

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
February 7, 2021



Healing the Sick by Ulrich Henn

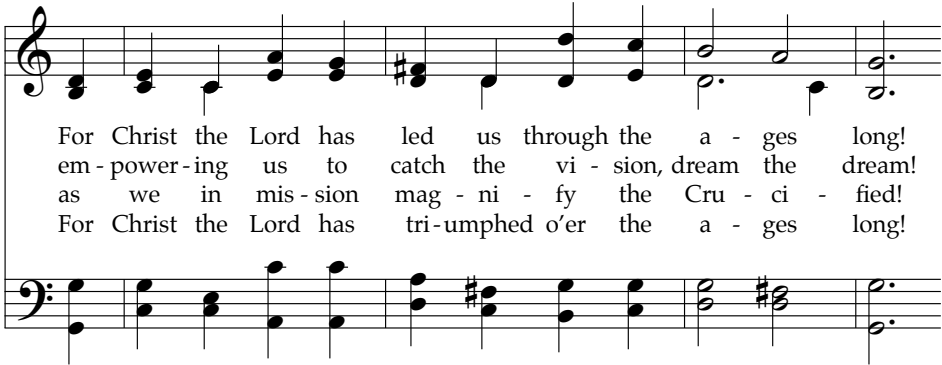


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Ann Arbor | Michigan

Making God's Love Visible



1 Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!
2 Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns su - preme,
3 Let cour - age be our friend; let wis - dom be our guide,
4 Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!



For Christ the Lord has led us through the a - ges long!
em - power - ing us to catch the vi - sion, dream the dream!
as we in mis - sion mag - ni - fy the Cru - ci - fied!
For Christ the Lord has tri - umphed o'er the a - ges long!



In bold ac - cord, come cel - e - brate the jour - ney now and praise the Lord!

Please know that, in recording all the parts of this liturgy — spoken, sung and played — we have carefully observed responsible norms of social distancing.

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

In celebration of Black History Month, the opening voluntary is by the Afro-British composer Samuel Coleridge-Taylor. His mother was English, and his father was a physician from Sierra Leone, a descendant of formerly enslaved African-Americans who settled there following the Revolutionary War. Hailed in his day as “the African Mahler,” Coleridge-Taylor studied with Charles Villiers Stanford at the Royal College of Music.

Today’s Prayer of Confession is based on 1 Corinthians 9:16–23 and the song “The Places You Have Come to Fear the Most” by *Dashboard Confessional*.

GATHERING

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Impromptu in C Major, Op. 78, No. 2

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor

CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 147:1-11)

One: How good it is to sing praises to our God;

All: for the Lord is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.

One: Our God heals the brokenhearted,
and binds up their wounds.

**All: The Lord lifts up the downtrodden;
he casts the wicked to the ground.**

One: Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving;
make melody to our God.

**All: For the Lord takes pleasure in those who fear him,
in those who hope in his steadfast love.**

One: Praise the Lord!

All: May the Lord’s name be praised.

HYMN 305

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy

DARWALL’S 148TH

This Hymn is found on the preceding page of this bulletin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

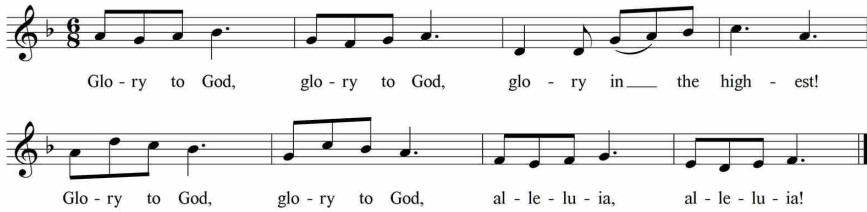
Gracious Lord, too often we fail to proclaim the gospel. We negate our duty to love one another and show the love of God to all. We have no ground for boasting, for we trust in our own will and look for our own reward. We cannot fake it hard enough to please everyone or anyone at all. We separate ourselves from those not like us, and so we separate us from you, the one who calls all humanity into one love. We are afraid to become weak, or to reach out to those barely scraping by, and we are too quick to give up rather than give back. Forgive us, O Lord. You have entrusted us with the gospel. Strengthen us to go to those places we fear the most. In your light and love we pray.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!
Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

This Hymn 583, *Glory to God* (GLORIA).

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 40:21, 26–31

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Mark 1:29–39

The grass withers, the flower fades;

the word of the Lord endures forever.

SERMON

The Gospel According to . . .

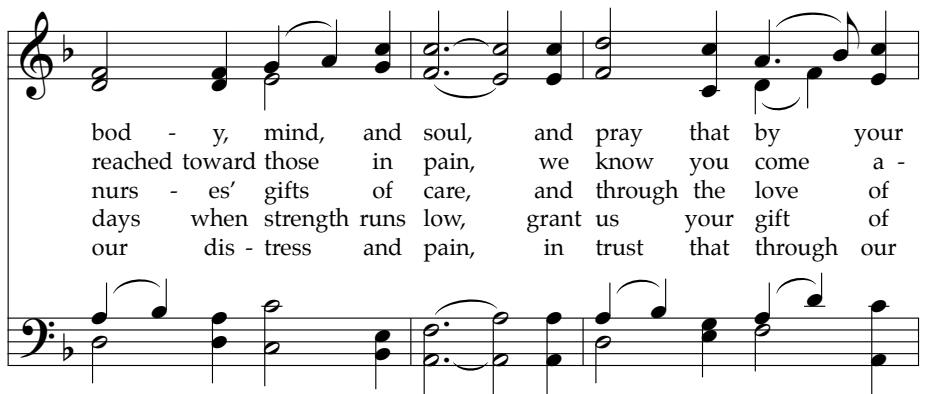
Children's Message:

Reverence for God calls forth reverence for the image of God in all human beings including children. The central place given to children in the preaching of Jesus and the caution that unless people become like little children they cannot enter the realm of God remind us that the children's message is critical for them, and for all.

Moses instructed parents to teach their children well so they would grow in their faith and love for God: "Now these are the commands, decrees, and laws the Lord your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the Lord your God as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life" (Deut. 6:1–2). That is one of the reasons why we have a message for children every Sunday.



1 We come to you for heal - ing, Lord, of
 2 As once you walked through an - cient streets and
 3 You touch us through phy - si - cians' skills, through
 4 Through nights of pain and wake - ful - ness, through
 5 We come to you, O lov - ing Lord, in



bod - y, mind, and soul, and pray that by your
 reached toward those in pain, we know you come a -
 nurs - es' gifts of care, and through the love of
 days when strength runs low, grant us your gift of
 our dis - tress and pain, in trust that through our



Spir - it's touch we may a - gain be whole.
 mong us still with power to heal a - gain.
 faith - ful friends who lift our lives in prayer.
 pa - tience, Lord, your calm - ing peace to know.
 nights and days your grace will heal, sus - tain.

RESPONDING AND SEALING

HYMN 796

We Come to You for Healing, Lord

LAND OF REST

This Hymn is found on the preceding page of this bulletin.

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

arr. Gregory Pysh

Jesus, lover of my soul,
let me to thy bosom fly,
while the nearer waters roll,
while the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Savior, hide,
till the storm of life is past.
Safe into the haven guide.
O receive my soul at last!

Thou, O Christ, art all I want;
more than all in thee I find.
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy name;
I am all unrighteousness.
False and full of sin I am;
thou art full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with thee is found,
grace to cover all my sin.
Let the healing streams abound;
make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art;
freely let me take of thee.
Spring thou up within my heart.
Rise to all eternity.

Use these offertory moments to savor your gratitude for the abundance of God's love — and to consider your own response in loving service. As you consider making your offering, remember that the church's regular expenses continue in these difficult times. And the community around us needs your financial support: your faithful giving is like the breath of life to mission programs we love, neighbors in need, members who are hurting. Thank you for your faithful generosity!

Ways to give: online on the First Pres homepage ... via "Text-to-Give" (855-904-1523) ... use our Give+ app ... put a check in the mail ... or scan the QR code below. (Call Finance Manager Anna Miller if you need assistance.)



SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

During his ministry, Jesus shared meals as a sign of community and acceptance. As we gather for communion, know that you are welcome in this community and accepted at Christ's table.

"As this broken bread scattered on the mountains was gathered and became one, so too, may your Church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom." – *The Didache*, one of the earliest Christian texts.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.



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.

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Communion Music *Eat This Bread*

Taizé

Eat this bread; drink this cup;
come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread; drink this cup;
trust in me and you will not thirst.

Eat this bread; drink this cup;
come to Christ and never be hungry.
Eat this bread; drink this cup;
trust in Christ and you will not thirst.

SENDING

HYMN 744

Arise, Your Light Is Come!

FESTAL SONG

1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born,
4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun - tains burst in song!

show forth the glo - ry of your God, which shines on you to - day.
pro - claim the cap - tives' lib - er - ty, good ti - dings to the poor.
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY *Hymn-Prelude on "Festal Song"* Seth Bingham

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/2Rliq2l>

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WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

Leaders of Worship: Welcome – Andrew Frazier; Liturgists – Khayla Johnson and Melissa Anne Rogers; Communion Celebrants – Evans McGowan and Melissa Anne Rogers; Scripture Reader – Jack Pakela; Children’s Message – Jay Sanderford and Beca Torres-Davenport; Preacher – Evans McGowan; Vocalists – Lorna Hildebrandt, Imani Mchunu, Heidi Hess-Willis, Catherine Moore, David Magumba, Benton DeGroot, and Brent Ivey; Instrumentalists – Jillian Kouzel, oboe; Kathleen Ford, cello; Organist – Paul Haebig; Conductor – Dave VanderMeer; Videographer – Bill Hall; Sound technician – Bryan Magnuson

Today is Communion 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. Financial contributions and food donations throughout the month of February will be overseen by Youth Ministry. Financial contributions will be directed to Washtenaw Community College Student Emergency Fund. Community Action Network (C.A.N.) is the recipient of food donations.

Join Rev. Rogers for a virtual Coffee Hour Sunday immediately following the Closing Voluntary. If you have questions or need help, please contact Rev. Rogers. Special Coffee Hour guest is Cindy King who left her position as Administrative Assistant on January 15 to explore a new opportunity. This will be a time to celebrate Cindy and to thank her for her faithful service to First Pres in various roles over more than eight years.

Today’s conversation prompt: Where have you found guidance in life? Enter Coffee Hour by clicking <https://firstpresbyterian.org/event/virtual-coffee-hour>

Chancel Flowers are given given by the pastoral care department to welcome our two new parish nurses — Stacey Pakela and Barb DeLancey, who are here to help and are available as resources, supports, and listening ears! Contact them via the Church Office or at parishnurse@firstpresbyterian.org.

A red rosebud celebrates the birth of Theodore Jamieson Bugosh, born January 3, 2021, son of Meghan and Zack Bugosh.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Volunteers are needed for the Rotating Shelter for the week of February 22–28. First Pres has partnered with Calvary UMC to provide volunteers as they host the Rotating Shelter in their building. The operation has been scaled down to two volunteers present in the evenings (7:00 – 11:55 p.m.) and one overnight volunteer to accompany a paid Shelter staff person (11:55 p.m. – 7:00 a.m.) If you are able to volunteer, please register using this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040f4aa8a62ea3fe3-second>.

Welcome College Students! We hope you will find a home away from home here at First Pres. Each Sunday at 12:15 p.m. there are in-person, socially-distant college lunches. Each Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. there are small group opportunities, both in-person and virtually. Contact Rev. Evans McGowan (campus@firstpresbyterian.org) for more information. He would love to meet you, virtually or otherwise!

Donate Chancel flowers in memory or in honor of a loved one. There are available dates in upcoming weeks. Cost is now \$75. Contact the Church Office (662-4466) for more information.

Women: Stay Connected! PW Moderator Ginny Bell sends out timely information in email blasts. Contact her (virginiabell2013@gmail.com) to be added to the email list.

Reopening Update: Announcing our new easy-to-view Reopening Grid (see our website)! As the Covid-19 vaccines become more readily available, the RRVG recommends consulting with your healthcare professional about getting vaccinated as soon as possible. Training continues on using our new camera system in the Sanctuary. As we say goodbye to several staff members, others are taking on new roles until new staff can be hired. Stay tuned for further updates here and on our website. Please contact Rev. McGowan if you have any questions.

The prayer team meets Monday mornings via Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86466149357>) from 9:00–9:30 a.m. with Rev. Rogers. Join us to offer prayer for others or bring the needs of you and your loved ones for prayer. Questions? Contact Rev. Rogers.

“Tell Me More on Four” is a monthly opportunity for our guests and visitors to learn more as we “tell you more about First Pres.” The Zoom link is available online or you may indicate on the friendship pad that you’d like to have it sent directly to you. Rev. Rogers leads this brief time of conversation and question where you can ask anything! Find out about our church, our programs, our vision, our time of transition, our theology, history, and more on the fourth Sunday of each month at noon!

The next monthly Taizé Prayer Service is on Tuesday, March 2. Join us at 7:00 p.m., via YouTube and Facebook.

Mature Singles are enjoying dinners in restaurants on Friday evenings, but planning only one or two weeks at a time. Please call Marcy (995–2519) if you would like more information.

Pandemic Pancake Party Coming Soon! Shrove Tuesday is February 16, and First Pres is ready for a party! It’s the last hurrah before the penitential season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17. In honor of the day, and eager for a day to celebrate, join hosts Peter Bubriski and Rev. Rogers on Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86554821798>) for a pancake party, 5:30–6:30. As we gather together, Rev. Rogers and others will talk about what Shrove Tuesday means and why we eat pancakes on the day, also known as Fat Tuesday (or, in cajun French, ‘Mardi Gras’). Join us from your kitchen with your pancake fixings there while we cook and eat together, share what kind of pancakes we made, and get kids and adults of all ages together for a true time of wonder, delicious dinner, and chaos. While we eat, we hope to have a brief slide show of photos. Snap a picture with your phone of something you take on during Lent as a spiritual practice, or a photo that somehow speaks to you of what the season of Lent means. Send photos to Rev. Rogers (mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org) by February 12. See you at the party!

Visit our Virtual Art Exhibit “For the Beauty of the Earth” by clicking www.fboe.weebly.com. The photography is by Judy Kisla of Atlanta, Georgia.

Ministry of Music: If you would like to participate in the Chancel Choir’s virtual anthems, contact Dave VanderMeer for more information: dvandermeer@firstpresbyterian.org. All are welcome to participate!

Ash Wednesday is February 17.

We hope you will participate in one or both of these special services:

Join us at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom for an interactive Ash Wednesday family service. We’ll come together in fellowship to hear scripture, pray in color, share ashes in the mark of Christ, and discuss what Christ has given to us. An Ash Wednesday Interactive pack (ashes, a spiritual practices journal, and a “Prayer in Color” page) will be available by prior registration for pick up on Monday and Tuesday, February 15 and 16, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., and 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. If you’re unable to pick up during these times, a pack can be delivered to you.

Registration for an Interactive pack is available Feb 3–10. For more information, contact Rev. Mares (mmares@firstpresbyterian.org) or Beca Torres-Davenport (btorres-davenport@firstpresbyterian.org).

A virtual ecumenical Taizé worship service is at 7:30 p.m. Join us via Zoom to worship together during our Ecumenical Ash Wednesday Service with our brothers and sisters of other area churches. The service will also be streaming live on our Facebook and YouTube channels.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Please contact Beca Torres-Davenport, Coordinator of Children's Education & Family Ministry, for information about opportunities to connect and resources for children and families. Beca can be reached at btorresdavenport@firstpresbyterian.org.

Today is Family Sunday. Christian Formation classes for children and youth do not meet on Family Sundays and the Children's Choir does not rehearse.

All children's faith formation classes meet this Sunday at 11:00 a.m. on Zoom. The Story Bible and curriculum materials are available from the church.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH AND FAMILIES

Please contact Rev. Mark Mares, Minister of Youth & Families, for information about the numerous ways youth are connecting at this time. Mark can be reached at mmares@firstpresbyterian.org.

Today is Family Sunday. Christian Formation classes for children and youth do not meet on Family Sundays and the Children's Choir does not rehearse.

Middle School and High School Youth Group gatherings alternate between in-person (first and third Sundays) and virtual (second and fourth Sundays) of each month. We gather together for games and fellowship as a large group and break out into Middle School/High School groups for conversations. Contact Pastor Mark for more information. All are welcome!

ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

First Friends meets at 11:30 a.m. for a discussion on the US Border Patrol and the family separation crisis.

Exploring the Faith meets via Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89707880133>) at 12:15 p.m. Rev. Deborah Forger. Portraits of Jesus in the Gospels. As we prepare for our Lenten journey, this session will be devoted to tracing key themes in the Gospels, with a particular focus on the Gospels of Mark and John, which are the focus on this year's lectionary cycle.

Bible Study @ 5:00 meets via Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86545144620>). Rev. Ed Koster facilitates a study of the Gospel of Mark.

Journeys Bible Study meets via Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/295007173>) on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 11:30 a.m. Contact Rev. Frazier (afrazier@firstpresbyterian.org) for more information.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Robin Agnew, Administrative Assistant

J. P. DiMaggio, Interim Bridge Administrator

Reverend Andrew Frazier, Resident Minister

Pat Gilbreath, Welcome Center Coordinator

Dr. Paul Haebig, Interim Organist

Almer Harris, Maintenance Specialist

Reverend Khayla Johnson, Resident Minister

Reverend Mark Mares, Minister of Youth & Families

Reverend Evans McGowan, Assistant Pastor of Faith Formation and Campus Ministries

Kellie McInchak, Children's Choir Director

Anna Miller, Finance Manager

Adrian Prundeanu, Facilities Manager

Linda Robinson, Office Manager

Reverend Melissa Anne Rogers, Associate Pastor

Reverend Jay Sanderford, Associate Pastor

Reverend Dr. Rick Spalding, Interim Pastor

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

David VanderMeer, Minister of Music & Fine Arts

Alyssa Walker, Finance Assistant



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