
* **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."

* **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Please sing the refrain when indicated:

**Holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy is our God,
God the Lord of earth and heaven. Holy, holy is our God.
Holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy is our God.
God, the Lord of all of history. Holy, holy is our God.**

 **Proclaiming** 

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Carol Smith

FIRST READING 1 John 3:14-21

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

HYMN 400 *When We Are Living: Pues Si Vivimos*

SOMOS DEL SEÑOR

Please remain seated to sing the four stanzas in English.

A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Lydia Schaafsma and Nancy Vander Kuyl

Children through grade five are invited forward.

SECOND READING Philippians 2:1-13

Charlie Rogers

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

SERMON

Rev. Rogers

 **Responding** 

* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** adapted from *A Declaration of Faith*

God sends the church into the world. God has not taken God's people out of the world, but has sent them into the world to worship God there and serve all humankind. We serve humankind by discerning what God is doing in the world and joining in God's work. We risk disagreement and error when we try to say what God is doing here and now. But we find guidance in God's deeds in the past and promises for the future, as they are witnessed to in Scripture. We affirm that the Lord is at work, especially in events and movements that free people by the gospel and advance justice, compassion and peace. God sends us to strive for justice. God sends us to exercise compassion.

* **HYMN 407** *When a Poor One: Cuando el Pobre* EL CAMINO
Please sing the four stanzas in English.

WELCOME Rev. Sanderford
Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it to others sitting nearby.

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS Emily Béghin

Offertory *Alleluia from Brazilian Psalm* Jean Berger
arr. Tom Anderson

Alleluia! O Lord, cymbals and the sound harp I do not have,
but I'll make a fair procession for You.
We have no cymbals for Your praise, no harps to praise You,
but I'll praise You with waving of palms.
Accept them, I implore You. I will dance and sing Your praises!

* **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**

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 432** *Song of Hope: Canto de Esperanza* ARGENTINA
Please sing twice in English.

* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

* **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**
May the God of hope go with us every day,
Filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
Bringing light and hope to every land and race.

Praying, let us work for peace,
Singing, share our joy with all,
Working for a world that's new,
Faithful when we hear Christ's call.

* POSTLUDE

* 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 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. If you have questions, please visit the **Welcome Center**, just outside the Social Hall. Greeting you there today are Prue Heikkinen and Dale Leslie. **Church Office volunteers** are Bill and Pat Fuerstenau. **Greeters** are Al and Sheryl Powell, Jennifer Griggs, and Steven Engel.

The prayer team is available for those desiring prayer in Hillegonds Chapel, to the right of the piano after the worship service. The prayer team members are Judy Slade and Carole Hendrickson. "There are many things that are essential to arriving at true peace of mind, and one of the most important is faith, which cannot be acquired without prayer." - John Wooden

Ushers are Bill Austin (head), Jim Cameron (captain), Karla Olson-Belfi, Omer Belfi, Angela Yang, Cyndy Colton, Marolin Bellefleur, and Len Rezmierski.

The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of Eldon and Katie Beery on their 65th wedding anniversary by their family.

The Call to Worship comes from *September 11 Remembrance Liturgical Resources*. **The Affirmation of Faith** is taken from *A Declaration of Faith of the Presbyterian Church (USA)*, Issued-1977, Reaffirmed-1991.

Assisting in worship are members of the Nicaragua Mission Team.

Musical leadership is provided by Ronald Perkins and Lorna Young Hildebrant, soloists; Luke Panning, violin; Emily Béghin, trumpet; Mark Stone, percussion; and Chancel Choir.

TODAY'S EVENTS

Worship is at 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. in Monteith Hall, and at 9:30 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.

Children's Ministry Opportunities:

Childcare is available for preschoolers at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. A combined **Sunday School class** is offered for children, grades K-5, at 9:30 a.m.

Join us for Coffee Hour in the Social Hall immediately following the 9:30 a.m. worship service. Cookie bakers are Karen Gardstrom, Judy Landau, Jim Rogers, and John and Dawn Pankopf. Child-friendly, peanut-free purchased snacks are available for children. During Coffee Hour today, we celebrate Eldon and Katie Beery on the occasion of their 65th wedding anniversary. Cake is provided by their children, who invite you to celebrate with them and their parents. The Nicaragua Mission Team will be selling jewelry from Nicaragua as well as our popular Fair Trade Love Buzz coffee made from beans grown in Nicaragua.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Communion Food Collection is next Sunday. As we come to the Lord's Table to be fed and nurtured in our faith, 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.

Volunteer for Alpha House, a local shelter for children and their families who are experiencing homelessness. First Pres will be supporting Alpha House guests the week of September 14-20. For more information contact Lucie Audette, Anne Gere or Nicole Jolliet. Sign up online or at the Coffee Hour.

New robes will be purchased this fall for our three choirs: Children's Choir, Youth Choir, and Chancel Choir. We invite you to make a donation to help purchase robes. If you would like to "give a robe" in honor of or in memory of someone, please include that information with your gift. If "giving a robe," the cost is \$160. Gifts of all sizes are appreciated. Please contact Tom Granum for more information.

"Symphony of Service" is the theme of our 9:30 a.m. service next Sunday, September 6. We serve God in many ways through a variety of ministries just as a symphony orchestra comprises many different instruments. Come, join the "symphony" at First Pres as we praise God! Following the service, we will continue our celebration with an Ice Cream Social on the Circle Terrace.

Everyone is invited to attend an important congregational event Wednesday, September 9. We will gather from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in Monteith Hall for a panel presentation on same-gender marriage, followed by discussion and a brief time of worship. There will be an optional session from 5:00-6:15 p.m., to consider biblical passages that illustrate multiple biblical understandings of marriage and those often cited as grounds to deny same-gender couples the church's blessing. The evening's discussion is timely because the session of First Pres has not yet taken action on same-gender marriages.

Saturday Suppers, a favorite First Pres tradition, return beginning Saturday, October 3. These small-group potluck suppers served in church members' homes are a great way to meet new people, catch up with others, share the cooking, and enjoy each other's company. Register online September 1-21 or in person during Coffee Hours on September 6 and 20. For more information, contact Sara VanderVoort at saravoort@gmail.com.

Sunday, September 13, all Adult education classes and Children and Youth programming return. We have Sunday School classes for all ages, youth groups for 6th-8th graders on Sunday nights, and so much more. If you have questions about offerings for Nursery-5th graders, see Debbie MacVey; for 6th-12th graders, undergrads, grad students, and 20s-30s, see Rev. Dr. Monnett; and for other adult offerings, see Rev. Sanderford. All may be reached by calling the Church Office.

Mature Ministries travels to Stratford, Ontario, September 1-2. Please keep our older members in your prayers as they travel together.

“Wednesday@First” begins September 16. Read this week’s *First Press* (our September newsletter sent to you by email and available on our website) for more information. Join us for dinner followed by worship. If you did not receive the newsletter and would like to be added to the email list, please send your email address to Lisa Hadrill, Technology Coordinator, at lhadrill@firstpresbyterian.org.

Children, grades K-5: Join Children’s Choir to find out why there’s an M on M&M candy. Children’s Choir meets Wednesday, 5:15-6:00 p.m., beginning September 16 as part of our Wednesday@First Program.

Mature Singles will meet for dinner this Friday, August 28, at 5:30 p.m., at Applebee’s, 2310 Green Road. All are welcome.

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

Transitional Campus Minister

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:

Emily Béghin

Daniel Ervin

Reverend Angela Ryo

Peer Ministers:

Alexis Allum

Andy Spaulding

Sandy Talbott, Parish Nurse

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Lynnette Conner, Finance Manager

Adrian Prundeanu, Facilities Manager

Linda Robinson, Office Manager

Michael Wright, Maintenance/Repair Manager

Lisa Hadrill, Technology Coordinator

Mary Jones, Communications/Pastor’s Assistant

Cindy King, Administrative Assistant

Anna Miller, Finance Assistant



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