



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Ann Arbor | Michigan

NOVEMBER 15, 2015

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

🌿 Gathering 🌿

PRELUDE

Rondo Passacaglia

Cynthia Dobrinski

LIFE IN THE CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Monnett (8:00)

Rev. Dr. Fair (9:30/11:00)

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 85:8-13

One: God speaks peace to the faithful,
to those who turn to God in their hearts.

All: Surely salvation is at hand for those who fear God.

One: Where God dwells, steadfast love and faithfulness meet;
righteousness and peace kiss each other.

**All: Faithfulness springs up from the ground and righteousness
looks down from the sky. God gives what is good and we
respond with abundant praise!**

* HYMN 229 *From All That Dwell Below the Skies*

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, you have commanded us to love one another,
saying that love is the mark of true discipleship. But we confess
that we are often marked by other things: greed, self-interest,
hate, and apathy. Forgive us, O God, for the ways that we fail to
love one another, your creation, and you. Guide us as we seek to
restore these relationships in the way of love, righteousness, and
justice.**

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."*

* **GLORIA PATRI**

**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

Kathy Hillig (8:00)

Kay Erdman (9:30)

Mitchell Dudley (11:00)

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 55:1-3a

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

ANTHEM (9:30/11:00) *Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee*

Michael Cox

Jesus, the very thought of Thee
With sweetness fills my breast;
But sweeter far Thy face to see,
And in Thy presence rest.

No voice can sing, no heart can frame,
Nor can the mem'ry find,
A sweeter sound than Thy blest name,
O Savior of humankind.

O hope of ev'ry contrite heart!
O Joy of all the meek!
To those who ask how kind Thou art,
How good to those who seek!

But what to those who find? Ah, this
No tongue or pen can show;
The love of Jesus, what it is,
None but the loved ones know.

Jesus, our only joy be Thou,
As Thou our prize wilt be;
In Thee be all glory now
And through eternity.

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

Rev. Rogers

Children through grade five are invited forward.

NEW TESTAMENT READING John 13:34-35

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

SERMON

Rev. Ryo (8:00)

This High Calling to Love

Rev. Fletcher (9:30/11:00)

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. If you have questions, please visit the **Welcome Center**, just outside the Social Hall. Greeting you there today are Mark Lindley and Heidi Dodson. **Church Office volunteers** are Ruth Weber and Lorna Prescott. **Greeters** are Doug and Carol Gottlieb for the 9:30 a.m. service; and Dick and Sue Rigerink and Pat Gilbreath for the 11:00 a.m. service.

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, Karla Olson-Belfi, Omer Belfi, Dean Gilchrist, Chris Queen, and Beth Sanderford at 9:30 a.m.; and Bill Austin (head), Carter Hodgson (captain), Cindy Andress, Peggy Hodgson, Beth Meda, Joe Cox, Karen Cox, and Jim Douglass at 11:00 a.m.

The prayer team is available for those desiring prayer in Hillemonds Chapel, to the right of the piano after the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship services. Prayer team members are Nancy Oliver and Marolin Bellefleur following the 9:30 a.m. service, and Don Redding and Linda Lampman following the 11:00 a.m. service. After the 8:00 a.m. service a minister is available at the Communion Table for prayer. "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." - 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Musical leadership is provided at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. by Sanctus Ringers Handbell Choir; Luke Panning, violin; Kelly McDermott, flute; and Chancel Choir.

The chancel flowers are given in honor of Lori Wolters in gratitude for her coordination of our chancel flowers.

The pink rosebud celebrates the birth of Gracelyn Rose Nale, daughter of Jenny and Doug Nale, born November 9, 2015.

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 service is broadcast at 11:00 a.m.**, on WAAM (1600 AM), and on WAAM's website, www.waamannarbor.com.

We welcome Rev. Judy Fletcher to the pulpit at the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship services. Rev. Fletcher is the Executive Emerita, Synod of the Sun, and author of the Horizons Bible Study for Presbyterian Women for 2015 – 2016. As this year's Christian Life Academy keynote speaker, she will help us explore "Love, Justice, and Sin." All are invited to attend the Christian Life Academy which begins with dinner (\$9) this evening in the Social Hall at 6:00 p.m.

Join us for Coffee Hour in the Social Hall immediately following the 9:30 a.m. worship service for homemade cookies and Fair Trade Coffee. Child-friendly, peanut-free purchased snacks are available for children. **Cookie bakers** are Sue Ashford, Ginny Horan, MaryLou Roberts, and Beth Caldwell.

Children's Ministry Opportunities:

Childcare and Sunday School classes are held for crib through fifth graders at 9:30 a.m. **Childcare** is available for preschoolers at 11:00 a.m. 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. There is a **Communion Workshop** for elementary school age children and their families at 11:00 a.m. in Monteith Hall.

Youth Ministry Opportunities:

Munch & Mingle is at 9:20 a.m. in the 100 level hallway.

Sunday School classes meet 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Youth/Parent meeting is 10:45 – 11:15 a.m. in the Curtis Room to learn more about mission trips and other youth activities.

Student Leadership Team meets at 12:05 p.m. at Pizza House.

Youth Choir rehearses 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. in the Choir Room on the 400 Level.

There is no Youth Dinner. However, **Mids** and **Keystones** and their families are encouraged to attend the Christian Life Academy dinner at 6:00 p.m., and stay for the amazing interactive program with Rev. Judy Fletcher, a youth and children's ministry veteran.

There will be no evening youth ministry programming next Sunday as leaders will be at the National Youth Worker's Convention.

First Pres College Opportunities:

All college students are invited to enjoy a **free dinner at 6:00 p.m.** in the Social Hall as part of Christian Life Academy. **Club** meets Tuesdays at 9:00 p.m. in the Michigan Union.

Adult Education Opportunities:

The Bible @ 9:30 meets in the French Room/Library for Bible exploration and discussion centered on the Gospel of John. The presenter is Rev. Koster.

First Couples meets at 9:30 a.m. in Monteith Hall to explore the Gnostic Gospels using a DVD and an open discussion, question and answer format. Presenters are class members.

Exploring the Faith meets at 11:00 a.m. in the Lewis Room to explore "Universal Slavery: Human and Moral Issues." The class will examine slavery with a focus on the U.S. and the role of Christianity and the church as troubled participants, then forceful opponents of the practice. The presenter is Dr. Wally Schmeichel.

Common Ground meets at 11:00 a.m. in the Founders Room to explore *Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life* by Richard Rohr. The message of this book is that our spiritual lives are not static. After times of crisis we can learn to find spiritual refreshment, peace and compassion never before imagined. The presenter is Rev. Sanderford.

2015 Christian Life Academy Opportunities:

All events are in the Social Hall.

Sunday, November 15

All-Church Dinner (\$9) at 6:00 p.m.

"Justice, Righteousness and Water" at 7:00 p.m.

Monday, November 16

Lunch and discussion (\$7) at noon

"Dealing with Sin and Evil, and the Neighborhood" at 7:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The new Photo Directory is now available for purchase in the Church Office for \$10 for those who did not have their picture included. This beautiful photo book was produced through Lifetouch. First Pres received one free directory for every family that had their picture taken with Lifetouch at our photo sessions held last fall and this past spring. First Pres must purchase additional copies from Lifetouch for those who were not included but would like a directory. Due to our large number of members, it is not possible to absorb this large expenditure in our congregational life budget. If the cost is a financial hardship, please see Rev. Rogers.

Join us this week for the final Wednesday@First of this semester. The evening begins at 5:15 p.m. with Children's Choir followed by dinner and fellowship in the Social Hall at 6:00 p.m. Worship is in Monteith Hall at 7:00 p.m. Pay \$6 today during Coffee Hour or in the Church Office. Pay Wednesday and it is \$9. The menu features Farfalle Primavera, Rigatoni Amatriciana, Tuscan salad, and garlic bread. This week's worship theme presented by Rev. Sanderford is "handwriting on the wall" (Daniel 5:5).

Complete a Learning Church Survey for Adult Education. The Adult Education Committee created a survey to learn about interests in adult learning opportunities at First Pres. A link to the survey can be found on our First Pres website or you may pick up a paper copy in the Church Office.

Mature Singles meet for dinner this Friday, November 20, at 5:30 p.m., at Classic Cup Café, 4389 Jackson Road. All are welcome.

Volunteer this week at Alpha House. Our congregation has another opportunity to serve the guests at Alpha House by providing food, serving and cleaning up from meals, and entertaining children. As one volunteer put it, "I have a new understanding of what experiencing homelessness means in the lives of children." Sign up to serve during Coffee Hour.

Presbyterian Women Opportunities for Wednesday, November 18:

Bible Study is at 9:30 a.m. in Monteith Hall. Mary Smith facilitates a discussion of Lesson 4, *Dangerous Waters, God's Deliverance*.

Program is at 11:00 a.m. in Monteith Hall. Dr. Virginia Bell, Iona pilgrim, presents "Pilgrimage - Near and Far."

Lunch is at noon in the Social Hall. Contact the Church Office to sign up for lunch.

Reading Group is at 1:00 p.m. in the Vance Room. Myra Larson leads a discussion of Chapter 3 of *The Road to Character* by David Brooks.

Calling all leaf rakers! Our annual leaf raking day is this Saturday, November 21, beginning at 8:00 a.m. Enjoy fellowship, Washtenaw Dairy doughnuts, and hot drinks. Bring a rake if you have one. For more information contact Facilities Manager Adrian Prundeanu.

High School and College Mission Opportunities:

Contact Rev. Dr. Monnett for more information about these trips.

High School Florida Mission Trip is December 27 – January 2. Rev. Dr. Monnett and Peer Minister Lex Allum are leading this trip to do rehab projects at the Montgomery Presbyterian Center. Cost is \$225 plus airfare. Friends are welcome. Two more people must register or the trip will be canceled. Registration deadline is this Tuesday, November 17.

High School Mt. Vernon Mission Trip is June 19 – 27. We are going to southern Indiana to rehab homes in the small town of Mt. Vernon. Cost is \$600.

Montreat College Conference is January 2 – 5. Keynote speaker is Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber, founding pastor of the House for All Sinners & Saints in Denver. Former Baltimore Ravens tackle Jason Brown will also speak. Leaders are Rev. Dr. Monnett, Rev. Ryo, and Peer Minister Andy Spaulding. Cost is \$225. Registration deadline is December 1.

Jamaica Mission Trip for college students is February 25 – March 4. Leaders are Rev. Dr. Monnett, Young Life College Director Tucker Rossmassler, and Peer Minister Andy Spaulding. Cost is \$1,300. Registration deadline is December 1.

An intergenerational mission trip to Nicaragua is planned for Ann Arbor Public Schools Spring Break, April 2 – 9. If you are interested in going alone or with your child who is at least 13, please contact Rev. Ryo or Carol Smith (psmith6641@aol.com).

MISSION A2, a local non-profit working to alleviate homelessness, requests our help with their sleeping bag drive in November. Drop off sleeping bags and/or blankets outside Rev. Ryo's office.

If you would like to have your child baptized, contact the Church Office. Baptism Sundays are November 29 and December 27.

"Tell Me More About This Church!" Visitors and potential new members are invited to join in conversation with Rev. Dr. Fair, Pastor/Head of Staff, next Sunday, November 22, at 12:15 p.m., in the Founders Room.

Join our church family – one class only! Everyone already "belongs" at First Pres, but maybe you are ready to make it official. Come to our new member class, Sunday, December 6, 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., in the Curtis Room, and officially join at the new member breakfast on December 13. If you are a prospective new member and want to learn more, contact Rev. Rogers (mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org or 355-2351). Lunch and child care are provided, and the class is both fun and informative.

We continue to make progress on our Annual Giving Campaign. As of Wednesday, November 11, we have received 475 commitments and reached 89% of our 2016 stewardship goal of \$1,650,000. Thank you to all who have returned a Commitment Form! If you haven't yet turned in your commitment, it is not too late to "Step In, Step Up!" If you have questions contact Lynnette Conner, Finance Manager.

"The Advent Happening," our Advent/Christmas craft morning, is Saturday, December 5, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon, in the Social Hall. Come make gifts, craft an ornament, decorate a cookie, design a Christmas card, and build a gingerbread stable. Children can make all of their grandparent and aunt and uncle gifts in one morning! Invite a friend! For those who wish, childcare is available for children under 3.

Our All-Church Christmas Dinner is back Sunday, December 6! This is a gourmet meal and a great program with families, friends, and fun. Cost is \$8 per person and seats must be reserved. We are limited to 250 people. Make your reservation on our website or by contacting the Church Office.

Poinsettias given in honor or memory of a loved one will beautify our worship on December 13. Following worship our deacons will deliver all the poinsettias to those who are grieving, ill, recovering, or shut-in. The cost is \$15, and **orders are due December 4** at noon. Payment can be made in the Church Office or on our website. Please note this early deadline!

Advent Email Devotionals help spiritually lead us through this holy season. They are written by members and staff and will begin coming to your inbox on November 29. Sign up on our website. Hard copies will be available in the Church Office for those who do not use the internet.

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:

Reverend 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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