



Each year, the Congregational Nominating Committee seeks to bring new faces, new experiences and new energy to our leadership.

What does Jesus say about leadership? Jesus taught his disciples not to emulate the Gentile rulers who exercised authority over them. Instead, He taught that in order for us to be leaders, we must become servants first.

At First Pres we have two groups of servant-leaders: Deacons and Elders. The members of these groups are living examples of turning faith into action and hearing into doing. With the arrival of our new Lead Pastor, David Prentice-Hyers, we all have an opportunity to engage, serve, and embrace the energy of this new chapter in the life of First Pres.

Deacons are the caregivers of the congregation, serving in this role is both a privilege and a blessing. It is also an opportunity for spiritual growth and fellowship. As a Deacon, you will get to know other church members in a deeper way. Our Elders lead the ongoing activities and functions of the church through the Session, our governing body. The Session is made up of dedicated church members who have been elected and ordained into a leadership role. Our Presbyterian Church takes its name from the Greek word for elder, *presbuteros*. These individuals reap the rewards of being involved in the life-affirming work and decision-making which benefits our congregation. For more on what it means to be an Elder or a Deacon go to the "About" tab on the First Pres website and click on the link for "Session (Governing Body)" or "Being a Deacon." If you have more questions, please contact Bill McPherson at wbmcperson@comcast.net. Use the link below to nominate yourself or another individual for consideration.

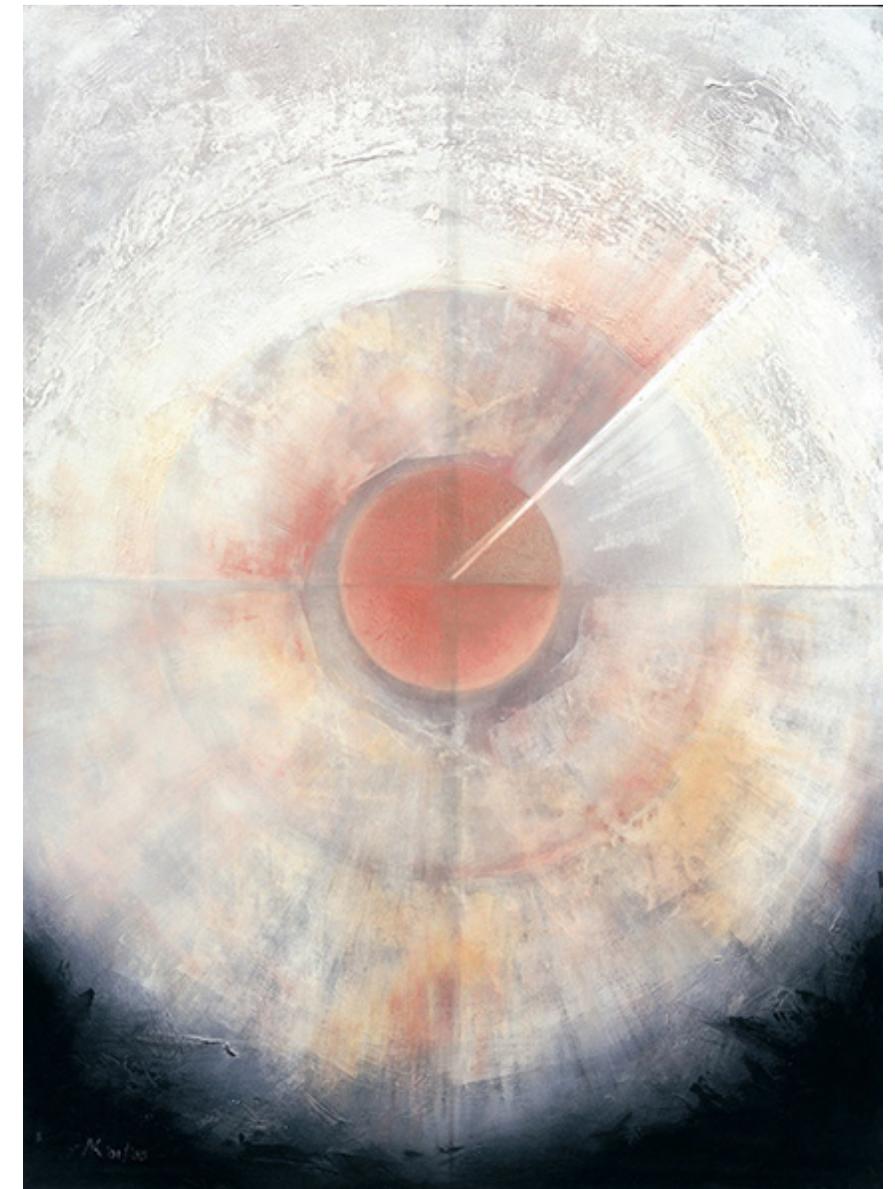
<https://www.firstpresbyterian.org/event/call-church-officer-nominations-0>

**Joyfully introducing our new Lead Pastor,
the Rev. David Prentice-Hyers!**

The Rev. David Prentice-Hyers was unanimously elected to be Lead Pastor of First Presbyterian Church by a vote of the congregation on Sunday, May 1. His ministry with us begins on Sunday, June 12.



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 22, 2022 • 8:00 a.m.



Peace
Anneke Kaai

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.

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY *Barcarolle: Morning* Nathaniel Dett

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

FAITH IN ACTION Congregational Nominating Committee

* CALL TO WORSHIP

May God be gracious to us and bless us.
May God's face shine upon us.
May your way may be known upon earth,
And your saving power among all nations.
Let all the people praise you, O God;
Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
The earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, has blessed us.
May God continue to bless us;
Let all the ends of the earth revere the Lord.

* HYMN 403 *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty* UNSER HERRSCHER

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God,
We yearn to travel new dimensions of your love,
Yet we do not always trust that our cells are transforming.
We do not look beyond our own generation.
We see injustice but are too afraid to risk our own peace
In order to sing songs of freedom and progress.
We are spiritually dying and need your healing.
May we sit and pray to you for guidance.
Teach us your ways of faith, hope and love.
And may a piece of your peace be with us always...

Our May donations and financial contributions support Food Gatherers. Non-perishable food may be placed in the bin provided in the Social Hall on Sundays, Mondays–Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Fridays, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Financial gifts may be made by check or online. Donations will be coordinated by the Local Missions Team.

Memorial Day Moment of Silence & Remembrance. On Sunday, May 29, we will honor family members related to folks in our First Pres community who were veterans of any of the armed forces (including Coast Guard and Merchant Marine) who have died. During Coffee Hour there will be a video slideshow (remembering our deceased veterans) and cake, and at 11:15 a.m., we will gather in the Memorial Garden for a moment of silence and remembrance in honor of these individuals. We have not updated our records since 2019, so please send us any updates you would like to contribute. Contact Gary Stahl (stahl.gary@sbcglobal.net) or Rev. Mark Mares (mmares@firstpresbyterian.org) with the names of those you would like to have added by Sunday, May 22, at 5:00 p.m.

Enroll Your Child at Triangle Preschool! Triangle Cooperative Preschool (located in Rooms 100 and 101 of our church building) is now accepting applications for 3- and 4-year-olds for the 2022–2023 school year. First Presbyterian members receive priority enrollment status for applications submitted prior to June 1. An application and more information is available on our website or by emailing info@trianglecoop.org.

Registration is open for Vacation Bible School Marketplace 2022! Mark your calendars for Monday, June 13 – Wednesday, June 15, and register today! Marketplace teaches children the stories of Jesus and what life was like during Bible times. In small groups the children experience the life and family customs of Bible times, and travel together to a variety of fun activities: music & movement, crafts, games, storytellers and more! We know summer schedules are filling up quickly, so be sure to add us into yours!

Children's registration link:

<https://firstpresbyterian.wufoo.com/forms/vacation-bible-school-child-registration/>

Volunteers' registration link:

<https://firstpresbyterian.wufoo.com/forms/vacation-bible-school-2022-volunteer-registration/>

Adult Faith Formation Classes at 11:00

Exploring the Faith will meet in the French Room at 11:00 a.m. for "Exploring the Faith Over 195 Years: Rev. MacDonald." Jeanette Kibler will talk about 19th century Scottish author and orator George MacDonald, influencer of C. S. Lewis and J. R. R. Tolkien, and who outsold Charles Dickens in his time. All other churches in Ann Arbor closed their doors so people could come to hear him preach at our church in 1873. MacDonald was the turning point in Presbyterian theology from the harsh God of Calvinism to the God who loves and forgives and longs to bless us.

First Friends will meet in the Lewis Room at 11:00 a.m.

<https://emich.zoom.us/j/89149132347?pwd=a1pCbWlxemowMXhuZGdNb1ppbE1Jdz09>

The Bible at 11:00 o'clock meets in the Curtis Room to continue reading and discussing Isaiah. If you cannot be present in person, you can participate by Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86117387186>.

Today is the final Faith Formation class gathering of the 2021–2022 school year for children and youth.

For information about children's ministry, contact Beca Torres-Davenport, Coordinator of Children's and Family Ministries at btorres-davenport@firstpresbyterian.org.

For information about youth ministry, contact Rev. Mark Mares, Minister of Youth and Family Ministries, at mmares@firstpresbyterian.org.

Mature Singles will hold their annual Memorial Day picnic at Lillie Park South at 1:00 p.m. Monday, planning to start eating at 1:30. Please bring a dish to pass, a table service, beverage, and if possible, a folding chair. Lillie Park is located at 4365 Platt Road. Call Marcy at 995-2519 for more information.

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. All meetings are hybrid with both in-person gatherings as well as via Zoom. Questions? Contact Rev. Sanderford, jsanderford@firstpresbyterian.org.

Ukrainian Appeal: Our Presbyterian response to the situation in Ukraine will include both financial and technical assistance as the network of faith communities providing humanitarian assistance grows in the months ahead. The needs for the response are great. God's people are called on to stand in the "GAP" – Give | Act | Pray: **Give:** Gifts may be made to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance through First Pres. Checks marked "Ukraine" may be placed in the offering plate on Sunday or mailed to First Pres. Give online here: <https://secure.myvanco.com/YM88/campaign/C-115MR>. **Act:** Send gifts. **Pray** for peace.

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.

This is Hymn 551, *Lord, Have Mercy* (LAND OF REST).

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."

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

This is Hymn 587, *Alleluia* (CELTIC ALLELUIA).

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

John 14:23–29

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

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Revelations 22:1–5

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

SERMON

A Seperate Peace

RESPONDING AND SEALING

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Offertory

O Love

Elaine Hagenberg

Chancel Choir Section Leaders

O Love that will not let me go, O Love I rest my weary soul in Thee;
I give thee back the life I owe, that in thy ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.

O Joy, that seeks me through the pain, O Joy I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain that morn shall
tearless be.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Please refer to the Communion Card.

SENDING

* **HYMN 376**

When All Is Ended

YOGANANDA

* **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!**

Please be seated for the Closing Voluntary.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Dance: Juba

Nathanial Dett

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

We are glad you are here! Please sign our Friendship Pad to let us know you are here.

The 9:30 worship service is broadcast on WAAM 1600 radio at 11:00 a.m.

Worship Leaders: Liturgist – Megan Berry; Scripture Reader – Victor Stoeffler; Preacher – Evans McGowan; Pianist, Josh Marzan; and Chancel Choir Section Leaders; Usher – Jeanette Kibler

If you would like to receive prayer at the end of this service, let one of the pastors know at the door on your way out. They would be glad to step aside and pray with you.

Join us for Coffee Hour immediately following the Closing Voluntary.

The Session has called a Special Meeting of the Congregation of First Presbyterian Church, Ann Arbor, for Sunday, June 5, 2022, at 10:30 a.m. (or at the end of the worship service) to present a call to Rev. Mark Mares to become the Associate Pastor of Faith Formation, Youth and Families. Since August 2019, Rev. Mark Mares has served with distinction as our Assistant Minister for Youth and Families. The Congregational Meeting will be offered both in-person and via Zoom. Following the Congregational Meeting, there will be a reception to celebrate Rev. Mares' new and expanded role.

When a friend, loved one, or colleague passes away, we remember them in unique ways — it's how we process our grief. Whether it is doing something they loved, going to a favorite place of theirs, or cherishing something they owned, we find ways to lean into the unexpressed love we have for them. This summer, our First Pres staff will endeavor to wear fun sneakers in honor of Rev. Matthew J. Warfield. Pastor Matthew J. was an avid sneaker head and even wore sparkly shoes during his ordination service. His shoes not only brought him joy, but were another way for him to express his personality. Join us and wear your favorite sneakers to worship this summer!

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, and 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.

