world and all who live in it.
**All: You have entrusted us with gifts—
time, talent, energy, money—
and asked us to use them to build your peaceable kingdom.
With thanks and praise we respond to your call.**

One: We bring these gifts you have given,
returning your generosity, paying it forward.

**All: We offer ourselves, our lives, our hopes and fears,
our dollars and our hours. We commit ourselves to work for your
world, to love and serve wherever you call.**

One: We ask your blessing on this, your church,
as we seek to follow you with heart, mind, and soul.

**All: Bless also these gifts, our investment in your future,
that they may multiply in faith, hope, peace and love. Amen.**

Offertory *Shalom* Dan Forrest
Chancel Choir Section Leaders
Peace. Shalom. Peace I leave with you, peace I give to you, Shalom.
Not as this world gives, I give to you,
Do not be afraid. Shalom, my peace I give to you,
Shalom, peace I leave with you.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Please see the Communion Card.

Communion Music *Give Thanks* arr. Fred Bock

SENDING

* **HYMN** *Peace by Piece* CWM RHONDDA
Please sing all five stanzas. This hymn is found on the back of your Communion Card.

* **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 *Prelude No. 3* Arletta O'Hearn

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

Reformation Sunday is always the last Sunday in October, marking the occasion in 1517 when Martin Luther posted his 95 theses on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany. The Reformation describes the changes in Western Christendom between the fourteenth and seventeenth centuries that diverged from Catholic doctrine and the authority of the Papacy. The emerging Reformed churches are those that were influenced by the theology of reformers such as Martin Luther, Ulrich Zwingli, Philipp Melancthon, John Calvin and John Knox. Our Presbyterian Church (USA) traces its roots to the early Reformed Protestants who emigrated from Europe and Scotland to form churches and representative assemblies such as presbyteries up and down the east coast and then spreading south and west. First Pres is a member of the Presbytery of Detroit and the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Worship Leaders: Liturgist – Hannah Lundberg; Scripture Reader – Beth Gerwig;
Preacher – Sarah Wiles; Musicians – Chancel Choir Section Leaders; Pianist – Joshua Marzan;
Conductor – Dave VanderMeer; Usher – Brian Rubel; Communion Server – Diane Knibbs

Today we welcome Rev. Sarah Wiles as our preacher. Sarah is currently the pastor of Blacksburg Presbyterian Church in Blacksburg, Virginia. A graduate of Union Theological Seminary in New York, she previously served as pastor of Bethany Presbyterian Church in Tacoma, Washington. Sarah, Jenny McDevitt, and Matt Nickel were Residents Ministers in Ann Arbor from 2009–2011. Along with her husband Joseph, Sarah enjoys parenting twins. In reflection, Sarah wrote: “The residency program was the single most formative thing in my journey to being a pastor, and I remain immensely grateful for it.”

The Prayer of Dedication was adapted from material created by the Rev. Teri Peterson, Ridgefield Crystal Lake Presbyterian Church, Crystal Lake, IL, and shared on LiturgyLink.

Use the 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 include online on our First Pres website, via “Text-to-Give” (855-904-1523), using our Vanco Mobile app, putting a check in the mail, or scanning the QR code on the right.



Join us for Coffee Hour on the Monteith Terrace following the Closing Voluntary. Cookie bakers are Beth Caldwell and Barb Carlisle.