



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Ann Arbor | Michigan

SEPTEMBER 29, 2019

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP

9:30 and 11:00 a.m.



🌿 Gathering 🌿

PRELUDE

Be Thou My Vision

arr. James Curnow

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

Rev. Sanderford (9:30)

Rev. Rogers (11:00)

FAITH IN ACTION

Stewardship

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Andrew Frazier

One: Our lives are a gift of love, a grace from the God of all creating.

All: We were made by love and for love.

One: Through all life's long path,

All: from youth to age, by night and day.

One: Rejoice, people of God, rejoice!

All: Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

* HYMN 804

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!

MARION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God of faithful, loving care: in our fear, pain, and isolation, we recoil from our best selves. We retreat from your invitation to full life. We resist the love you give and withhold that love from others. We over-protect ourselves and withhold our hearts from your offer of wider possibility, braver life, and greater generosity.

Holy God, save us. Sweep away our self-condemnation and release its power over us. Help us trust your perfect love; let it pour into the places that only you can heal. Grant us release, freedom, and new life in you.

We believe. Help our unbelief. O Holy One, hear our prayer . . .

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 God's people. Greet one another saying, "The peace of Christ be with you," and respond, "And also with you."

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**Your Spirit is our teacher, the light that guides our search,
transforming broken people into the holy church.**

**For feeding us with mercy, for wisdom you impart:
sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.**

This is Stanza 3 of Hymn 694, Great God of Every Blessing (AURELIA).

Proclaiming

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jenny Nale (9:30)
Jennifer Day (11:00)

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 91:1–6, 14–16

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

A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES (9:30) Rev. Rogers

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Luke 16:19–31

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

SERMON

Flesh in the Game

Rev. Chandler Stokes

Responding

* HYMN 708

We Give Thee but Thine Own

SCHUMANN

WELCOME OF NEW MEMBERS (9:30)

Karla Olson-Bellfi

Joining the church today are Marlee Brown and Dan Musser, Sophie and Marc Craig, Nancy Harrison, Jenna Mares, Chuck Matthews, Jamie Reynolds, Sarah Thomson, and Jonathan Tice.

Hymn of Welcome *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

DENNIS

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love:

The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Rev. Johnson (11:00)

Offertory

Poor Man Lazrus

Jester Hairston

Poor man Lazrus, sick and disabled,
dip your finger in the water;
come and cool my tongue,
'cause I'm tormented in the flame!
He had to eat crumbs from the rich man's table
dip your finger in the water;
come and cool my tongue,
'cause I'm tormented in the flame!

Refrain:

I'm tormented in the flame!
I'm tormented in the flame!
Dip your finger in the water;
come and cool my tongue,
'cause I'm tormented in the flame!

Rich man Divies, he lived so well.
Dip your finger in the water;
come and cool my tongue,
'cause I'm tormented in the flame!
And when he died, he went straight to hell.
Dip your finger in the water;
come and cool my tongue,
'cause I'm tormented in the flame! [Refrain]

I love to shout, I love to sing.
Dip your finger in the water;
come and cool my tongue,
'cause I'm tormented in the flame!
I love to praise my heavenly King.
Dip your finger in the water;
come and cool my tongue,
'cause I'm tormented in the flame! [Refrain]

* Response

*For the life that you have given,
for the love in Christ made known,
with these fruits of time and labor,
with these gifts that are your own:
here we offer, Lord, our praises;
heart and mind and strength we bring;
give us grace to love and serve you,
living what we pray and sing.*

This is sung to the tune "Hyfrydol."

* 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 712 *As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought*

FOREST GREEN

* BENEDICTION

One: Go into the world in peace. Have courage.

All: Hold onto all that is good. Return no one evil for evil.

One: Strengthen the faint-hearted. Support the weak.
Help the suffering.

**All: Honor all people. Love and serve the Lord,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.**

One: And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us,
now and forever.

All: Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**O brother wind with clouds and rain,
you nurture gifts of fruit and grain.**

Alleluia! Alleluia!

**O sister water, flowing clear,
make music for your Lord to hear.**

Sing praises! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*This is Stanza 2 of Hymn 15 All Creatures of Our God and King
(LASST UNS ERFREUEN).*

* POSTLUDE

Prelude on "Marion"

Charles W. Ore

* 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 and large-print bulletins and hymnals are available from the ushers.

We welcome to lead us in worship the Reverend Chandler Stokes. Chandler recently retired as Senior Pastor at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He was born in Philadelphia to dyed-in-the-wool Vermonters. Transplanted to the west coast, he is a graduate of the University of California, Santa Cruz, and San Francisco Theological Seminary. He has had the privilege of serving varied churches—rural, suburban, and urban—from 25 to 1,400 members, as well as co-teaching courses in the Bible and preaching at the Graduate Theological Union. He now lives in Philadelphia and does consulting for congregations and mentoring for pastors.

Musical leadership is provided by Will Rich, trumpet; and Chancel Choir.

Acolytes include Anna Gehrke and Will Wood.

Chancel flowers are given with gratitude and in thanksgiving for the work of the Interim Pastor Search Committee: Diane Knibbs, Martha Krehbiel, Helena Prince (Chair), Collyer Smith, Florian Trouvain, and Tim Wendler (Vice Chair).

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. If you have questions, please visit the **Welcome Center**, just outside the Social Hall. Greeting you there today are John Yodhes and Sue Rigterink. **The Church Office** is staffed by Robin Agnew. **Greeters** are Sara Vander Voort and Val Yodhes (9:30) and Carol Fletcher and Carole and George Hendrickson (11:00). **Ushers** are Bill Austin (head) and Nancy Fox (8:00); Bill Austin (head), Holly Majorprice (captain), Paul and Carol Smith, Karen Hockett, Ken Westfall, Carter Hodgson, Bill McPherson, Sandy Herold, Tom Brandt, and Kate Silbert (9:30); and Bill Austin (head), Jim Douglass (captain), Gregg and Stacey Pakela, and Jeannette Middleton (11:00). **Sound system operators** are Bryan Magnuson (9:30) and Barry Leonard (11:00). **The prayer team** is available for those desiring prayer in Hillegonds Chapel, to the right of the Chancel in the Sanctuary, after the 9:30 and 11:00 services. **Prayer team members** are Nancy Fox and Nancy Oliver (9:30) and Deborah Campbell and Michele Derr (11:00). Following the 8:00 service a minister is available for prayer at the Communion Table. "If we do not love one another, we certainly shall not have much power with God in prayer." —D. L. Moody

TODAY'S EVENTS

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

Adult Education Opportunities:

9:30 a.m. **The Bible @ 9:30** in the French Room
"How the Bible Came to Be." Who wrote it, when, why, and most of all, how did it all become the Bible?

First Friends in Monteith Hall
"Why Are Christians Leaving the Church?"

11:00 a.m. **Exploring the Faith** in Monteith Hall
"Reimagine Church: Church as the New Humanity of Jesus Christ." Presenter is the Rev. Dr. Grace Ji-Sun Kim, Earlham School of Religion, Earlham, Indiana.

This presentation is part of the series "Faith Seeking Understanding: Being Presbyterian Today." Although not required, two resource books by Donald K. McKim are available for purchase in the Church Office: *Presbyterian Faith That Lives Today* (\$14) and *Presbyterian Questions, Presbyterian Answers* (\$12).

Children's Ministry Opportunities:

9:30 a.m. **Sunday School classes** for crib through fifth graders
10:30 a.m. **Children's Choir**
11:00 a.m. **Childcare** available for crib through Kindergarten

Youth Ministry Opportunities:

- 9:15 a.m. **Munch & Mingle** in the Lower Level hallway
9:30 a.m. **Sunday School**
5:30 p.m. **High School Youth Group** meets to carpool to Breakout Escape Rooms. Contact Rev. Mares for more information.

Join us for Coffee Hour on the Circle Terrace, or in the Social Hall in case of inclement weather, immediately following the 9:30 a.m. worship service. **Cookie bakers** are Carol Carter, Jenny Nale, Margie Van Tuyl, and Marilyn Gibson. Child-friendly, peanut-free purchased snacks are available for children.

A First Pres Forum on “Constructive Theology: Embracing the Other—Love’s Transformative Spirit,” is presented by the Rev. Dr. Grace Ji-Sun Kim, Earlham School of Religion, Earlham, Indiana, in the Curtis Room, 12:15–1:30 p.m. A light lunch will be served (\$5).

T2A2—Twenties and Thirties of Ann Arbor—invites the participation of all young adults looking to build community. **Small Group** meets tonight, at 7:00 p.m., to discuss the Gospel of Luke. Bring your questions and insights, wherever you are on your faith journey. Contact Haley Brown (habrown989@gmail.com), Chris Wahl (cgwahl@umich.edu), or Rev. Ruhf for more information about this and other T2A2 opportunities.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome the Rev. Rick Spalding as our Interim Pastor, next Sunday, October 6. Please join the Session of First Presbyterian Church in enthusiastically welcoming the Rev. Rick Spalding as our Interim Pastor and Head of Staff. Rick arrives in Ann Arbor after a wide and notable career as a pastor, transitional church leader and teacher. Most recently he served as the Chaplain of Williams College in Massachusetts. An introductory brochure is available and biographical and faith statements are posted on our First Pres web site. On October 6, Rick will preach at the 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship services. On Sunday, October 13, plan to attend a Welcome Potluck at 5:30 p.m. to meet Rick and welcome him warmly to First Pres.

Please keep the West Highland Way Pilgrims in your prayers as they travel in Scotland October 12–24. Pilgrims are Chris Black, Jennifer Day, Carol Fairweather, Jan Fisher, Nancy Janz Clark, Michele Madden, Angie Miller, Karla Olson-Belfi, Nancy Pflasterer, Mel Rogers, Diane Sonda, Debbie Ternes, Mary Jane Tramontin, and Sharon Watling.

Hurricane Dorian made landfall in the Bahamas as a category 5 hurricane on September 1. The First Pres Mission Team says the best way to respond is with monetary donations. You may give via First Pres by marking your check for Hurricane Dorian or by mailing a check to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Church (USA), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.

A Men’s Study Group meets the first and third Friday mornings, 8:00–9:00 a.m., in the Lewis Room for coffee, study, and conversation. The fall book is *Simply Jesus* by N. T. Wright. Books are available in the Church Office (\$15). Contact Rev. Sanderford for more information.

Welcome College Students! Our Campus Ministry, UKirk@UMich, welcomes you to College Lunch on Sundays following the 11:00 a.m. service, coffee breaks during the week, and other fun fellowship opportunities. Follow us on Instagram @UKirkUMich for future events and past photos. Contact our Campus Pastor, Rev. Evans McGowan (campus@firstpresbyterian.org), for more information and to get involved.

Mature Singles meet this Friday, October 4, at Olive Garden, 445 Eisenhower Parkway, at 5:30 p.m. All are welcome.

Children and youth (grades K-12) are invited to be acolytes. They will participate in the processional at the beginning of the 9:30 a.m. worship, carrying in the Christ Light, Cross, and Bible. A coordinator will be available each week to assist them. Acolytes may attend their Sunday school class or stay for worship. Sign up or find out more on our website.

Please support First Pres as we participate in the American Red Cross, MICHIGAN vs OSU 2019 Blood Battle, on Tuesday, October 29, 1:00–7:00 p.m., in Monteith Hall. Sign up to donate online at www.redcrossblood.org. Questions? Contact Barb Brewster (646-5571; dexter4brews@aol.com).

Fabrics from around the world are needed for World Communion Sunday on October 6. Fabrics are due by tomorrow, Monday, September 30. For more information, please contact Dave VanderMeer, Minister of Music & Fine Arts (dvandermeer@firstpresbyterian.org).

Journeys Book and Bible Study will study the Psalms this fall with our Resident Minister, Andrew Frazier. We meet on September 26, October 10 and 24, November 7 and 21, and December 5 and 19. Each week we will explore a different theme in the Psalms such as lamentations, thanksgiving, praise, wisdom, and trust in God. All are welcome to join in from 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m., in the Founders Room. Bring a sack lunch. We focus on fellowship and discerning the word of God alive amongst us.

Artist Workshop. You do not want to miss this Artist Workshop with Ellen Phillips from Black Mountain, North Carolina, on Saturday, October 12, 9:30 a.m.–2:00 p.m. Ellen will give a lecture on the creation of Liturgical/ Visual Art in the context of Worship. Art will be created for our upcoming Advent Season. Snacks and a light lunch will be served. (\$15.00 per person.) Please bring a self-healing cutting mat if you have one. You may register online or in the Church Office.

A Grief and Loss Support Group will meet on Tuesdays, October 1–November 5, 7:00–8:30 p.m., in Room LL1. Facilitators are Al Barber and Deanne Woodruff with support from Rev. Rogers. Cost is \$10 for materials, payable before the first day. Contact Rev. Rogers if you have questions.

There are openings on the Chancel Flower calendar for several Sundays this fall. If you would like to honor a loved one in this way, contact the Church Office. Cost is \$50.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Robin Agnew, Administrative Assistant

Liz Call-Boyce, Finance Assistant

Andrew Frazier, Resident Minister

Lisa Haddrill, Technology Coordinator

Dr. Paul Haebig, Interim Organist

Almer Harris, Maintenance Specialist

Reverend Khayla Johnson, Resident Minister

Mary Jones, Publications Coordinator

Cindy King, Administrative Assistant & Children's Education Assistant

Reverend Evans McGowan, Campus Ministries Coordinator

Reverend Mark Mares, Minister of Youth & Families

Kellie McInchak, Children's Choir Director

Anna Miller, Finance Manager

Merry Muilenberg, Welcome Center Volunteer Coordinator

Adrian Prundeanu, Facilities Manager

Linda Robinson, Office Manager

Reverend Melissa Anne Rogers, Associate Pastor

Reverend Amy Ruhf, Resident Minister

Reverend Jay Sanderford, Associate Pastor

Sandy Talbott, Wellness Coordinator & Parish Nurse

Beca Torres-Davenport, Coordinator of Children's Education & Family Ministry

David VanderMeer, Minister of Music & Fine Arts



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