



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Ann Arbor | Michigan

MAY 28, 2017  
FAMILY WORSHIP SUNDAY  
ASCENSION SUNDAY

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP  
8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.

## Gathering

**PRELUDE**     *Prayer of Christ Ascending to His Father*

Olivier Messiaen

**LIFE IN THE CHURCH**

Rev. Sanderford (8:00)

Rev. Béghin (9:30/11:00)

**CALL TO WORSHIP**     from Psalm 47

One: Shout for joy, sing songs of praise,

**All: for God reigns over all the earth!**

One: God has gone up with a shout!

**All: Sound the trumpets and sing songs of praise!**

\* **HYMN 461**

*God Is Here!*

ABBOT'S LEIGH

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**     from *Feasting on the Word*

**Living God,**

**we confess that our faith is sometimes weak,**

**our love for others can be faint,**

**our prayers are often timid,**

**and our gratitude is frequently unconvincing.**

**When we stand looking toward heaven, yet feel far from you,**

**you draw near in mercy to forgive us,**

**and fill us with your power,**

**through the Grace of Jesus,**

**our resurrected Savior.**

**SILENT CONFESSION**

**ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

\* **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*You are invited to share signs with one another of the peace we experience as forgiven people. Greet one another saying, "The peace of Christ be with you," and respond, "And also with you."*

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\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne;  
Hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own!  
Awake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for thee,  
And hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity.**

 Proclaiming 

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Michele Derr (8:00)

Sandy Talbott (9:30)

Ed Koster (11:00)

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11

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

ANTHEM (9:30)

*O Clap Your Hands* Ralph Vaughan Williams

Psalm 47

O clap your hands, all ye people;  
shout unto God with the voice of triumph.  
For the Lord most high is terrible;  
He is a great King over all the earth.  
God is gone up with a shout,  
the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.  
Sing praises to God; sing praises.  
Sing praises unto our King; sing praises.  
For God is the King of all the earth.  
Sing ye praises everyone that hath understanding.  
God reigneth over the heathen.  
God sitteth upon the throne of His holiness.

A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES (9:30)

*Children through grade five are invited forward.*

SECOND READING Luke 24:44-53

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

SERMON

Rev. Ervin

 Responding 

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

**In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our  
Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the  
Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,  
whom alone we worship and serve.**

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**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe in the gospel.**

**Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.**

**With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

\* **HYMN 252**      *O Lord, You Are My God and King*      JERUSALEM

**WELCOME**

Rev. Rogers (9:30)

Rev. Fair (11:00)

*Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it to others sitting nearby.*

## **OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS**

**Offertory**

*Clap Your Hands*

Alfred Fedak

Clap your hands, O faithful people!  
Shout to God a song of praise!  
From the dust of conquered nations,  
God a realm of grace shall raise.  
In appointed courts of glory  
Faithful to God's name always,  
May we prosper all our days.

With a shout, and blast of trumpet,  
God shall mount a throne on high;  
Let our praise, as finest incense,  
Rise to meet God in the sky,  
Fill the world with glad rejoicing,  
Heav'n shall sing, and earth reply,  
All God's works to glorify.

Let your hearts be filled with gladness,  
As the Lord your life shall bless;  
Live as heirs of God's great justice,  
Wear the cloak of righteousness.  
God will grant us earth's dominion,  
All things good, and nothing less,  
For our gift of faithfulness.

Psalm 47  
para. Michael Morgan

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\* **Doxology**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\* **Prayer of Dedication**

**SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION (8:00)**

**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 144**

*Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!*

HYFRYDOL

\* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

\* **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
Till all the world adore His sacred name.  
Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod,  
The Lamb victorious, Christ, the Son of God.**

\* **POSTLUDE**

Songs of Our Country

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\* Please rise in body or spirit.

Those parts of the service of worship in which the congregation participates in word or song are noted in **bold type**. Hearing-assistance devices (in the Sanctuary) and large-print bulletins and hymnals are available from the ushers.

**Welcome to all!** Please know that all, including visitors and newcomers, are invited to share in the life of the church. A full description of church events may be found online at [www.firstpresbyterian.org](http://www.firstpresbyterian.org). If you have questions, please visit the **Welcome Center**, just outside the Social Hall. Greeting you there today are Missy Smith-Potter and Jill Binkley. **Church Office** volunteers are Jane Bartman and Carol Downton. **Greeters are** Valerie and John Yodhes and Pat Tamblyn at 9:30; and Lynne Lande and John and Dawn Pankopf at 11:00.

**Ushers are** Bill Austin (head) and Marty Reineman at 8:00; Bill Austin (head), Joe Schmidt (captain), Beth Sanderford, Spaulding Clark, Chris Queen, and Dean Gilchrist at 9:30; and Bill Austin (head), Carter Hodgson (captain), Cindy Andress, Karen Cox, Joe Cox, Jeanette Swartz, and Barry Swartz at 11:00.

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**The prayer team** is available for those desiring prayer in Hillegonds Chapel after the 9:30 and 11:00 services. Prayer team members are Nancy Fox and Pam Rinker after the 9:30 service; and Gale Redding and Bill McPherson after the 11:00 service. Following the 8:00 service a minister is available for prayer at the Communion Table. “The right way to pray is to stretch out our hands and ask of One who we know has the heart of a Father.” – Dietrich Bonhoeffer

**The chancel flowers** are given in loving memory of Ruth and Paul McCracken by their children; in honor of the Leslie family’s continuity of service in the US Armed Forces – Richard D., Dale R., and Graham T. Leslie; and in loving memory of Ralph and Joan Banfield by their daughters Barbara Brewster and Rebecca Gaffney and families.

## **TODAY’S EVENTS**

**Worship** is at 8:00 a.m. in Monteith Hall, and at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. **Radio Worship is broadcast at 11:00 a.m.**, on WAAM (1600 AM) and on the web ([www.waamradio.com](http://www.waamradio.com)).

**Join us for Coffee Hour** in the Social Hall immediately following the 9:30 a.m. worship service. **Cookie bakers** are Kathy Wirstrom, John and Dawn Pankopf, Linda Lampman, and Marilyn Gibson. Child-friendly, peanut-free purchased snacks are available for children.

**The First Pres Veterans Group is sponsoring Coffee Hour** in remembrance of veterans who have died. A slide show will honor veterans who are former members of our church, friends, or relatives of church members. **All are invited to a short remembrance ceremony** led by Rev. Eldon Beery in the Memorial Garden at 12:15 p.m.

### **Children’s Ministry Opportunities:**

**Today is Family Sunday. Childcare** is available at 9:30 a.m. for crib through age two and **Christian education classes** are held for age three through kindergarten. At 11:00 a.m., childcare is available for crib through young five-year-olds. Worship activity totes and Busy Hands activity baskets are available at the entrances to the Sanctuary for children attending worship at 11:00 a.m.

### **Adult Education Opportunity:**

**Exploring the Faith** meets in Monteith Hall at 11:00 a.m. for “Light in Russia.” Anastasia Klimzo who grew up in Davydovo, Russia, will describe the post-Soviet restoration and ministry of the Orthodox church there. First Pres has a lively partnership with the Russian Orthodox Church and Father Vladimir Klimzo in Davydovo. Father Vladimir and his congregation operate a summer camp for special needs children and families, offering respite and learning opportunities.

**T2A2 Small Group** meets at 7:00 p.m. at Chris Wahl’s house. Whether you are a believer or a seeker, a grad student or a working professional, we invite all in their twenties and thirties to come and build community with us. For more information, contact Rev. Ryo or Rev. Ervin.

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The church is closed tomorrow, Monday, May 29, in observation of Memorial Day.**

**All are invited to the Mature Singles Memorial Day Picnic** at Lillie Park South, 4365 Platt Road, at 1:00 p.m tomorrow, Monday, May 29. Contact Marcy (995-2519) for more information.

**Communion Food Collection** is next Sunday. As we are fed at the Lord's Table, we also come to feed others and lend support to those in need. Please bring food donations or financial contributions for Food Gatherers of Ann Arbor.

**The PCUSA Pentecost Offering will be received next Sunday, June 4.** Sixty percent of this offering goes to Presbyterian Mission Agency ministries helping children, youth, and young adults develop their life of faith through supportive communities, caring mentors, and faith-related nurture and service. Forty percent of the Pentecost Offering is for local use. Our Mission Committee has chosen to support a summer camp program in the Sugarbush Neighborhood in Ypsilanti. Operated by The Dispute Resolution Center in a fun oriented environment, school-age children will learn communication skills to help them listen, speak, and grow. Please give generously next Sunday.

**A reception honoring the ministry of Rev. Emily Béghin at Glacier Hills** will be held this Thursday, June 1, at 10:30 a.m. in the Hanson Room at Glacier Hills. If you would like to attend, please let Rev. Rogers know. You are welcome to come give thanks for her pastoral care and leadership, and enjoy light refreshments with our Glacier Hills members. Rev. Béghin has accepted a call as Associate Minister of First Presbyterian Church in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Her last day with us is next Sunday, June 4. We will celebrate her ministry among us during Coffee Hour that day.

**High School students head to Cedar Point tomorrow, May 29.** The bus leaves from the bell side of the church at 7:45 a.m. Cost is \$60. All release forms must be turned in to Peer Minister Lex Allum today.

**As part of our objective to provide regular financial updates, there will be an informational meeting, sponsored by the Finance Committee,** after each of the three services next Sunday, June 4, in the Curtis Room.

**Have you registered your children for Summer Vacation Bible School yet?** The dates are June 20, 21, and 22. Registration is open for all First Pres families, cousins, grandchildren, friends and neighbors. Go to the First Pres website for more details and easy registration.

**Mature Singles** (single men and women over age 60) meet this Friday, June 2, 5:30 p.m., at Olive Garden, 445 Eisenhower Parkway. All are welcome!

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**Join us for the All Church Picnic on Sunday, June 11, following the 9:30 a.m. service.** There is no 11:00 a.m. worship on June 11. Enjoy Satchel's BBQ, a bluegrass band, and inflatables and games for kids of all ages. Cost is \$8/person if you pay by Friday, June 9, at noon or \$9/person if you pay at the event (max \$40/nuclear family). Children age 5 and under are free. Make your reservations online or in the Church Office.

**Volunteer for Habitat for Humanity House of Faith construction** by contacting Lois Nissly (Inissly@comcast.net) or Don Redding (dredding58@yahoo.com).

**An Interim Youth Ministry Committee** has been called to plan for the transition of our Youth Ministry. The committee is tasked with finding an interim youth minister and helping with programming until the interim minister is on board. If you have questions about the work of the committee or suggestions, contact Rev. Sanderford or Linda Dabrowski (linda.dabrowski@gmail.com).

**Help is needed to set up chairs for Sunday outside worship** at First Pres from June 18 – July 30. This is a great family activity. Arrive at 8:30 a.m. Sign up online while slots are still available or contact Sheryl Powell (spowell@lentel.com).

**Our Summer 2017 Worship theme is "Walking With Jesus: Mercy, Justice, Humility."** Sign up online or in the Church Office to receive daily email devotions authored by members of the First Pres community. The rhythms of Sunday worship will follow these three themes and there will be open "ConnectED Conversations" at 11:00 a.m. on Sundays, offering time and space for hearty conversation. Families and children will follow the same themes with curated books and activities drawing upon the themes of mercy, fairness, and walking with God.

**Our "First Pres Summer Reads" includes three remarkable books,** available for purchase in the Church Office, which reflect these themes of mercy, justice, and humility. These books will inform the rhythms of Sunday worship and will guide the "ConnectED Conversations." The June selection is *Hallelujah Anyway* by Anne Lamott (\$14). In July we will read *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson (\$12). Our August book is *Reaching Out* by Henri Nouwen (\$10).

**First Pres Kids Read!** Coordinating with the adult theme of mercy, the children of our congregation will focus in June on the theme "Be Kind." The following book recommendations would appeal to ages four to eleven. A copy of each book is available for you to see at First Pres. Please see Debbie MacVey for more information.

*I'm New Here* by Anne Sibley O'Brien  
*Hank Finds an Egg* by Rebecca Dudley  
*A Sick Day for Amos McGee* by Philip C. Stead  
*Enemy Pie* by Derek Munson



## Looking Ahead to Summer at First Pres . . .

### Sunday Summer worship locations: June 18 – July 30

8:00 a.m. service: Monteith Hall

9:30 a.m. service: Front Lawn

The Sanctuary will be used in case of rain. Our property and facilities people have assured us that safety and dust will not be an issue during the truss repair work.

11:00 a.m. service: Monteith Hall

### Summer building hours: June 19 – September 4

Mondays – Thursdays 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Fridays and Saturdays 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Sundays 7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

### Mark your calendars for these annual summer events . . .

High School Graduate Recognition Sunday, June 11

All-Church Picnic Sunday, June 11

Vacation Bible School June 20 – 22

### PASTORAL AND PROGRAM STAFF

Reverend Dr. Fairfax F. Fair, Pastor/Head of Staff

Reverend Melissa Anne Rogers, Associate Pastor

Reverend Jay Sanderford, Associate Pastor

Deborah MacVey, Director of Children's Education and Family Ministries

Tom Granum, Director of Music Ministries

Carol Muehlig, Organist and Handbell Director

Resident Ministers:

Reverend Emily Béghin

Reverend Daniel Ervin

Reverend Angela Ryo

Lex Allum, Peer Minister

Sandy Talbott, Wellness Coordinator/Parish Nurse

### ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Anna Miller, Finance Manager

Adrian Prundeanu, Facilities Manager

Linda Robinson, Office Manager

Lisa Haddrill, Technology Coordinator

Mary Jones, Publications Coordinator/Pastor's Assistant

Cindy King, Administrative Assistant/Children's Education Assistant

Robin Agnew, Administrative Assistant

Almer Harris, Maintenance Specialist

Stephanie Anderson, Finance Assistant



FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
Ann Arbor | Michigan

1432 Washtenaw Avenue  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104  
734-662-4466  
info@firstpresbyterian.org  
www.firstpresbyterian.org