



Anneke Kaai
"Psalm 103"

Cover:
Anneke Kaai
"Psalm 103"

16TH SUNDAY *after* PENTECOST

September 17, 2023 • 9:30 a.m.

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

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY *Rhosymedre* Ralph Vaughan William
FPC Orchestra

POURING OF THE WATER

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

FAITH IN ACTION

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Children of God: welcome home!

Welcome to this place of love and grace,

Welcome to this place of hope and perseverance.

God invites all of us to be a part of the beloved community,

God invites all of us to share in the good news:

We are welcome, just as we are. We are loved, just as we are.

In gratitude for all of this, let us worship God.

Hijos de Dios: ¡bienvenidos!

Bienvenidos a este lugar de amor y gracia,

Bienvenidos a este lugar de esperanza y perseverancia.

Dios nos invita a todos a ser parte de la amada comunidad,

Dios nos invita a todos a compartir las buenas nuevas:

Somos bienvenidos, tal como somos. Somos amados, tal como somos.

En agradecimiento por todo esto, adoremos a Dios.

* HYMN 459

O Word of God Incarnate

MUNICH

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sometimes, O God, we forget people, or we toss them aside – the difficult ones, the needy ones, the ones that are hard to spend time with, the ones who confront us. And sometimes when we do things like that, it's not really about the other people, but about us. We are uncomfortable, or we feel guilty, or we follow brighter, shinier people, or we worry about what will make us look good. We are in such desperate need of your forgiveness. We need to be forgiven for our sin, for our mistakes, for mistaking what the world values with what you value. Help us to be better, and, to see more clearly, and to care more thoroughly. In Christ we pray...

SILENT PRAYER

The **Call to Worship** is written by Beth Merrill Neal. As part of our celebration of Latinx heritage month, it will be read in both English and Spanish.

mp

O Lord, have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy,
 O Lord, have mer - cy on us, we pray. O Lord, for - give us, for -
 give us all our sins, as we walk in the light of your love.

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

DETROIT

"For - give our sins as we — for - give," you taught us, Lord, to pray,
 but you a - lone can grant us — grace to live the words we say.

PROCLAIMING *the* WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 103:1-14

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Please join in singing as the children come forward.

Halle, halle, hallelujah!**Halle, halle, hallelujah!****Halle, halle, hallelujah!****Hallelujah, Hallelujah!**

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 14:1-12

The grass withers, the flower fades;

The word of the Lord endures forever.

SERMON

Children are invited to attend **Faith Formation classes** following the Conversations with Young Disciples. Teachers will escort children to their classrooms.

**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

<https://bit.ly/FPCvanco>

Vanco Mobile App



SCAN ME

RESPONDING

*HYMN 625 *O Lord My God (How Great Thou Art)* HOW GREAT THOU ART

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY *Sing a New Song* Schütz/Jennings

Chancel Choir; Gregg Powell, String Bass; Brandon LePage, Flute

Sing a new song to God the Lord,
Sing and give praise with one accord.
For God's salvation God doth give,
That, through God's mercy, we may live.

Worship the Lord in holiness,
Hymns of great joy to God address.
Honor God's works and bless God's name.
God's grace and truth to all proclaim.

Heaven above and earth below,
Ocean and field God's glory show.
All of God's creatures sing God's praise.
Let us now to our voices raise.
Glory and thanks to God belong,
Honor God evermore in song.

* 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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

SENDING

* HYMN 65 *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* CWM RHONDDA

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Please be seated for the Closing Voluntary.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY *Simple Gifts* arr. Marsha Chusmir Shapiro
FPC Orchestra



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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.

Prayer

If you would like someone to pray with you, stop by Hillegonds Chapel after the service. Elders, Deacons, and Stephen Ministers are always there to assist those seeking prayer. Today's prayer partners are Brad Taylor and Beth Gerwig.

Flowers

The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and

In memory of Anne Christine Anderson, who died December 14, 2022, by her parents Bill and Betty Anderson

In memory of Dave and Pat Clyde on their anniversary by their family

Children in Worship

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

Worship Leaders

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

Liturgists

Hadley Feyen
Silvia Robles

Musicians

Chancel Choir
FPC Orchestra
Gregg Powell, String Bass
Brandon LePage, Flute

Organist

David Hufford

Minister of Music & Fine Arts

David VanderMeer

Ushers

Omer Bellfi
Karla Olson-Bellfi
Cyndy Colton
Clem Gill
Keith Molin
Joe Schmidt
Dick Stuber

SUNDAY OFFERINGS

8:30 AM

**Contemplative
Communion
Service**
Monteith Hall

9:30 AM

Worship
Sanctuary &
Livestream

9:30 AM

**Children &
Youth Faith
Formation**
Classrooms

10:30 AM

Social Hour
Circle Terrace

10:45 AM

**Children's
Choir**
Lemon Chapel

11:00 AM

**Adult Faith
Formation**
Classrooms

11:15 AM

Worship
Monteith Hall

6:00 PM

Youth Group
Youth Room

Elsa Stuber
Angela Yang
Len Rezmierski, Captain

Greeters

Melinda Haithcock
Michael Haithcock
Sallie Parker

Welcome Center
Prue Heikkinen
Angie Miller

FAITH FORMATION @ FIRST

9:30
AM

Children's Formation

Children will move to their classrooms with their teachers after the Conversations with Young Disciples

4 Years Old - 5th Grade
Levels 1 and 3 Classrooms

Youth Formation

Middle School
6-8 Grade
Youth Room

11:00
AM

Adult Formation

EXPLORING THE FAITH

Bringing More Awe into Our Lives through Music

Lewis Room
Host: Dave VanderMeer

BIBLE AT 11 O'CLOCK

New Testament Epistles: 1 & 2 Peter; 1, 2, & 3 John

French Room & Zoom
Host: Ed Koster

FIRST FRIENDS

Simon Peter: Flawed but Faithful

Curtis Room & Zoom
Host: Carol Pawloski

Childcare (5 & under) is available from 8:20 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. in First Level Classrooms

For a full listing of offerings and upcoming events, please visit firstpresbyterian.org

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

EXPLORING THE FAITH

Bringing More Awe Into Our Lives

Lewis Room
Host: David VanderMeer

We will gather in the Sanctuary and explore how music engages both the heart and mind in ways that are awe inspiring!

BIBLE AT 11 O'CLOCK

New Testament: the Epistle of James; 1, 2, & 3 John

French Room and Zoom
Host: Ed Koster

Join us for a study through some shorter New Testament epistles this fall as we dig deep into scripture. Throughout the study, we will explore the historical context in which these letters were written, examining the cultural and societal challenges faced by the early Christians.

FIRST FRIENDS

Simon Peter: Flawed but Faithful

Curtis Room and Zoom
Host: Carol Pawloski

Join us for a six-week video series on Simon Peter by Adam Hamilton. This week's discussion will cover episode one, "The Call of the Fisherman."

Journeys Bible Study

1st and 3rd Thursday
Thursday, September 21
1:00 - 2:30 p.m. | Curtis Room

All are welcome to join the Journeys Bible Study. Resident Minister Tommy Langejans will facilitate the study "Hebrew for Regular People," a distillation of the unique way Hebrew is taught at Western Theological Seminary. You will be introduced to the Hebrew language and what it's like to read the Old Testament as it was first written in a playful and embodied way. This class is NOT a Hebrew 101 class; you won't need to learn grammar. Together, we'll learn how to interpret Hebrew amidst its ambiguity and even a few easy ways to incorporate it as we read Scripture. Questions? Contact Beth Gerwig at bgerwig@comcast.net.

Fast Track & New Member Class

Are you interested in learning more about First Pres? A Fast Track to Membership class will be held today in the Pastor's Study at 11:00 a.m. Then, join us for the New Member Class on September 24, at 4 p.m. at the home of Jane Dutton (5555 Red Fox Run). We want you there! There will be an opportunity to learn, connect, meet staff, and join the church at the end of the class. Contact: Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers, mrogers@fpca2.org.

CAMPUS MINISTRY

Welcome College Students!

If you are an undergrad or graduate student, we'd love to welcome you more fully into the life of First Pres! Email Hannah Lundberg at campus@firstpresbyterian.org to learn more about programming for college students and young adults.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Social Hour Coffee

Bags of Fair Trade coffee will be for sale today during Social Hour. Take some home and support our ministry to farmers.

GOVERNANCE

Congregational Meeting

A meeting of the congregation has been called by Session for today, following the 9:30 a.m. worship service, for the purpose of electing church officers – elders and deacons – for the Class of 2026.

MATURE MINISTRIES

Fall Trip

Thursday, September 21

Our fall trips begin with a September 21 journey by chartered bus to the Gilmore Car Museum, Schuler's for lunch, and the Honolulu House. We have space and all ages are welcome to join us. Contact Rev. Rogers for the link to sign up and more information.

MISSION

Food Rescue Program

We need 5-6 volunteers per home game to collect and store the food in the stadium's freezer for approximately 2 hours. The collected food is donated to local food ministry partners. Sign up at

firstpresbyterian.org or contact Don Redding at dredding58@yahoo.com for more information.

Gun Violence Prevention

In Michigan, a woman is killed by an abuser with a gun every week. To address this issue, End Gun Violence Michigan and the Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence are organizing a day of action on September 18. Press conferences will be held across the state to raise awareness. The groups are advocating for new laws that would prohibit individuals convicted of domestic violence or under a final domestic violence restraining order from owning a gun for 8 years. These bills (SB 678 & 679, HB 5371 & 5372) were introduced in the previous legislative session but did not receive a hearing. The objective is to pass these bills this year. Two press conferences will take place in Lansing at 10 AM and Detroit at 11 AM. Church members are organizing car pools to attend each conference and show silent support for the bills. For more information or to participate, please contact Carol Fletcher at cefletch@umich.edu.

MUSIC & FINE ARTS

Art Exhibit: Landscapes

We are delighted to begin our Open Doors Creative Arts Series for 2023-24 with an exhibit by local artist John Shultz. The exhibit will run from September through November in the Social Hall.

WORSHIP


Are you a "Greeter-in-the-Pew?"


We are building our email list of folks who have served in this way. GIP-pers, as we call them, are those who agree to speak to someone they don't know when they are at church for worship. They keep their eyes open for guests and visitors in the pew and reach out with a kind "hello" and welcome. It's a simple task that everyone can do. There are no meetings, and if you agree, you'll just simply get a reminder email and some words of encouragement. This is the secret sauce of First Pres hospitality. Willing to serve? Want to know more? Email Rev. Rogers, mrogers@fpca2.org.



Scan with your phone
to visit our website

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