

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 10, 2021 • 9:30 a.m.



Tax Collector
Joel Schoon-Tanis



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Ann Arbor | Michigan

Making God's Love Visible

Please join in reading and singing those parts of the service printed in **bold**.

* When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit.

Soaring overhead in our sanctuary is a brilliantly hued representation of the prayers of the people.

Each flash of color is an origami crane. And inside each bird is written the name of a church member who was prayed for as the bird was folded. Yet the focus of this artwork is larger than any individual or congregation. The work – made up of over 3500 cranes – also marks International Day of Peace, September 21. On this date, people around the globe are encouraged to participate in acts of peace. And in addition, these peace cranes support our annual giving campaign, *Peace by Piece*.

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY *Solemn Melody*

Sir H. Walford Davies

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

FAITH IN ACTION Annual Giving

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, all who are weary or feeling depleted.

All: We gather close to the God who strengthens us.

One: Come, all who are lonely, stuck, or feeling lost.

All: We gather close to the God who finds us.

One: Come, all who are grieving, afraid, or sad.

All: We gather close to the God who heals us.

One: Come, all who are happy, content, or joyful.

All: We gather close to the God who celebrates with us.

One: Come, all of you, everyone, from north, south, east, or west.

All: We gather to worship the God who loves all!

* HYMN 415 *Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*

RESTORATION

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy One, sometimes we lose our way and we feel lost. Sometimes we are lost or stuck and we don't even know it but realize later that we have gone astray, made mistakes, harmed others by our actions or inactions. Forgive us.

Open our eyes to see ourselves clearly. Call us to your table to be loved and healed. Fill us with strength and conviction to change our ways, to correct our mistakes when we can, to begin anew today. Help us.

Pour your compassion into our hearts. Where we are hungry, fill us. Where we think poorly of ourselves or others, give us a new mind, a new perspective. Where we feel compulsions, relieve us. Turn us again toward you. Heal us...

SILENT PRAYER

Lord, in your mercy. **Christ, in your mercy.**

Lord, in your mercy. **Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

CALL TO GRATEFUL LIVING

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

You are invited to share signs with one another of the peace we experience as God's people. Greet one another saying, "The peace of Christ be with you," and respond, "And also with you."

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**I will arise and go to Jesus;
he will embrace me in his arms.
In the arms of my dear Savior,
O there are ten thousand charms.**

This is the refrain of Hymn 415, Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Ephesians 2:12–14, 17–22

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

A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Third Grade Bible Presentation

Those receiving Bibles are Logan Blackburn, Kylie Mae Campbell, Addy Carlisle, Elijah Cheng, Ethan Crawford, Josiah Gerety, Jack William Groves, Audie Leigh Lampman, Cora Elizabeth Meade, Nicholas Rayner Mitchell, Greyson Peters, Henry Peters, Jacqueline Vercler, and Ben Zink.

Leader: People of the church, at the baptism of children we promise to tell them of God's love, to help them understand Christ's commands, and to strengthen family ties within the household of God. Are we willing to renew this promise?

All: We renew our baptismal promise to children and their families to tell them the good news of the gospel, to help them know all that Christ commands, and by our fellowship to strengthen their family ties with the household of God.

Leader: Please join me in prayer.

**All: God of love and care, thank you for your word in the Bible and actively lived-in human lives through ages past and in the world today. Through reading and studying the Bible, through praying and worshiping, help us to know you and to know what we are to do to be your faithful people, following Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Luke 5:27–32

The grass withers, the flower fades;
the word of the Lord endures forever.

SERMON

This week's Growing in God's Love Bible story is *Telling the Truth*. It can be found on page 142 of the *Children's Story Bible* found in your pew.

There is no Worship LAB today. Instead, the children are invited to sit up front to best see Joel's creation and be inspired to make their own Bible illustrations.

Children's Choir will rehearse today at 10:30. Please meet Ms. Powell at the pulpit door.

Joel Schoon-Tanis will create a painting during the sermon as a visual interpretation of this biblical story. He will be presenting a powerpoint presentation at 11:00 a.m., at the Exploring the Faith class in the Social Hall. All are welcome.

Use these offertory moments to savor your gratitude for the abundance of God's love — and to consider your own response in loving service.

Ways to give: click [online at our First Pres website](#) ... via "Text-to-Give" (855-904-1523) ... use the Vanco Mobile app ... put a check in the mail ... or scan the QR code below.



We are glad you are here! Please sign our virtual Friendship Pad.

If you are worshipping with us via YouTube, Facebook, or radio, either click below to let us know that you joined us for worship today or sign the pad on our website at <https://bit.ly/2Rlig2l>

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RESPONDING

* HYMN 773

Heaven Shall Not Wait

HEAVEN SHALL NOT WAIT

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Offertory

A Gaelic Blessing

John Rutter

Chancel Choir

Deep peace of the running wave to you,
Deep peace of the flowing air to you,
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you,
Deep peace of the shining stars to you,
Deep peace of the gentle night to you,
Moon and stars pour their healing light on you,
Deep peace of Christ the light of the world to you,
Deep peace of Christ to you.

* Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

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

Peace by Piece

CWM RHONNDA

Please sing stanzas 2 and 5. This hymn is on your bulletin insert.

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

In the name of Jesus —
Let us Love...**with Open Hearts!**
Let us Learn...**with Open Minds!**
Let us Serve...**with Open Arms!**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY *"Little" Fugue in G Minor, BWV 578*

J. S. Bach

Please remain seated until the conclusion of the closing voluntary.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

Worship Leaders: Welcome – Melissa Anne Rogers; Faith in Action – Brad Taylor; Liturgists – Hannah Lundberg, Matthew Warfield, and Evans McGowan; Scripture Reader – Claire Gehrke; Children's Message – Beca Torres-Davenport; Worship Lab Leader – Melissa Anne Rogers; Preacher – Mark Mares; Musicians – Chancel Choir; Organist – David Hufford; Conductor – Dave VanderMeer; Greeters – Nancy Fox, Marilyn Gibson, and Sara VanderVoort; Ushers – Dick Carlisle (captain), Jim Cameron, Carol Carter, Joe Schmidt, Connie Swindle, and Martin Swindle; Welcome Center volunteer is Barbara Mueller

Chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Margaret Bennett Bowen, a First Pres member who left us in October 2004 at age 98, by her daughter Marolin Bellefleur; and in loving memory of Albert and Charlotte Anderson, brother and sister-in-law of Bill and Betty Anderson, on the anniversary of Charlotte's death.

A red rosebud celebrates the birth of Hunter Evan Lisull, son of Evan and Courtney Lisull and grandson of Deb and Mike Lisull. Hunter was born on September 13.

A pink rosebud celebrates the birth of Addison Louise Kaercher, daughter of Tommy and Kelsey Kaercher and granddaughter of Cindy and Chris King. Addison was born on October 3.

A red rosebud celebrates the birth of Sonny Mack Harrison, son of Caryn and Caleb Harrison, and grandson of Dave VanderMeer and Brent Ivey. Sonny was born on October 5.

The prayer team is available for those desiring prayer in Hillemonds Chapel after the 9:30 service. Prayer team volunteer is Nancy Oliver. "A change in perspective might be exactly what your prayer life needs." – Kelly O'Dell Stanley

Join us for in-person Coffee Hour on the Front Lawn immediately following the Closing Voluntary. Cookies bakers are Carol Gottliebsen, Dawn and John Pankopf, and Beth Caldwell.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES TODAY @ 11:00

The Bible at 11 o'clock (Curtis Room)

Join us for our study of Isaiah.

Exploring the Faith (Social Hall)

Join us for a presentation by Joel Schoon-Tanis.

First Friends (Lewis Room)

Today's discussion is based on Adam Hamilton's DVD "Why? Making Sense of God's Will."

T2A2 Small Group (Founders Room)

All in their twenties and thirties are welcome to come and build community with us as we share meaningful conversations and reflect on the Word together. We'll begin a study of the book of Romans around 11:00 a.m. A light lunch (eaten outside) will be provided.

Adult/Parent Confirmation Class (Vance Room)

This class will follow the main themes the youth are learning in their confirmation class. Whether you have been here your whole life and remember everything from your confirmation class or you were confirmed in another church or you simply want a reminder of what you learned and what our youth are learning, please come to this class! This class meets on the second and fourth Sunday of each month. It will be led by Resident Minister Megan Berry and Rev. Jay Sanderford.

FAITH FORMATION LATER TODAY

Youth Group meets 6:00–7:30 p.m., on the Front Lawn or, in case of rain, under the Canopy on the Hill Street Lawn. All Middle School and High School students are invited to attend.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our beloved member Ann Andrews is relocating to California! Ann has been a rich part of our family of faith for over 20 years and has helped in almost every ministry area. Ann is our resident expert on our Sanctuary's stained glass windows. We invite you to send her your good wishes and prayers and keep in touch with her: 622 Washington Street, Apt. 4, Alhambra, California 91801. Her phone number and email remain the same. Blessings to you, Ann!

Fast Track to First Pres Membership! Become a member in as little as twenty minutes today or next Sunday, October 17. Meet with Rev. Rogers and two Elders at 11:00 a.m., in the Lead Pastor's Office across from the Vance Room or connect via Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84143125355>. We look forward to you joining as a full or affiliate member. Contact Rev. Rogers (mrrogers@firstpresbyterian.org) if you have questions, or see any pastor after a worship service.

Presbyterian Women Celebrates 175 Years of Service on Sunday, October 17, at Coffee Hour. Presbyterian Women has been a part of the fabric of First Pres for 175 years. Come and help us celebrate! During worship, PW will present to the church new paraments for Monteith Hall woven by textile artist and First Pres member Lois Bryant. Come to Coffee Hour, enjoy a cookie, a gift and discover more about Presbyterian Women past and present. See displays on PW's involvement in the life of First Pres over the years and learn about the book and Bible studies, the mission activities, the peace and justice initiatives and more that PW has to offer women in our church.

Visit the New Virtual Art Exhibit, "The Peace of the Earth" by local Ann Arbor Artist, Joan Cohen Jones. The exhibit is found at www.fpc2art.org.

The PCUSA Peace and Global Witness offering, throughout October, is intended to help people experience the freedom and dignity that Christ wants for everyone, everywhere—regardless of boundaries or the walls that separate us. A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to address systems of conflict and injustice across the world. First Pres will forward 25% of this offering to A Brighter Way (ABW). In our community, ABW is dedicated to reducing recidivism rates in Washtenaw County by providing programs, resources, and advocacy for friends and family returning home from incarceration, and by providing education and a restorative space for the community. **Give:** gifts may be made through First Pres with checks marked "Peace and Global Witness" and may also be made by clicking here: [online at our First Pres website](#).

Welcoming Refugees. As we continue to look prayerfully toward the crisis in Afghanistan, we are assembling a team of people who may be interested in supporting refugees seeking resettlement and welcome in our area. More information will be forthcoming. If you are interested in getting involved, contact Resident Minister Hannah Lundberg, hlundberg@firstpresbyterian.org.

Calling all singers for Children's Choir (K-5)! It's not too late to join the Children's Choir with Shayla Powell. All children are welcome at 10:30 a.m. in Monteith Hall. Meet Ms. Shayla at the pulpit door at 10:30 a.m. for choir and treats!

Meals for the homeless are needed at Mercy House, located at 805 W. Huron Street. Mercy House is an oasis of hope providing meals, showers, clothing, and personal care items. Volunteers who could prepare and drop off a meal for 20 people on Mondays or Wednesdays, at 5:45 p.m., are needed. Sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0E44AFAE22A2F49-mercy>.

Our October Communion Food Collection supports the Hunger Ministries Program of the Presbytery of Detroit. Non-perishable food may be placed in the bin provided in the Social Hall on Sundays, Mondays–Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., and Fridays, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Financial gifts may be made by check or online.

Greetings, College Students! We hope you will find a home away from home here at First Pres. Contact Rev. McGowan (campus@firstpresbyterian.org) to grab a cup of coffee or for more information. He would love to meet you, virtually or otherwise!

Making God's Love Visible, Peace by Piece. *Loving God and loving neighbors, let us show what faith can do. God is making all things new...* To celebrate our return to in-person worship, the Annual Giving 2022 Work Group commissioned a special hymn for this stewardship season. This wonderful hymn, "Peace by Piece" by David Gambrell, contains beautiful images of renewal and restoration. We hope you enjoy singing this song of hope. A big thank you to David VanderMeer for making this dream come true! Thank you in advance for submitting your pledge and opportunity to serve forms by mail or online at <https://www.firstpresbyterian.org/contribute/donate/stewardship-2022>.

Mature Ministries presents Lunch and Learn with Ken Fischer, this Thursday, October 14.

We will begin at noon with a box lunch eaten outside. At 1:00 p.m., all are then invited into the Sanctuary, where Ken will be interviewed by First Pres member and longtime member of the UMS Choral Union Marilyn Meeker. This will be followed by a Q&A session, and a book-signing of his recently published book, *Everybody In, Nobody Out*. Order your boxed lunch at the address below. Payment is due by Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. <https://firstpresbyterian.wufoo.com/forms/mature-ministries-fischer-lecture-boxed-lunch>.

Christian Meditation meets in-person this Saturday, October 16, at 8:30 a.m., in Monteith Hall. The purpose of the meditation is to quiet our hearts and minds in God's presence in a time of silence and to listen as God speaks to us through a text read from the Scriptures. We meet on the first and third Saturdays each month in Monteith. There is no preparation necessary other than bringing a notebook or a journal to write in. All are invited. Christian Meditation will be offered the first and third Saturdays of the month.

"How the World Has Changed: Cannabis," a bonus Mature Ministries online meeting, is October 21, at Noon. Mark Osbeck, who teaches in the UM Law School's Legal Practice Program and is a leading authority on marijuana law, is our speaker. Contact Rev. Rogers for the Zoom link.

Tell Me More About This Church! Are you a prospective member, regular attender, frequent guest, or someone new who really wants to know more? Join us Sunday, October 24, at 4:30 p.m., at the Session Room (3685 Jackson Road) for a cool beverage, snacks, and good conversation on the patio. We'll answer any questions you have and surely hear a few we didn't expect! It's a lively hour together for all ages. Contact Rev. Rogers so we know to look for you! (mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org; 734-355-2351)

All-Church Bonfire is October 24! Families, members, couples, students, youth, kiddos — ALL are welcome for S'mores! Meet at White Oaks Farm, 6641 Zeeb Road, Dexter, 6:00–7:00 p.m. Everything will be provided. Come enjoy a nice fall evening with fire, marshmallows, chocolate, and more. There is ample parking. RSVP to the Church Office or to Rev. Rogers so we know to plan for you!

Yale Whiffenpoofs Concert is Wednesday, October 27, at 7:00 p.m., in the Sanctuary. Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased at <https://www.whiffenpoofs.com/ann-arbor> or at the door.

Mature Ministries October 28 Trip — A Few Spots Remain! We'll travel by bus to the Marshall Fredericks Sculpture Museum in Saginaw. Lunch will follow the museum visit at Zehnder's in Frankenmuth. Depart at 8:00 a.m. from the church and return by 4:30 p.m. The price is \$50 and includes lunch and bus travel. Museum admission is free; on-site donations are welcome.

Chancel Choir invites all high school and college students as well as adults to sing. The choir rehearses on Thursday evenings, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., in Monteith Hall. For more information, contact Dave VanderMeer, Minister of Music & Fine Arts, at dvandermeer@firstpresbyterian.org.

The Men's Study Group meets on the first and third Friday mornings, 8:30 – 9:30 a.m., in the Curtis Room, for coffee, study, and conversation. This fall, we will read *The Difficult Words of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to His Most Perplexing Teachings* by Amy Jill Levine. Contact Rev. Sanderford for more information at jsanderford@firstpresbyterian.org or (734) 662-4466, ext. 340.

Journey's Bible Study meets every second and fourth Thursday. This year we are studying the book of Acts. We meet in-person in the Curtis Room and there is a Zoom link for all who desire to participate online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/295007173>.

For information about the numerous opportunities to connect for youth and families, contact Rev. Mares (mmares@firstpresbyterian.org), Minister of Youth & Families.

The Prayer Team meets every Monday morning, 9:00–9:30 a.m., online. Would you like prayer for yourself or others? Use this form by Sunday evening: <https://firstpresbyterian.wufoo.com/forms/prayer-request/>. If you would like to join this group, email Rev. Rogers (mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org) for information and the link. For those in worship today, to share a prayer today with the pastors or prayer team, please use a pew card or the friendship pad, or speak to a pastor after the service.

For information on opportunities to connect and resources for children and families, contact Beca Torres-Davenport (btorres-davenport@firstpresbyterian.org), Coordinator of Children's & Family Ministry.

A note about registration for Children's Faith Formation Classes:

"Dear Families, your children's safety is important to us! We request that all members and visitors take 3 minutes to fill out this form each year to ensure each child and family's needs are met. If you haven't submitted a form, we hope to see yours soon!"



Campus Ministries Update. Each Sunday, students will have a special small group meeting during our new 11:00 a.m. Faith Formation hour before breaking for lunch. If you are interested in helping plan ministry events as part of our Campus Ministry Work Group, or would like to be directly involved in supporting a small group or service event, please contact Rev. McGowan (campus@firstpresbyterian.org).

Your Pastor Nominating Committee is committed to being open and transparent in our search for a Lead Pastor. We meet weekly and can be reached at pnc2021@firstpresbyterian.org. Information about our search is available at: <https://www.firstpresbyterian.org/about/staff-leadership/pastoral-transition-first-presbyterian>.

The Church Orchestra will rehearse 1:30–2:30 p.m., in the Sanctuary today and on Saturday, October 16, 10:30–11:30 a.m.

We have an opportunity for ministry at Alpha House! During the week of November 8–14, First Pres will support guests at Alpha House, a shelter for children and their families experiencing homelessness. Sign up is available online and a sign-up board is available during Coffee Hour. Direct questions to Ruth Jensen (ruthannjensen@gmail.com), Gail Einhaus (gail.einhaus@gmail.com), or Anne Gere (argere@umich.edu).



Pastoral & Program Staff

Eric Banitt
Accompanist/Pianist

Megan Berry
Resident Minister

Barbara DeLancey
Parish Nurse

David Hufford
Organist

Hannah Lundberg
Resident Minister

Rev. Mark Mares
Minister of Youth & Families

Rev. Evans McGowan
Assistant Pastor of Faith Formation and Campus Ministries

Stacey Pakela
Parish Nurse

Shayla Powell
Children's Choir Director

Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers
Associate Pastor

Rev. Jay Sanderford
Associate Pastor

Beca Torres-Davenport
Coordinator of Children's & Family Ministry

David VanderMeer
Minister of Music & Fine Arts

Rev. Matthew Warfield
Resident Minister

Administrative Staff

Robin Agnew
Administrative Assistant

J. P. DiMaggio
Interim Bridge Administrator

Pat Gilbreath
Welcome Center Coordinator

Almer Harris
Maintenance Specialist

Kathy Houser
Technology Coordinator

Diane Knibbs
Administrative Assistant

Anna Miller
Finance Manager

Allie Milot
Communications Coordinator

Adrian Prundeanu
Facilities Manager

Linda Robinson
Office Manager

Alyssa Walker
Finance Assistant