



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Ann Arbor | Michigan

DECEMBER 29, 2019
FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
FAMILY SUNDAY

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP
10:00 a.m.

Gathering

PRELUDE

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly
Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Paul Manz
Paul Manz

LIFE IN THE CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Spalding

FAITH IN ACTION

Adult Education

* CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 148)

Rev. Ruhf

One: Praise the Lord, all the earth!

All: Praise God, sun and moon;

One: Praise God, all you shining stars!

All: Praise God you highest heavens!

One: Young men and women alike, old and young together!

All: Come, let us praise the Lord!

* HYMN 137

He Came Down

HE CAME DOWN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. . .

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

* SHARING THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS

Please greet one another in the joyful spirit of Christmas, saying "The peace of Christ be with you," and responding, "And also with you."

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.**

This is stanza 3 of Hymn 134, Joy to the World (ANTIOCH).

Proclaiming

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 148

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

CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Rev. Rogers

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 63:7–9

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

SERMON

Andrew Frazier

Responding

* HYMN 134

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

WELCOME

Rev. Johnson

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Offertory

Wexford Carol

Traditional Irish Carol

Angela Torres-Kutkuhn, soloist

arr. Richard Walters

Good people all, this Christmastime,
Consider well and bear in mind,
What our good God for us has done,
In sending his beloved Son.
With Mary holy we should pray
to God with love this Christmas Day;
In Bethlehem upon that morn
There was a blessed Messiah born.
The night before that happy tide
The noble Virgin and her guide
Were long time seeking up and down
To find a lodging in the town.
But mark how all things came to pass;
From ev'ry door repelled, alas!
As long foretold, their refuge all
Was but a humble oxen stall.

Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep
Their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep;
To whom God's angels did appear,
Which put the shepherds in great fear.
"Prepare and go," the angels said,
"To Bethlehem, be not afraid;
For there you'll find, this happy morn,
A princely babe, sweet Jesus born."
With thankful heart and joyful mind
The shepherds went the babe to find,
And as God's angel had foretold,
They did our Savior Christ behold.
Within a manger he was laid,
And by his side the virgin maid,
Attending on the Lord of life,
Who came on earth to end all strife.

* **Doxology**

GREENSLEEVES

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high. The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!
This is stanza 3 of Hymn 145, *What Child is This* (GREENSLEEVES).

* **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 850**

In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness

DIVINIUM MYSTERIUM

Please sing stanzas 1–3.

* **BENEDICTION**

* **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

God of Hagar, God of Sarah, God of nomad Abraham;
God of Miryam, God of Moses, Fiery Pillar, great I AM:
Lead us homeward, lead us homeward,
to the lovefeast of the Lamb,
evermore and evermore.

This is stanza 4 of Hymn 850.

* **POSTLUDE**

'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime

Nicolas Lebeque

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

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

Please know that all, including visitors and newcomers, are invited to share fully in the life and activities of this congregation. A full description of church events can always be found online at www.firstpresbyterian.org. If you have questions, please **visit the Welcome Center**, just outside the Social Hall. Greeting you there this morning is Barbara Mueller.

Today is Family Sunday. Child care is available for infants through preschool on the 100 level. Christian education classes for all ages and full youth programming return next Sunday, January 5.

Musical leadership includes Angela Torres-Kutkuhn, soloist. **Greeter** is Rebecca Gaffney. **Ushers** are Bill Austin (head), Paul Smith (captain), Carol Smith, Angela Yang, Dean Gilchrist, Holly, Aidan, and Chloe Majorprice, Clem Gill, Joe Schmidt, Karen Hockett, Ron David, and Lynn Milroy. The prayer team is available for those desiring prayer in Hillegonds Chapel after the service. Prayer team members are Pam Ehrhart and Nancy Fox. "Prayer frees us from anxiety because it teaches us to trust. And the result is peace." —Richard Foster

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRES

The church building will be closed Wednesday, January 1.

Year-End Finance Information: Please support First Presbyterian Church ministries with your year-end gifts. The IRS requires that books for 2019 be closed on December 31. Your donation must be postmarked by December 31 for your contribution to be applied to your 2019 financial statement. When paying your financial commitment with a credit/debit card, the commitment is for one calendar year. A new authorization form, available on our website and in the Finance Office, must be filled out annually. 2020 Contribution Envelopes, for those who requested them, are available outside the Finance Office.

IN THE NEW YEAR

There is a new worship opportunity in 2020. Beginning Tuesday, January 7, 2020, at 7:00 p.m., in Monteith Hall, there will be a monthly Taizé Prayer Service. This service will include songs, scripture, silence, meditation, and candles. All are welcome! A simple supper of soup and bread will be served in the Social Hall beginning at 6:00 p.m. Donations will be accepted for this meal.

Join a choir in 2020! There are many opportunities for you to participate in a choir or musical ensemble at FPC. Children's Choir, Youth Choir (Youth + Creative Arts), Chancel Choir, Sanctus Ringers, Church Orchestra, and a new daytime bell choir for beginners (Tuesdays at 2:00 p.m., beginning January 21), and the Liturgical/Visual Arts team. For more information, contact Dave VanderMeer, Minister of Music & Fine Arts (dvandermeer@firstpresbyterian.org).

The Men's Study Group will meet Friday, January 3, and will continue meeting the first and third Friday mornings until May from 8:00–9:00 a.m. in the Lewis Room for coffee, study, and conversation. The winter book is *Short Stories by Jesus*, written by Amy-Jill Levine. All are welcome! Books are available in the Church Office for \$15.00. Questions? Contact Rev. Sanderford.

Upcoming Opportunities to Join First Pres! We hope that you feel moved to become a member of our church family. Everyone belongs! Attend a class on March 15 (with joining on March 22) or on May 3 (with joining on May 17). For more info, contact Rev. Rogers (355-2351 or mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org).

Mature Ministries (60 and up) hosts a lunch and learn on January 9 at noon in the Social Hall. The topic is "Creating a Dementia-free Community." James Mangi will be our speaker. For \$5 you will have a delicious hot lunch with 40 or more interesting friends! To sign up, call the Church Office or contact Rev. Rogers. All are welcome—even those younger than 60 who are dealing with aging parents or others in their lives with memory loss.

Help provide shelter January 6–19 for up to 25 men directed to First Pres by the Shelter Association. Contact Jeanette Middleton (msjett@aol.com), John Yodhes (677-4036), or Rev. Rogers to volunteer. **Coats and other winter clothing donations for men** will be collected until January 19 for distribution during the Shelter weeks.

Welcome College Students! Our Campus Ministry, UKirk@UMich, hopes you have a restful break between semesters and a good start to the New Year! There is no College Lunch today or next Sunday. We return to our regular semester schedule on Sunday, January 12. Please contact our Campus Pastor, Rev. Evans McGowan (campus@firstpresbyterian.org) for more information.

Join us for a special presentation, “Role of Women in Presbyterian & Reformed History, Theology, and Practice,” next Sunday, January 5. Dr. Amy Plantinga Pauw, Professor of Doctrinal Theology at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, will lead two sessions focusing on the role of women in Presbyterian and Reformed history, theology and practice. The discussions will be of interest to both men and women of all ages who are hopeful about the role of the church in family life and in the world today. Contact Rev. Ruhf for more information.

All youth (6th–12th grades), join us for our Winter Kickoff next Sunday, January 5, in the Social Hall for MIDS (Middle School Youth Group) and HSYG (High School Youth Group) from 5:30 p.m.–7:00 p.m.! A meal is provided.

Please join us for the Congregational Meeting and All-Church Luncheon on Sunday, January 26. Worship with us at 8:00 or 9:30 that day, then attend the meeting which occurs at 10:30 in the Social Hall. Guests are welcome to stay and hear about the ministries, programs, and financial health of the church, but members only have vote and voice. A roast chicken lunch follows in the Social Hall. The cost is \$10 a person, and children ages 5–12 are \$5. Children under the age of 5 eat for free. We request you make a reservation in our Church Office, or online at our church website.

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

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

Reverend Dr. Richard Spalding, Interim 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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