



FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
Ann Arbor | Michigan

FIFTH SUNDAY *after* EPIPHANY  
February 4, 2024 • 9:30 a.m.

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“The Lord's Supper” by Laura James

Cover:  
"The Lord's  
Supper" ©Laura  
James, 2006 Used  
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In the Old  
Testament, Gilead  
was the name of  
the mountainous  
region east of  
the Jordan River.  
This region  
was known for  
having skillful  
physicians and an  
ointment made  
from the gum of  
a tree particular  
to that area.  
Many believed  
that this balm  
had miraculous  
powers to heal  
the body. In the  
New Testament,  
God answers  
the suffering of  
the people by  
sending God's  
own son to take  
our place. Jesus  
becomes our  
"balm in Gilead."  
(hymnary.org)

The Prayer of  
Confession is by  
Cole Arthur Riley,  
from her book,  
*Black Liturgies*.

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\* Please rise in body or spirit when you see this symbol,  
and join in singing or reading aloud text in **bold**.

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

*There Is a Balm in Gilead* Gilbert Martin

POURING OF THE WATER

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

How good it is to sing praises to our God!  
**Emmanuel—God With Us,**  
**heals the brokenhearted,**  
**binding up their wounds.**

God counts the stars,  
and calls them each by name.  
**How great is our God!**  
**God's power is absolute,**  
**and God's understanding, beyond comprehension.**

So come, let's sing out our thanksgiving to God!

\* HYMN 35 *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty* LOBE DEN HERREN

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Creator God, We confess that we have confined ourselves to the  
binaries of analytical and artistic, logician and poet, instead of  
existing in the full complexity of our humanity. That which is  
feeling and creative we have made optional as opposed to vital.  
And we destroy far more than we create. Forgive us. And in your  
mercy, restore our relationship to the artistry that dwells within  
us all....**

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."*

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

ABERYSTWYTH

**Plenteous grace with thee is found,**  
**grace to cover all my sin.**  
**Let the healing streams abound;**  
**make and keep me pure within.**

Thou of life the fountain art;  
freely let me take of thee.  
Spring thou up within my heart.  
Rise to all eternity.

PROCLAIMING *the* WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 147:1-11, 20  
The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES  
*Please join in singing as the children come forward.*

**May the God of hope go with us every day,  
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.  
May the God of justice speed us on our way,  
bringing light and hope to every land and race.  
Praying, let us work for peace;  
singing, share our joy with all;  
working for a world that’s new,  
faithful when we hear Christ’s call.**

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 40:21-31  
The grass withers, the flower fades;  
**The word of the Lord endures forever.**

SERMON

Children and Youth Faith Formation classes will not meet today. Children's resources may be found in the Narthex.

RESPONDING *and* SEALING

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY *There is a Balm in Gilead* William Dawson  
Chancel Choir and Nick Music, tenor  
*Refrain*  
There is a balm in Gilead, to make the wounded whole,  
There is a balm in Gilead, to heal the sin sick soul.  
Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work’s in vain,  
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. (Refrain)  
If you cannot sing like angles, if you cannot preach like Paul,  
You can tell the love of Jesus and say, “He died for all.” (Refrain)

\* DOXOLOGY LASST UNS ERFREUEN  
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise God above ye heavenly host.  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All are welcome  
to receive  
Communion. All  
cups contain grape  
juice. Most stations  
are gluten free but  
contain eggs and  
milk. If you need  
an option that  
contains gluten but  
no other allergens,  
come to the center  
station.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...and so we rejoice with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
singing the song of your unending praise.

SANCTUS

Mark Miller

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord; God of power and  
might. Heav - en and earth are full of your  
glo - - - - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho -  
san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na in the high - est!  
Blest is the one who comes in the name of the  
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na in the  
high - est! Ho - san - na in the high - - - est!

...as we remember Christ life and his rest in you,  
as we celebrate the good news of lightened burdens,  
we speak of that mystery we call faith.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Christ has died. Christ has ris-en. Christ will come a -  
gain. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na in the  
high - est! Ho - san - na in the high - - - est!

... fill our hearts with longing for your heavenly banquet,  
where you will be all in all, one God, Creator, Christ, and  
Spirit, for evermore. Amen.

**Ways to give:**  
**Cash/Check**  
Place in the offering  
plate or in the mail

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

**Online**  
[firstpresbyterian/  
contribute](#)

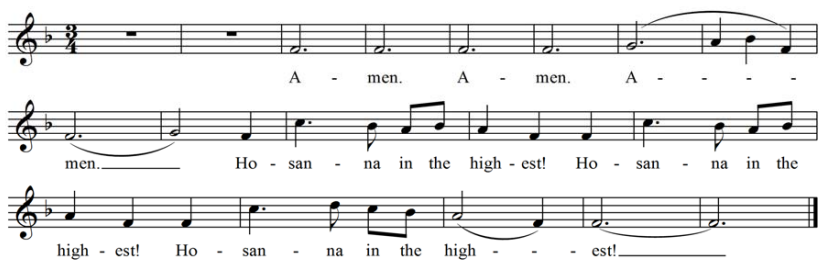
**Vanco Mobile App**



SCAN ME



AMEN



A - men, A - men, A - - - -  
men. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na in the  
high - est! Ho - san - na in the high - - - est!

...and now let us pray the words our Lord taught us praying,

**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.**

- WORDS OF INSTITUTION
- COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE
- COMMUNION MUSIC
- PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

- \* HYMN 741                      *Guide My Feet*                      GUIDE MY FEET
- \* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation is held for the purpose of approving the pastors’ terms of call and receiving the 2023 annual report and the 2024 annual budget.

The All-Church Potluck takes place in the Social Hall after the meeting and the shelter-in-place drill. There will be plenty of food, so even if you didn't plan to stay — please do!



*The chancel flowers are given by Al Beery  
to the glory of God and in loving memory of Suzanne Beery.*

*The rosebud is in honor of  
Ethan Oliveto McQueen born January 21, 2024.  
Parents are Kiel and Francesca McQueen.  
Grandparents are Mike and Lynn McQueen.*

Throughout the month of February, worship will include more pieces of art, liturgy, and music from Black artists and theologians in honor of Black History Month. We encourage you to learn something new this month, and check out resources from the anti-racism library collection in the French Room.

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# WELCOME

## We Are Glad You Are Here!

We are so thankful that you have joined us today for worship. We would love to get to know you and help you get to know us.

While you are with us today, we would love for you to do two things:

1. **Sign the Friendship Pad.** The pads are located at the end of each pew. Sign it then pass it down to others.
2. **Join us following worship for Social Hour.** There will be cookies and coffee and lots of friendly faces.

## Children in Worship

Childcare is available for ages 5 and younger on the First Level. Children are always welcome to stay with their families during worship.

## Parking

Additional parking is located at the Forest Avenue parking structure located on South Forest Avenue between South University and Willard. The structure is only a three minute walk from the church, and parking is free on Sundays. To get to the church from the structure, cross Forest Avenue and walk down Forest Court to the end of the block.

## Subscribe to our YouTube channel.

Find recordings of our 9:30 a.m. worship service, Adult Faith Formation classes, concerts, and more. Become a subscriber and don't miss a thing! [youtube.com/@FPCA2](https://www.youtube.com/@FPCA2)

## Worship Leaders

Rev. Mark Mares  
Nathaniel Fryer  
Rev. Tommy Langejans  
Rev. David Prentice-Hyers  
Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers

### Musicians

Chancel Choir

### Organist

David Hufford

### Minister of Music & Fine Arts

David VanderMeer

### Lay Reader

Bill King

### Welcome Center

Chris Argersinger

Barbara Mueller

### Ushers

Clem Gill  
Linda Lampman  
Keith Molin  
Karla Olson-Bellfi  
Joe Schmidt  
Carol Smith  
Paul Smith  
Elsa Stuber  
Dick Stuber  
Bruce Thomson  
Len Rezmierski  
Angela Yang

## SUNDAY OFFERINGS

8:30 AM

**Contemplative  
Communion  
Service**  
Monteith Hall

9:30 AM

**Worship**  
Sanctuary &  
Livestream

10:30 AM

**Annual Meeting**  
Sanctuary

10:30 AM

**Lemon Chapel  
Singers** (K-8 grade)  
Lemon Chapel

11:30 AM

**Safety Drill**  
Sanctuary

11:45 AM

**Potluck Lunch  
& Chili Cookoff**  
Social Hall

6:00 PM

**Youth Group**  
Youth Room

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ADULT FORMATION

Adult Faith formation classes will not meet today because of the Annual Meeting.

### CONGREGATIONAL CARE

#### **Grief Conversations**

Beginning on February 19

Grief Conversations will return the third Monday of each month from 12 – 1 online. Join Rev. Rogers for a support group and network of those who grieve, supporting one another and learning to share the burdens. Join us at:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5502657984>.

### MATURE MINISTRIES

#### **Beyond the “Happy Little Trees”: Painter Bob Ross and His Impact on American Popular Culture**

Thursday, February 8

12:00 p.m. | Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5502657984>

In this Zoom gathering, explore the life, philosophy, and art of the iconic American painter who hosted the long-running PBS program, *The Joy of Painting*. Bob Ross inspired generations of viewers with his soft-spoken voice and a pallet knife. With its global reach, it's hard to imagine that much of his beloved series was filmed in an unassuming television studio inside a historic home in Muncie, Indiana.

### MUSIC & FINE ARTS

#### **Summer Camp**

Hey, kids! Join us for a week of non-stop fun this summer learning the musical drama based on the Exodus story, “Moses and the Freedom Fanatics.” We'll have lots of other activities, such as handbells, crafts, games, Bible stories, and more. The cost is \$75 per camper, and the camp will run from July 29 to August 2, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. with a performance on Sunday, August 4. Register online at [firstpresbyterian.org](http://firstpresbyterian.org).

### **Motawi Tileworks Art Exhibit**

Social Hall

The exhibit in the Social Hall traces the creative process of producing an art tile, from creating designs, etching them into plaster molds, bisque-firing, glazing, and then firing again. An array of tile designs are on display. Additionally, an interactive workshop that will invite interested parties to create a tile themselves is being scheduled during the first quarter of 2024.

### **Open Doores: The National Arab Orchestra Takht Ensemble**

Sunday, February 18

4:00 p.m. | Sanctuary

First Pres is pleased to present The National Arab Orchestra Takht Ensemble (NAOTE) in concert on Sunday, February 18, at 4:00 p.m. NAOTE was founded in 2010 as the NAO's premiere traditional ensemble performing some of Arab music's finest classical repertoire. The NAOTE performs classical and contemporary Arab music otherwise known as tarab music.

### WORSHIP

#### **Taizé Prayer Service**

Tuesday, February 6

7:00 p.m. | Monteith Hall

We invite you to come experience a beautiful form of prayer, inspired by the ecumenical community in Taizé, France.

# The Season of Lent

# THIRSTING

# for JUSTICE

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

## SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE PARTY

Tuesday, February 13  
6:00 p.m. | Social Hall

Come celebrate with us in pancake and bacon decadence before we begin a more reflective time during Lent. Fun and food for all ages! Sign up online to bring toppings, loan griddles, and help volunteer! [firstpresbyterian.org](https://firstpresbyterian.org)

## LENTEN HOME WORSHIP

Tuesdays, February 20 - March 19  
6:00 p.m.

Please join us for a time of fellowship, a simple meal and brief worship service in members' homes. Limited to 20 people per gathering. Sign up online at [firstpresbyterian.org](https://firstpresbyterian.org)

## 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@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org).

## ALPHA HOUSE WEEK OF CARING

March 18-24

During the week of March 18, volunteer to support guests of Alpha House, a shelter for children and parents. To volunteer, visit [firstpresbyterian.org](https://firstpresbyterian.org).

## ASH WEDNESDAY

February 14, 2023

Begin the season of Lent by joining us for worship and the imposition of ashes.

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

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

## LENTEN WEEKLY WALKS

As part of our communal Lenten journey we will take weekly walks along the scenic trails in our community. All ages and stages of life welcome. A pastoral liaison will guide the group. Day, location, and time are posted on our website. Sign up at [firstpresbyterian.org](https://firstpresbyterian.org).

## LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays, February 18 - March 24  
8:30 a.m. | Monteith Hall  
9:30 a.m. | Sanctuary & Livestream  
11:15 a.m. | Monteith Hall

Join us throughout Lent for a time of prayer and self-examination in preparation for the celebration of the resurrection of the Lord at Easter.

## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Sundays, March 24 & 31

Join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors in need by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed. To give, visit [firstpresbyterian.org](https://firstpresbyterian.org).