



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

Administrative Staff

Robin Agnew
Administrative Assistant
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

REIGN OF CHRIST SUNDAY

NOVEMBER 21, 2021 • 8:00 a.m.



Awesome Majesty
Anneke Kaai

195th
ANNIVERSARY
First Presbyterian Church Ann Arbor
1826-2021
1432 Washtenaw Ave.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN**
Ann Arbor | Michigan
Making God's Love Visible

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us* arr. Mark Hayes

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

FAITH IN ACTION Pastor Nominating Committee Tom Brandt

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Grace to you and peace from the One who is and who was and who is to come,

All: and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the one who walked among us, and saved us from our sins.

One: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.

All: The whole earth is full of God's glory.

One: Let us praise God in all of their glory!

* HYMN 267 *Come, Christians, Join to Sing* MADRID

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy One, we dare to call you Lord, yet we yield only fragments of our lives to you.

You showed us how to live with one another, yet we still struggle to do everything by ourselves. We only turn to you and to others when necessary, striving instead to be self-sufficient, self-motivated, and independent. Forgive our greed, our lack of trust, and our lack of understanding and remembering of the call you put on us. Help us to constantly remember what it means to be a follower of Christ every day...

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

* 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."

The Prayer Team meets every Monday morning online. If you have a prayer request, use this form by Sunday evening: <https://firstpresbyterian.wufoo.com/forms/prayer-request/>.

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.

Poinsettias for Christmas. If you wish to donate a poinsettia to beautify our December 19 and December 24 worship services, the cost is \$20. You can donate in memory or honor of a loved one. Poinsettias will be delivered to those in need by our Deacons following those services. Thank you for your donation! The deadline is Sunday, December 12, at midnight. Sign up either online at <https://firstpresbyterian.wufoo.com/forms/w1w3mdbe1sxyhze/> or in the Main Office.

Advent Mission Event: Save the Date! Sunday, December 5, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Join us for a First Sunday special intergenerational mission event in our Social Hall with Rise Against Hunger as we pack 10,000+ meals for those in need. Donations are also welcomed to help fund the cost of the meals. Contact Rev. McGowan (emcgowan@firstpresbyterian.org) for more information and to sign up. Register or Donate Here: <http://events.riseagainsthunger.org/FirstPresbyterianChurchofAnnArbor>.

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our November Communion Food Donations and Financial Contributions will be overseen by Campus Ministry. Monetary donations will be sent to Washtenaw Community College Student Emergency Fund which provides food cards to needy students. Donated food will be given to Community Action Network (C.A.N.).

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. Contact Rev. Sanderford for more information at jsanderford@firstpresbyterian.org or (734) 662-4466.

Journeys, a Bible Study for women, meets on the first and third Thursdays at 11:30 via Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/295007173>). Remaining dates this fall are December 2 and December 16. For more details contact Coordinator Beth Gerwig (bgerwig@comcast.net) or Resident Minister Matthew Warfield (mwarfield@firstpresbyterian.org).

Expand Your Faith with Presbyterian Women (PW). There are several monthly Bible studies that all women of the church are welcome to attend. These include two Horizons Bible Studies on the second Thursday of each month and a weekly study of Paul's "Letters to the Ephesians & Galatians" hosted by Meg Brown in her home on Wednesdays. Contact Meg (lmegbrown@gmail.com) for more information and to request to be added to an email list to receive timely updates on other matters of interest to PW.

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

Making God's Love Visible, Peace by Piece Stewardship Update. Thank you to all who have returned your pledge and Opportunity to Serve forms. As of November 15 we have 301 pledges for \$1,142,647, representing 69.3% of our goal. Every pledge counts. We do expect expenses to rise in unpredictable ways next year. It's not too late to pledge so we can continue to grow the worship, mission and programs of First Pres. Pledge forms are available in the Church Office or online at firstpresbyterian.org/contribute/donate/stewardship-2022.

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.

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in God's grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.**

This is Stanza 2 of Hymn 643, *Now Thank We All Our God* (NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT).

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 132:1–12
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING 2 Samuel 23:1–7
The grass withers, the flower fades; **the word of the Lord endures forever.**

SERMON

RESPONDING AND SEALING

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Offertory *The Last Words of David* Randall Thompson
Chancel Choir Section Leaders
He that ruleth over all must be just, ruling in the fear of God.
And he shall be as the light of the morning,
When the sun riseth, even a morning without clouds;
As the tender grass springing out of the earth by clear shining after rain.
Alleluia. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Please see the Communion Card.

Communion Music *What A Friend We Have in Jesus* arr. Fred Bock

SENDING

* **HYMN 394** *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation* WESTMINSTER ABBEY

* **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 *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* arr. Mark Hayes

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

Worship Leaders: Liturgist – Mark Mares; Scripture Reader – Beth Gerwig; Preacher – Megan Berry; Musicians – Chancel Choir Section Leaders; Pianist – Eric Banitt; Conductor – Dave VanderMeer; Usher – Marty Reineman; Communion Servers – Dan Mitas and Deanne Woodruff

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 Betty Anderson and Diane Knibbs.

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FAITH FORMATION TODAY @ 11:00

The Bible at 11 o'clock (Curtis Room; Zoom option: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86117387186>). Join us for our study of Isaiah.

Exploring the Faith (Lewis Room)
Joins First Friends today.

First Friends (Lewis Room; Zoom option: <https://emich.zoom.us/j/87604338825>)
Amy-Jill Levine video – "Light of the World: Advent." The Meaning of Memory. Discussion of the Visitation by an Angel and of Mary and Elizabeth connecting the Old and New Testaments.

Youth (all middle & high school students, including confirmands) are invited to meet in the Youth Room. After beginning our time together, we'll split off into our separate groups for the rest of our formation time.

Children ages 4 through fifth graders join us for Chapel and lessons beginning in Monteith Hall on the first level. Contact Beca Torres-Davenport, Coordinator of Children & Family Ministry (btorres-davenport@firstpresbyterian.org) for more information.

FAITH FORMATION LATER TODAY

Youth Group meets at the church at 6:00 for "The Amazing Race: First Pres Youth Edition!." Contact Rev. Mares for more information (mmares@firstpresbyterian.org).

T2A2 Small Group meets off-site at 7:00 p.m. 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.