



SIXTH SUNDAY *after* EPIPHANY
February 12, 2023 • 8:00 a.m.



"Love Is the Most Ancient Law" by Jan Richardson

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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

Prelude No. 1 in C

Dmitri Shostakovich

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

FAITH IN ACTION

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Holy Wisdom gathers us together with tenderness and care.

With gentleness, she calls us into the dwelling place of God.

Our pain, our fears, and all our unmet longings —
they are safe in her embrace.

In the company of God, we tend honestly to the state of our souls.

In the depths of our being, she dwells with her healing love.

In due time, God mends the broken heart.

The beloved One says, “come.”

Let all who long for restoration bring every ache and ill.

* HYMN 410

God Is Calling through the Whisper

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we confess that we bow before other gods; we have turned our hearts away from you. Our worship of work and devotion to consumerism hurts our love for you and one another. Forgive us, God, and mend what is broken in our world so we can fully embrace your love...

SILENT PRAYER

KYRIE

GHANA

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer-cy, Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

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

CELTIC ALLELUIA

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

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

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

Psalms 119:1-8

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

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

SERMON

RESPONDING & SEALING

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Offertory

Prelude No. 4 in e

Dmitri Shostakovich

***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.**

*** Prayer of Dedication**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Please refer to the Communion Card.

SENDING

*** HYMN 541**

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

RANDOLPH

*** CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Please be seated for the Closing Voluntary.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Prelude No. 15 in Db

Dmitri Shostakovich



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WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE HERE!

First Presbyterian Church is an inclusive and diverse faith community, led by the Holy Spirit, who welcomes people of all ages and backgrounds to come together to explore, nurture, and deepen their faith.

PRAYER

If you would like someone to pray with you, pastors will be available at the Communion Table after the service.

GET CONNECTED

Please use the Friendship Pad located in the pew to let us know you joined us in worship. To stay up to date with what’s happening at First, sign up for our weekly email “Our Life Together” using this QR code.



WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher	Megan Berry	Usher	Robin Agnew
Liturgist	Hannah Lundberg	Communion	Diane Knibbs
Lector	Diane Knibbs		Brian Schneidewind
Pianist	Josh Marzan		

WAYS TO GIVE

Your gift allows us to carry out our mission as an inclusive and diverse faith community.

Cash/Check

Place in the offering plate or in the mail

Online

<https://bit.ly/FPCvanco>

Text-to-Give

Text the amount you would like to give to 855-904-1523

Vanco Mobile App



Today at First

Children's Choir

10:45 a.m. | Lemon Chapel (Level 3)

Youth Classes

11:00 a.m. | LL4, LL1 (Lower Level)

First Friends

Lessons from Dietrich Bonhoeffer

11:00 a.m. | Lewis Room (Level 2)

The Bible at 11 o'clock

2 Corinthians

11:00 a.m. | French Room (Level 1)

Exploring the Faith

Refugee Resettlement

11:00 a.m. | Monteith Hall (Level 1)

Kerygma Bible Study

11:00 a.m. | Vance Room (Level 2)

Fast Track to Membership

11:00 a.m. | Lead Pastor's Office (Level 2)

Children's Classes

11:15 a.m. | Level 3

Youth Group

12:00 p.m. | Social Hall

4th & 5th Grade & Parents

Amazing Stuff: God's Plan for Growing Up

4:30 p.m. | Curtis Room, LL4

T2A2 Young Adults

Contact: hlundberg@firstpresbyterian.org

News & Events

Annual Meeting of the Congregation — The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held Sunday, February 26, following 9:30 a.m. worship for the purpose of approving the pastors' terms of call and receiving the 2022 annual report and the 2023 annual budget. There will be a potluck lunch where the main course will be provided. Please bring your favorite cold side dish to share.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance — As we watch the images and receive news about the aftermath of the earthquake near the Turkey-Syria border, we invite you to join us in prayer for all the communities impacted by this disaster. PDA has already reached out to partners in the areas affected by the earthquakes and will be providing initial grants to attend to immediate unmet needs. To support the response, visit firstpresbyterian.org/mission/presbyterian-disaster-assistance.

Social Hour Hosts Needed — We are looking for folks who will help put cookies on trays and on tables in the Social Hall before Social Hour (usually on the last hymn) — and help us at the end to put the cookie trays in the kitchen to be washed by staff the next day. All the cookies are in the kitchen by 9:15. Directions are given, and it's the easiest way to help on Sunday! Can you help? Sign up! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f45a4ac283-coffee#/>



Embracing Hope Information Sessions

Over the course of several years, the Session of First Pres has participated in a strategic visioning process asking, who is God calling us to be in our third century? Last March a capital campaign steering committee was formed to lay the groundwork to bring this vision to life.

During the month of February, our entire church community will engage in a collective process to imagine our future and chart the course ahead. Your feedback is important. You will have multiple opportunities to engage in the process through in-person and online informational gatherings. We encourage you to attend one meeting at a time your schedule allows. The meeting will last one hour, and you will have a short questionnaire to fill out at the end.

This week informational gatherings will be held

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

11:00 am - 12:00 p.m. | Curtis Room

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13

6:00 - 7:00 p.m. | Lewis Room & Zoom

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89196426148>

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

12:00 - 1:00 p.m. | Curtis Room & Zoom

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89196426148>

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

6:00 - 7:00 p.m. | Lewis Room

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16

10:30 - 11:30 a.m. | Lewis Room

For the complete schedule of information sessions, visit **firstpresbyterian.org**.

lent

A SEASON OF RENEWAL

ASH WEDNESDAY

February 22, 2023

8:00 - 9:00 a.m. & 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
Drive-through Imposition of Ashes

12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
Walk-through Imposition of Ashes
on the Diag of U of M

5:30 p.m. Family Service
7:00 p.m. Ecumenical Taizé

TAIZÉ SERVICE

Tuesday, March 7
7:00 p.m.

HOME WORSHIP GATHERINGS

Tuesdays, March 14 - 28
6:00 p.m.

Simple worship gatherings will be held
in various homes. Sign up online at
firstpresbyterian.org

PEEPS & PIZZA

Saturday, April 8
10:00 a.m.

Create a Bible story diorama using
marshmallow Peeps. Then, an outdoor
pizza lunch and children's egg hunt
will be held on the front lawn. Register
online at firstpresbyterian.org

ALPHA HOUSE WEEK OF CARING

March 20 - 27

Volunteer to support guests of Alpha
House, a shelter for children and
parents. Visit firstpresbyterian.org.

LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays, March 6 - April 10
8:00 a.m. | Monteith Hall
9:30 a.m. | Sanctuary & Livestream

LENTEN EMAIL DEVOTIONAL

Begin each day with a Lenten devotion
written by church members and staff.
To receive the email devotion, contact
Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers at [mrogers@](mailto:mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org)
firstpresbyterian.org.

LENTEN WEEKLY WALKS

Wednesday, March 1
2:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Gallup Park

Tuesday, March 7
9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
The Arboretum (meet at First Pres)

Thursday, March 16
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Bird Hills

Friday, March 24
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Dhu Varren Woods

Saturday, April 1
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Hudson Mills

Friday, April 7 (Good Friday)
12:00 p.m.
The Arboretum (meet at First Pres)

All ages and stages of life welcome. A
pastoral liaison will guide the group.
Sign up at firstpresbyterian.org.