

NOVEMBER 22, 2015

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

So Gathering So

PRELUDE

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

J. S. Bach arr. Merle Isaac

LIFE IN THE CHURCH

Rev. Rogers (8:00) Rev. Sanderford (9:30) Rev. Ryo (11:00)

FAITH IN ACTION

Annual Giving

Lucie Audette (9:30/11:00)

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, grateful people! Come and worship!

All: We come as God's grateful people.

One: Let us rejoice and sing praise

All: for our loving God blesses us in countless ways.

* HYMN 559

We Gather Together

KREMSER

Following an extended introduction, please stand to sing. An interlude will follow Stanzas 1 and 2.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Creator God, we bow before you with thanks for the many ways we know your grace, feel your presence, and are touched by your love. You give us the gift of life, nourish us through your Word and Spirit, and sustain us through all the trials of life. You bless us with faith to know you as Lord and strengthen us through relationships that bring us joy and fulfillment. Despite all the ways you show us your love, we confess that we turn away from you and one another. We hoard what we have rather than trusting you to provide. We guard what is ours, forgetting that everything comes from you. We are stingy with forgiveness even while we are dependent on your mercy. Refresh within us a deep and abiding gratitude for all our many blessings, and help us live this gratitude every day.

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.



PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Linda Strodtman (8:00) Dan Francis (9:30) Bill McPherson (11:00)

OLD TESTAMENT READING Deuteronomy 26:1-11

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

ANTHEM (9:30/11:00) With a Voice of Singing Martin Shaw With a voice of singing, declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia! Utter it even unto the ends of the earth. The Lord hath delivered his people. O be joyful in God, all ye lands. O sing praises to the honor of his name. Make his praise to be glorious.

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

Children through grade five are invited forward.

Rev. Ryo

NEW TESTAMENT READING Luke 17:11-19 This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON Rev. Dr. Fair

Responding

* **HYMN 551** Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

WELCOME Rev. Rogers

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

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Offertory (9:30/11:00) *Adagio for Strings* Samuel Barber arr. Hoffman/Leckrone

* 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.

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION (8:00)

See Communion 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.



* HYMN 555 (stanzas 1-2) Now Thank We All Our God

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven, To Father and to Son and Spirit now be given.

The one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,
The God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.

* **POSTLUDE** (9:30/11:00) Sinfonia in F Major J. S. Bach from Cantata 79 arr. Rick England

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 Barb Brewster and Eleonora Charlson. Church Office volunteers are Martha Petroski and George Hendrickson. Greeters for the 9:30 a.m. service are Marita Servais and Carol, Katie, Isabelle and Jack German; and Dale Leslie for the 11:00 a.m. service.

^{*} Prayer of Dedication

^{*} Please rise in body or spirit.

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-Bellfi, Omer Bellfi, 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 Hillegonds Chapel, to the right of the piano after the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship services. Prayer team members are Sharon Sheldon and Carolyn Schultz following the 9:30 a.m. service, and Pam Rinker, Lynne Lande, and Mary Kay Gray following the 11:00 a.m. service. After the 8:00 a.m. service a minister is available at the Communion Table for prayer. "Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." - Romans 12:12

Musical leadership is provided by the First Pres Orchestra (Gerry Leckrone, conductor) and Chancel Choir.

The chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Joanne, Ken, and Susan Kooyers by Marge and Lloyd Kooyers.

The pink rosebuds celebrate the births of:

Lila Thora Esposito, daughter of Melina Campbell and Joseph Esposito and granddaughter of Jim and Deborah Campbell, born November 8, 2015

Gabrielle Elizabeth Swenson, daughter of Carolyn and Josh Swenson, born November 15,2015

Ava Salome Becker, daughter of Lee and Katie Becker and granddaughter of Carter and Peggy Hodgson, born November 16, 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.

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 Carol German, Linda Lampman, Suzanne Powell, and John and Dawn Pankopf.

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.

Festival Choir rehearsal is at 10:30 a.m. in Room 400.

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

There are no evening youth ministry activities today. This includes Youth Dinner, Mids, and Keystones.

First Pres College Opportunities:

All college students are invited to our free **College Dinner** at 5:30 p.m. in the Vance and Lewis Rooms on the 300 level. **Club** does not meet this Tuesday due to Thanksgiving break, but resumes Tuesday, December 1, 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 meet 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 Monteith Hall 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 Lewis 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.

T2A2 Does Bible meets at noon in the Vance Room for a brief Bible Study. All young adults are invited to join us for fellowship, study, and reflection. For more information, contact Rev. Ryo.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

An Advent Bible Study led by Rev. Béghin will meet at Glacier Hills in the Ecumenical Chapel at 10:30 a.m. every Tuesday Dec. 1-22. This year's study is based on the Advent lectionary readings. This is a wonderful opportunity to examine Scripture and enjoy fellowship with one another.

The Advent Happening, our Advent/Christmas craft morning, is Saturday, December 5, 10:00 a.m. – noon, in the Social Hall. All are welcome . . . ages 3 to 103. Friends are welcome. Come make gifts, craft an ornament, decorate a cookie, design a Christmas card, and build a gingerbread stable. Children can make all of their Christmas gifts in one morning! For those who wish, childcare is available for children under 3.

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.

High School and College Mission Opportunities:

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

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 speak. Leaders are Rev. Dr. Monnett, Rev. Ryo, and Peer Minister Andy Spaulding. Cost is \$225 and payment is due by Tuesday, December 1.

Jamaica Mission Trip for college students is February 25 – March 4. Leaders are Rev. Dr. Monnett, Young Life College Director Tucker Rossmaessler, and Peer Minister Andy Spaulding. Cost is \$1,300 and a deposit of \$500 is due by Tuesday, December 1.

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

Poinsettias given in honor or memory of a loved one will add beauty to 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 at http://firstpresbyterian.org/daily-devotionals-signup. Hard copies will be printed and available in the Church Office for those who do not use the internet.

All-Church Christmas Dinner is 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.

The annual Pancake Supper is Tuesday, December 15, as UM students wrap up their fall semester. We expect to serve over 300 hungry students from 10:00 p.m. to midnight and volunteers are needed to help with outreach, setup, cooking, serving, and clean-up. Sign up for a volunteer spot on our website or contact Peer Minister Andy Spaulding.

Children's Festival Choir (Advent/Christmas): Children, grades K-5, are invited to rehearse 10:30-10:50 a.m. Sunday mornings, November 22 and December 6, 13 and 20, to sing for the Lighting of the Advent Candle for 9:30 a.m. services during Advent and for the Christmas Pageant on December 24 at 3:00 p.m.

New Choir Robes: We are within several thousand dollars of having enough funds for new choir robes for our Children's, Youth and Chancel Choirs. If you wish to give a robe (\$160) in honor or memory of someone, please make the check payable to the church and include Choir Robes in the memo line. For additional information, please contact Tom Granum.

Mature Singles meet for dinner this Friday, November 27, at 5:30 p.m., at Panda House, 229 N. Maple Road. Interested singles may contact Marcy (995-2519) to plan Thanksgiving dinner together at a local restaurant.

Christmas Concerts: You are invited to attend two Christmas concerts we are hosting in our sanctuary.

Friday, December 4, 7:00 p.m. – Three organists from the Ann Arbor Chapter of the American Guild of Organists will present a free concert, "An Organist's Christmas," with the Boychoir of Ann Arbor, which will include audience carol-singing.

Saturday, December 12, 3:00 and 7:00 p.m. – The Boychoir of Ann Arbor presents their Christmas concerts, "A Boychoir Christmas." Tickets are available in advance or at the door: \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors and students, and \$5 for children under age 18.

The Longest Night Service is in Monteith Hall Sunday, December 20, at 5:00 and again at 7:00 p.m. This service recognizes the increasing darkness that comes with the Winter Solstice, and looks to the hope of returning life, and the gift of Light in Christ. It is meant to comfort those grieving or struggling during this holiday season. It is open to all, including your loved ones and neighbors, who are coping with sadness at this time.

Join us in worship on Christmas Eve at one of these services:

Family Worship 3:00 p.m.
Lessons and Carols 5:00 p.m.
Lessons and Carols 7:00 p.m.
Candlelight Communion 11:00 p.m.

The Chancel Choir, harp, brass, organ and woodwinds will present a 30-minute prelude of Christmas music before the 5:00 and 7:00 p.m. Services of Lessons and Carols on Christmas Eve. Come early to listen to choral and instrumental music for the season.

The new Photo Directory is now available for purchase in the Church Office for \$10 for those who did not have their picture included. First Pres received one free directory for every family that had their picture taken with Lifetouch at our photo sessions. We 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.

We share joyful news of our Annual Giving Campaign. As of Wednesday, November 18, we have received 497 commitments and reached 92% 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.

Rotating Shelter: Sharing Warmth with Our Neighbors. We open our doors again, January 4–18, 2016, to provide sleeping space for up to 25 men directed here by the Shelter Association. Evening and overnight hosts are needed each night, and morning drivers on the weekends. Donations of hot food, snacks, gloves, hats, socks, hand warmers, and new long underwear and also needed. Watch for sign up opportunities near the Welcome Center or sign up online. Contact Carol Smith (psmith6641@aol.com) or John Yodhes (677-4036) for more information.

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 Haddrill, Technology Coordinator
Mary Jones, Communications/Pastor's Assistant
Cindy King, Administrative Assistant
Anna Miller, Finance Assistant



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