

The 8:00 a.m. Service of Worship  
March 22, 2009  
Fourth Sunday of Lent



**WELCOME TO ALL**, especially visitors and newcomers to Ann Arbor. Let us know of your presence by completing the pew card. Our mission is to grow spiritually as disciples of Jesus Christ through worship, fellowship, mission, learning, and prayer. We commit ourselves, in all we say and do, to demonstrate God's grace and love. Please know you are invited to share in all activities of the church. A full description of church events may be found online at [www.firstpresbyterian.org](http://www.firstpresbyterian.org).

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP

8:00 a.m.

**GATHERING**

**LIFE IN THE CHURCH**

*Please sign the Friendship Book in each pew near the center aisle and pass it along your pew or to others sitting nearby. As it returns, note with whom you worship so that you may greet each other after the service.*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

*adapted from Psalm 107*

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

**People: for his steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader: Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,  
those he redeemed from trouble

**People: They cried to the Lord and he saved them from their distress.** Leader: The Lord sent out his word and healed them,

**People: and delivered them from destruction.**

**All: Let us offer the Lord thanksgiving  
and tell of his deeds with songs of joy.**

**\*HYMN 260 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God**

*Ein' Feste Burg*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from your way. We are misled by pride and fear. We see ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, failed to trust you with our lives, and have ignored your truth. Have mercy on us, forgive our sin, and return us to right paths, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**SILENT CONFESSION**

**Kyrie (#572 in the Hymnal) Lord, Have Mercy**  
*Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ, have mercy upon us,  
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

## ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*Following the Assurance of Forgiveness, worshipers are invited to turn to their neighbors, offer the right hand of fellowship, and greet them with the words: "The peace of Christ be with you." Worshipers are invited to respond with the words, "And also with you."*

### \*GLORIA (#579 in the Hymnal)

*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.*

## PROCLAIMING

### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

READING FROM SCRIPTURE                      Numbers 21:4-9 (O.T., p. 139)  
Leader:    The word of the Lord.  
**People:**    **Thanks be to God.**

### HYMN 361    **How Firm a Foundation**

*Foundation*

### SERMON

## RESPONDING

### OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

### THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

#### THE INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

#### THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader:    The Lord be with you.

**People:**    **And also with you.**

Leader:    Lift up your hearts.

**People:**    **We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader:    Let us give thanks to the Lord.

**People:**    **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader:    Let us pray . . .

. . . we lift our hearts in joyful praise, singing:

#### **People**

**Singing:**    *Holy, holy, holy, God of power and majesty, heaven and earth are full of your glory, O God most high!*

Leader:    We praise you, most holy God . . .  
                 . . . now and forever. Amen.

## Leader and People:

**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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### THE COMMUNION

*All communion chalices and cups for pew communion contain only non-alcoholic grape juice. Communion will be served by intinction. Beginning with the front rows, worshipers are invited to come forward by the center aisle, receive a wafer of bread and dip it in the chalice, partake, and return to their seats by a side aisle. Those unable to come forward will be served where they are seated.*

### THE COMMUNION PRAYER

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul;

People: **and all that is within me, bless God's holy name!**

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul;

People: **and forget not all God's blessings.**

## SENDING

\*HYMN 379 **My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less** *Solid Rock*

\*BENEDICTION

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**The First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor calls a meeting of the congregation to act on the request of the Rev. Dr. Douglas Brouwer to dissolve the pastoral relationship between the Rev. Dr. Brouwer and the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church. The meeting will be held in the Sanctuary at 10:30 a.m. on March 29, 2009.**

**THE PREACHER** at the 8:00 a.m. worship service is the Reverend Jana Reister.

**PARTICIPATING** in the worship service is the Reverend Melissa Anne Rogers.

**THE PIANIST** at the 8:00 a.m. service is Jon Ophoff.

**THE READER** is Marcia Miner.

## *Today's Events*

**WORSHIP** is at 8:00 a.m. and 5:45 p.m. in Monteith Hall, and at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

**CHURCH SCHOOL** meets today at 9:30 a.m. for crib-12th grade and at 11:00 a.m. for crib-5th grade. Parents may be asked to present a picture I.D. when they pick up their children.

### **ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES:**

**At 9:30 a.m. in the French Room/Library**, the Rev. Ed Koster continues to lead the class through the Bible, currently studying the book of Acts.

**At 11:00 a.m. in the Lewis Room**, the Pilgrims of Ibillin will present an overview of their recent trip to Jordan and Israel, and their visit to the Mar Elias schools in Ibillin that welcome students of all faiths.

**FIRST COUPLES** meets at 9:30 a.m. in the Curtis Room. Today, they will view the DVD *Refusing to be Enemies*, about Zeitouna, an Ann Arbor group of six Jewish and six Arab women.

**CURIOS ABOUT PRESBYTERIAN BELIEFS OR JOINING** First Presbyterian? Come to the Inquirers/New Members Class, starting today at 9:30 a.m. in the Lewis Room and continuing on Sundays, March 29, April 5, and 19. Those participants who wish to become members will be received into membership at the 9:30 a.m. service on April 26.

**DROP BY THE CARD-MAKING MINISTRY TABLE** at coffee hour today and make a simple card for sick or grieving members of the congregation, or sign cards for our hospitalized members. The card-making ministry usually meets on the first Monday of each month at 9:30 a.m. For more information, contact Sara Yezefski at syezefski@yahoo.com.

**SCRIP CARDS ARE ON SALE AT COFFEE HOUR TODAY**, March 29, April 5 and 12. The program is expanding to include many retail stores. Go to [glscrip.com](http://glscrip.com) to see a list of stores offering scrip cards that will donate a portion towards youth and mission programs at First Pres. Also, Kroger is changing how it handles donations to non-profit organizations. See Craig Blogin at the Scrip table at coffee hour for more details on how to order a card, or the new Kroger program.

**FIRST SINGLES** meets at 11:00 a.m. in the Curtis Room. Today, First Pres member Norm Samuelson reviews *Lessons in Disaster (McGeorge Bundy and the Path to War in Viet Nam)*, by Gordon M. Goldstein. This afternoon, First Singles will take in a matinee movie at the Michigan Theater. Call Marcy, 995-2519, for more information.

**RADIO WORSHIP** service is at 11:00 a.m. on WAAM (1600 AM) and on WAAM's website, [waamannarbor.com](http://waamannarbor.com).

**THE PRESBYTERIAN ORCHESTRA** will rehearse today at 4:00 p.m. in the Youth Room.

**KEYSTONES** meets tonight at 6:00 p.m. in the Youth Room.

## *Announcements*

**"PROVIDING SPIRITUAL CARE - PART I,"** a presentation by the Rev. Aaron Janklow, is the next offering in the Stephen Ministry Continuing Education series. On Monday, March 23, the congregation is invited to attend the presentation from 7:05 to 7:45 p.m. in the Youth Room.

**HILLTOPPERS - COME ENJOY SPRING MOVIE MORNING** on Thursday, March 26 at 10:00 a.m. in the Curtis Room. We'll watch the movie *Saved!* and discuss it afterwards. The film, based on a young man's experience attending a Baptist high school in Baltimore, touches on issues of religion, ostracism, the Christianity and homosexuality conflict, teen pregnancy, divorce, and disabilities. Bring a brown-bag lunch; drinks, dessert and good conversation provided. Sign up in the Church Office by March 24. Questions? Contact Melissa Anne Rogers at 662-4466, ext. 12, or [mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org).

**DO YOU DONATE CHANCEL FLOWERS ANNUALLY?** If you do, please contact Verna Thompson, (248) 437-0164, at least two weeks before your scheduled date to confirm your flower reservation and the wording of the bulletin announcement. Contact Verna Thompson also, if you are interested in donating chancel flowers to honor a loved one or special event.

**COME TO THE ANNUAL FAMILY SWIM AND PIZZA PARTY** on Sunday, March 29, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., at the Whitmore Lake High School swimming pool. Pizza will be served at 3:15 p.m. Children under five are free, ages five to 17 are \$2.50, and adults are \$3.00 per person, payable upon arrival. Sign up at the Welcome Center, or email Deborah MacVey at [dmacvey@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:dmacvey@firstpresbyterian.org).

**THE QUAD D BRUNCH IS NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 29** following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. If you live in Belleville, Milan, Saline, Ypsilanti or another nearby area outside of Ann Arbor, please plan on attending the brunch. It's a great time for fellowship! Questions? contact Carol Mohrlock, 665-5254.

**THE JOB SEEKER/JOB LOSS SUPPORT GROUP** meets next on April 2 at 11:45 a.m. in the Lewis Room. All are welcome.

#### **YOUTH NEWS:**

**Palm Sunday Bake Sale** – Look for goodies outside all three morning services on April 5 to support the youth program's Costa Rica Mission Team. Twenty-three of our high schoolers and ten students from First Presbyterian Church, Boise, will travel to Costa Rica, June 21 - 30, together to build a low income housing apartment building and rehab a church.

**High School Update: The 30-Hour Famine** begins Thursday, April 2. Raise money and awareness for hunger by taking 30 hours off from food. Complete your famine with a Lock-in on Friday, April 3, from 5:00 p.m. to midnight. **Senior Sneak** - Seniors, on June 1 and 2 we are fleeing reality for a quick getaway of fun, food & hardhats. Sign up by May 1. The cost is \$80, scholarship/help available. **Juniors Road Trip** - Juniors, on July 12 through 14, we're loading up the vans and going to Hiram, Ohio to climb Nelson Ledges, swim in the quarry, and sit in a waterfall on the Chagrin River. Cost is \$120, scholarship/help available, sign up by May 1.

**6th-8th Graders: The MIDS Service Weekend** is May 1 - 3. On Friday, at 4:00 p.m. we load up the vans and head to Camp Westminster on Higgins Lake. We will be painting, trail mending and more. We will return by 1:00 p.m. on Sunday. The cost is \$100, scholarship/help is available. Sign up by Easter for this great weekend.

**The Annual Cedar Point Trip** is Memorial Day, May 25. The motor coach is ready to take fifty 5th through 12th graders to Cedar Point. Meet at 6:30 a.m., return at 9:00 p.m. for this great day of rides, drinks, and laughter. 5th-8th graders will be with an adult all day. High schoolers will have the run of the park. The cost is \$60, scholarship/help available. A signed consent release form and payment will reserve your spot. Thirty-four spots remain. Adults needed.

**DONATE EASTER FLOWERS FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 12** to decorate the chancel on Easter Sunday in memory or in honor of a loved one. Sign up in the church office or at the Welcome Center on the clipboard provided. Clearly print the name of the person for whom the flowers are given. Flowers are \$16 each, the deadline for donating is Tuesday, April 7 at 10:00 a.m. After Easter services, our deacons will deliver these flowers to members and friends in our congregation who are ill, grieving, or shut-in.

**PRAYING THE PSALMS** prayer group meets Wednesday evenings at 5:00 p.m. Pew cards with prayer requests may be completed and put in the offering plate. Questions? Contact Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers at 662-4466, ext. 12, or mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org.

## *Calendar for March 23-28*

### **MONDAY:**

Body and Soul, 9:30 a.m., Curtis Room  
Stephen Ministry Supervision, 7:00 p.m., Youth Room  
Nominating Committee, 7:30 p.m., Lewis Room  
Boy Scouts, 7:30 p.m., Social Hall  
Sanctus Ringers, 7:30 p.m., Room 403  
Campus Ministry Music, 8:00 p.m., French Room/Library

### **TUESDAY:**

Prayer Group, 7:30 a.m., Founders Room  
Lenten Study, 10:30 a.m., Glacier Hills  
Lenten Study, noon, French Room/Library  
Osher Class Writing Workshop, 1:30 p.m., Curtis Room  
ESL, 4:00 p.m., 100 Level Classroom  
Campus Core Group, 7:00 p.m., Youth Room  
Evangelism Committee, 7:00 p.m., Vance Room  
Worship Committee, 7:00 p.m., Founders Room  
Campus Ministry Mid-Week Worship, 9:00 a.m., away

### **WEDNESDAY:**

Lenten Study, noon, Vance Room  
PW Coordinating Team, 9:30 a.m., Vance Room  
Wednesday Night Meal, 3:00-7:15 p.m. (volunteers), 5:30 (meal),  
Delonis Center

#### **Wednesday 2:42:**

5:00 p.m. - MIDS, Praying the Psalms, Hosanna and Alleluia Choirs  
5:45 p.m. - Gathering in the Social Hall  
6:00 p.m. - Dinner in the Social Hall  
7:00 p.m. - Preschool Childcare, Kindergarten - 5th Grade Class,  
Youth Choir, TnT Bible Study, Adult Education Classes,  
Taiwanese/First Pres Bible Study, Lenten Study, Compline

### **THURSDAY:**

Hilltoppers Spring Movie Morning, 10:00 a.m., Curtis/Founders Room  
Lenten Study, 1:00 p.m., Vance Room  
Ann Arbor Adapted Exercise Program, 3:00 p.m., Curtis Room  
Lenten Study, 6:00 p.m., Monteith Hall  
Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:00 p.m., Russel Room

### **FRIDAY:**

Prayer/Study Group, 9:00 a.m., away  
Moms' Bible Study, 9:30 a.m., French Room/Library  
Campus Core Group, 2:00 p.m., Hillegonds Chapel

### **SATURDAY:**

Samaritan Counseling Marriage Preparation, 9:00 a.m.,  
Curtis/Founders Room  
Saturday Suppers, away