



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Ann Arbor | Michigan

FEBRUARY 15, 2015  
TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

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

## Gathering

**PRELUDE**                      *Symphony No. 2*                      Johannes Brahms  
(Third movement)

**LIFE IN THE CHURCH**                      Rev. Sanderford (8:00)  
Rev. Roederer (9:30/11:00)

**FAITH IN ACTION**                      Blankets Plus                      Susan Cares (8:00/9:30)  
Helena Prince (11:00)

### **CALL TO WORSHIP** from Psalm 50

One: God speaks and summons the earth  
from the rising of the sun to its setting.

**All: Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.**

One: Our God comes and does not keep silence.  
God calls, "Gather to me my faithful ones!"

**All: The heavens declare God's righteousness. God is our judge.**

\* **HYMN 191**    *We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding*                      HYMN TO JOY

**We have come at Christ's own bidding**

**to this high and holy place,**

**where we wait with hope and longing**

**for some token of God's grace.**

**Here we pray for new assurance**

**that our faith is not in vain,**

**searching like those first disciples**

**for a sign both clear and plain.**

**Light breaks through our clouds and shadows;**

**splendor bathes the flesh-joined Word;**

**Moses and Elijah marvel**

**as the heavenly voice is heard.**

**Eyes and hearts behold with wonder**

**how the law and prophets meet:**

**Christ, with garments drenched in brightness,**

**stands transfigured and complete.**

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**Strengthened by this glimpse of glory,  
fearful lest our faith decline,  
we like Peter find it tempting  
to remain and build a shrine.  
But true worship gives us courage  
to proclaim what we profess,  
that our daily lives may prove us  
people of the God we bless.**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God of mercy and of might, like disciples before us you call us to follow you. Even when we are obedient, we confess to allowing fear and confusion to come between us. Your light is dazzling; your glory is more than we can comprehend. Help our trust to grow so that we welcome your light and what it reveals about you and about us. We pray in Jesus' name.**

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

**\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, amen.**

 **Proclaiming** 

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Linda Strodman (8:00)

Kari Michalowski (9:30)

John Knapp (11:00)

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** Exodus 34:29-35

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES (9:30/11:00)**

*Children through grade five are invited forward to meet with a pastor.*

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**NEW TESTAMENT READING** Mark 9:2-9

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**ANTHEM** *Christ Upon the Mountain* Paul Bouman

Christ upon the mountain peak stands alone in glory blazing.

Let us, if we dare to speak, with the saints and angels praise him – Alleluia!

Trembling at his feet we saw Moses and Elijah speaking,

All the prophets and the Law shout through them their joyful greeting –  
Alleluia!

Swift the clouds of glory came, God, proclaiming in its thunder

Jesus as his Son by name! Nations, cry aloud in wonder! Alleluia!

This is God's beloved Son. Law and prophets fade before him,

First and last and only One. Let creation now adore him! Alleluia!

Text by Brian A. Wren

**SERMON**

Rev. Dr. Fair

 **Responding** 

**\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *The Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**\* HYMN 75**

*O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair*

DEO GRACIAS

**WELCOME**

Rev. Sanderford (9:30)

Rev. Rodawla (11:00)

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

**OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS**

**Offertory** (9:30/11:00)

**\* 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**

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SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION (8:00)

*See Communion Liturgy Card*

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 73

*Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory*

GENEVA

\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**Till we seek no other glory  
Than what lies past Calvary's hill  
And our living and our dying  
And our rising by Your will.**

\* POSTLUDE

*Procession*

Mikhail Ippolitov-Ivanov  
arr. Merle Isaac

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\* Please stand 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 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 Sara Vander Voort and Gwen Alexander. **Church Office volunteers** are Ruth Weber and Sarah Mohrlock.

**Greeters** are Polly Pan and Peggy Jensen at 9:30 a.m., and Mary Kay Gray and Linda Lampman at 11:00 a.m.

**Ushers** are Bill Austin (head) and Marty Reineman at 8:00 a.m.; Bill Austin (head), Len Rezmierski (captain), Joe Schmidt, Marolin Bellefleur, Jennifer Wilson, Paul Wilson, Dean Gilchrist, and Karla Olson-Belfi at 9:30 a.m.; Bill Austin (head), Carter Hodgson (captain), Beth Meda, and Peggy Hodgson at 11:00 a.m.

**Providing music leadership** for today's worship at the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. services are the Orchestra, Gerry Leckrone, conductor, and an ensemble from Chancel Choir.

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**The prayer team** is available for those desiring prayer in Hillegonds Chapel, to the right of the piano, after the services. Prayer team members are Lucie Audette, Kay Fuller, and Jim Lombard at 9:30 a.m., and Meg Brown at 11:00 a.m. After the 8:00 a.m. service a minister is available at the Communion Table for prayer. “For me, prayer is... ‘keeping company with God.” – Philip Yancey

**Chancel flowers** are given by Molly Dobson in loving memory of her parents, Laurin R. and Delia S. Hunter.

## **TODAY’S EVENTS**

**Worship** is at 8:00 a.m. and 7:07 p.m. in Monteith Hall, and at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. **Radio worship service is broadcast at 11:00 a.m.**, on WAAM (1600 AM), and on WAAM’s website, [www.waamannarbor.com](http://www.waamannarbor.com).

**Join us for Coffee Hour** in the Social Hall immediately following the 9:30 a.m. worship service. Cookie bakers are Beth Caldwell, Diane Hockett, and Shannon Hoy. Child-friendly, peanut-free purchased snacks are available for children. We are proud to serve Fair Trade coffee at First Pres in support of fair wages for coffee farmers.

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

**Sunday School classes** are held for crib through fifth graders at 9:30 a.m., and for crib through young five-year-olds at 11:00 a.m. Worship activity totes and the Busy Hands Activity baskets are available at the entrances to the Sanctuary for children attending worship at 11:00 a.m.

**A Communion workshop for parents and children** is at 11:00 a.m. in Monteith Hall. This workshop is designed to help our children and their families learn about the church’s celebration of the Sacrament of Communion. We’ll discover together how this meal is celebrated in worship. “Exploring the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper” is the Milestone for our kindergarteners. All are welcome.

### **Youth Ministry Opportunities:**

**Munch & Mingle** meets in the 100 level hallway with Washtenaw Dairy donuts and catching up at 9:20 a.m. **Sunday School classes** meet 9:30–10:30 a.m. Sixth and seventh graders are in Room 104, eighth grade Confirmation meets in the Curtis Room, and High School meets in the Youth Room on the 100 level.

**Youth Choir, Youth Dinner, and Youth Groups** do not meet tonight.

**Registration for the Guatemala Mission Trip**, June 14–23, closes March 1. Contact the Church Office for more information.

### **Campus Ministry Opportunities:**

All college students are invited to our free Campus Dinner on Sunday nights at 6:00 p.m., in the Vance and Lewis Rooms.

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### **Adult Education Opportunities:**

**The Bible @ 9:30** meets in the French Room/Library. Come explore Genesis, the first book of the Old Testament. The presenter is Rev. Ed Koster.

**First Couples** meets at 9:30 a.m. in Monteith Hall for spiritual growth, learning, fellowship, and support for couples and individuals. The current series explores the DVD *God Is Not Dead*, a story that weaves six lives into a journey of faith, denial, doubt, trust, and transformation.

**Exploring the Faith** meets at 11:00 a.m. in **the Lewis Room**. Dr. Wally Schmeichel leads a study on the biblical prophet Elijah.

**Common Ground** meets in Monteith Hall at 11:00 a.m. for "A Communion Workshop." This workshop is designed to help families understand the Sacrament of Communion and how it is celebrated in worship. Presenters are Debbie MacVey and Rev. Jay Sanderford.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Join us this Wednesday in observance of Ash Wednesday.**

**Family Worship Service** in the Sanctuary at 5:00 p.m.

This service is especially designed to include the whole family and will include the imposition of ashes, communion, and the musical leadership of the Youth and Children's Choirs.

**All-church Dinner** in the Social Hall at 6:00 p.m.

Share a meal after the 5:00 p.m. worship service or come before the 7:30 p.m. worship service. The cost is \$6 per person; children age 2 and under eat free. Reservations may be made online or by contacting the Church Office.

**Ecumenical Taizé Worship Service** in the Sanctuary at 7:30 p.m.

This service will include scripture, silent reflection, imposition of ashes, Holy Communion, and music from the ecumenical community of Taizé, France. Childcare is provided.

On Wednesday evenings in Lent, join us for ***The Lenten Experience:***

***Ponder the Psalms.*** Come for a soup and salad supper at 6:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. From 6:40 - 7:30 p.m., take your dessert to an assigned room for a small group discussion about the Psalm of the week. If you prefer an early evening, there is a Psalm study group scheduled for 5:15 to 6:00 p.m. A pastor will lead your discussion group which will focus on scriptural study and deepening fellowship. The psalm and topic we will discuss will be the focus of the next Sunday's sermon. Children's activities will be held during the discussion time. The program is \$6 each Wednesday, or \$30 for the five-part series. Families pay no more than \$100 total.

All who attend dinner are encouraged to participate in a discussion group. If you usually come only for the meal, this will add only a half-hour on to your evening, and the spiritual discipline of psalm study during Lent will enhance the season and deepen your faith. Please register ahead of time by contacting the Church Office or online as you will be assigned to a discussion group. Note that Children's Choir rehearsals proceed as normal at 5:15 p.m.

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**Mature Singles** meet for dinner this Friday, February 20, at 5:30 p.m., at Outback Steakhouse, 3173 Oak Valley Drive. All are welcome!

**Quad C Brunch is next Sunday, February 22.** Members of Quad C and their family and friends are invited to attend their annual potluck brunch. The festivities begin in the Social Hall immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Please join us to meet your fellow Chapel members, get to know your deacon, and to share fun, fellowship, and a delicious meal. For more information, contact your deacon or Quad C Leader Polly Pan (ppan3650@sbcglobal.net).

**New interfaith book study now forming.** Starting in early March, a new book group will meet twice to discuss "Faith in Food," which explores the connections between food and faith in different religions. On March 19, we'll gather with friends from different faith traditions to engage in interfaith dialogue. To join this book study, contact Rev. Riegel.

**Baptism classes** are offered March 8 and April 19. If you are interested in having your child baptized at First Pres or if you are an adult who has not been baptized, please consider attending one of these classes. The class is required for those who wish to present a child for baptism. To register for a class, contact the Church Office.

**A team of twelve First Pres missionaries is in Nicaragua** for a week of service and Christian witness February 14–22. Our team of Gaiden Heatley, Downs Herold, Charlie Rogers, Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers, Janie Schaafsma, Lydia Schaafsma, Carol Smith, Paul Smith, Nancy VanderKuyl, Gustavo Webb, Lenore Webb, and Oscar Webb will work in a rural community. First Pres is a partner with CEPAD, the Council of Protestant Churches of Nicaragua, an organization helping rural communities and individuals to be the principal actors in their own development. CEPAD's ministry model relies on teaching over hand-outs and giving people the tools they need to sustain themselves and their families. Follow our Mission Team on Facebook and visit <http://www.cepadnica.org/> for more information.

**The annual "Blankets Plus" offering is about neighbors helping neighbors.** For 69 years congregations have joined together with Church World Service to help eradicate hunger and poverty and to promote peace and justice. This annual drive provides blankets for disaster relief which are specially designed to keep people warm and dry. Funding also provides tents, food, other emergency supplies, and tools. "The Blankets Plus" offering will be received at First Pres on February 22.

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## **PASTORAL AND PROGRAM STAFF**

Reverend Dr. Fairfax F. Fair, Pastor/Head of Staff  
Reverend Melissa Anne Rogers, Associate Pastor  
Reverend Jay Sanderford, Associate Pastor  
Reverend Dr. James Monnett, Director of Youth Ministry  
Reverend Renée Roederer, Director of Campus Ministry  
Deborah MacVey, Director of Children's Education and Family Ministries  
Tom Granum, Director of Music Ministries  
Carol Muehlig, Associate Music Director and Organist  
Resident Ministers:  
    Reverend Lindsay Conrad  
    Reverend Kristin E. Riegel  
    Reverend Lal Rodawla  
Sandy Talbott, Parish Nurse

## **ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

Lynnette Conner, Finance Manager  
Linda Robinson, Office Manager  
Michael Wright, Maintenance/Repair Manager  
Dick Cooke, Interim Facilities Coordinator  
Lisa Haddrill, Technology Coordinator  
Mary Jones, Communications/Pastor's Assistant  
Cindy King, Children's Education Assistant



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