



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Ann Arbor | Michigan

JULY 16, 2017

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP
9:30 a.m.

🌿 Gathering 🌿

LIFE IN THE CHURCH

Rev. Ervin

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Let's be gathered...here...together...

Men: Those of us who are tired and want to be renewed;

Women: Those of us who are hungry and seek nourishing food;

All: Those of us who are suffocating and want to breathe freely;

Leader: Let's be gathered...here...together...

All: Those of us who are stuck and yearn to grow and grow and grow;

Men: Those of us who are ignored and want a sense of purpose;

Women: Those of us who are tossed about and long for a place to belong;

All: Let's be gathered...here...together...all of us...and worship God!

* HYMN

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

ELLACOMBE

**I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies.**

I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day.

The moon shines full at his command, and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord who filled the earth with food.

**God formed the creatures through the Word,
and then pronounced them good.**

**Lord, how thy wonders are displayed wh'er I turn my eye,
if I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky!**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Listen to the good news!

Though we know what is good,
and often do what is not,

God frees us from our sin and guilt
so that we might be renewed

to accept our potential as part of God's very good creation.

So let's pause, be silent, and then give thanks and sing to God!

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

Please share the peace we experience as forgiven people. Greet one another saying, "The peace of Christ be with you," and respond, "And also with you."

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

 Proclaiming 

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Bob Crawford

FIRST READING Isaiah 55:10-13

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

A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Children through grade five are invited forward.

SECOND READING Romans 8:1-11

Sandy Talbott

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

THIRD READING Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

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

SERMON

God Says Grow

Rev. Sanderford

 Responding 

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from *A Brief Statement of Faith*)

In life and in death we belong to God.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:

preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,

teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,

healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,

eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,

and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world.

**God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.**

With believers in every time and place, We rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

* HYMN

Come! Live in the Light!

WE ARE CALLED



1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the
 2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your
 3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that



joy and the love of the Lord! We are called
 mer - cy to all those in fear! We are called
 great day when all will be one! God will reign,



to be light for the king - dom, to live in the
 to be hope for the hope - less so ha - tred and
 and we'll walk with each oth - er as sis - ters and



free - dom of the cit - y of God.
 vio - lence will be no more.
 broth - ers u - nit - ed in love.

Refrain



We are called to act with jus - tice; we are called to



love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -



oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

WELCOME

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

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Offertory

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

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

WALK WITH ME

**I want Jesus to walk with me;
I want Jesus to walk with me;
all along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

**In my trials, Lord, walk with me;
in my trials, Lord, walk with me;
when my heart is almost breaking,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

**When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when my head is bowed in sorrow,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**I want Jesus to walk with me;
I want Jesus to walk with me;
all along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

* Please rise in body or spirit.

Those parts of the service of worship in which the congregation participates in word or song are noted in **bold type**. Large-print bulletins 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 Chris Queen and Carol Downton. **The Church Office** is staffed by Diane Hockett. **Greeters** are Jane and Dan Hayes and Sandy Herold at 9:30 a.m.; and Ellen Johnson and Marilyn Gibson at 11:00 a.m. **Ushers** are Bill Austin (head) and Nancy Fox at 8:00 a.m.; Bill Austin (head), Dick Carlisle (captain), Carter Hodgson, Peggy Hodgson, Angela Yang, and Duane Locke at 9:30 a.m.; and Bill Austin (head) and Ralph Winter at 11:00 a.m.

The prayer team is available for those desiring prayer in the Vance Room after the 9:30 a.m. service. Following the 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. services a minister or prayer team member is available for prayer at the Communion Table. **Prayer team members** are Sharon Sheldon and Carolyn Schultz (9:30) and Michele Derr (11:00). "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." – Philippians 4:6

The flowers are given in loving memory of Jerry Jernigan by Carey J. Jernigan.

Musical leadership is provided by soloists Rachel Barg and Yazid Gray.

TODAY'S EVENTS

Worship is at 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. in Monteith Hall and at 9:30 a.m. outside on the Front Lawn (weather permitting). **Radio Worship is broadcast at 11:00 a.m.**, on WAAM (1600 AM) and on the web (www.waamradio.com).

Join us for Coffee Hour outside (weather permitting) on the Circle Terrace immediately following the 9:30 a.m. worship service. **Cookie bakers** are Nancy Fox, Beth Caldwell, Marilyn Gibson, and Diane Hockett. Child-friendly, peanut-free purchased snacks are available for children.

Children's Ministry Opportunities:

Childcare is available for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. **A combined Sunday School class** is offered for children, grades K-5, at 9:30 a.m.

Adult Ministry Opportunities:

ConnectEd Conversations are at 10:45 a.m. in the Curtis and Founders Rooms. Along with the day's scripture readings, our summer reads around justice, mercy, and humility will be the foundation for this time of casual conversation and reflection. All are welcome!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join us for Coffee Hour Sunday, July 30, as we honor Rev. Angela Ryo. Rev. Ryo has accepted a call as Assistant Minister of Kirk in the Hills Presbyterian Church in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

Are you interested in walking the Camino de Santiago in Spain in October of 2018 or the Via Francigena in Italy in May of 2018 (women only)? It is possible that pilgrimages to these ancient routes will take place if enough interest is generated. The last 100 kilometers of each walk is the goal for our pilgrims. Contact Rev. Rogers to express interest and get more details.

Mature Singles (single men and women over age 60) meet this Friday, July 21, 5:30 p.m., at Panda House, 229 Maple Road.

We invite you to take part in the "Adventures of Flat Jesus" this summer. Complete instructions are available on our website.

The Ann Arbor Art Fair begins this week. Parking will be allowed as usual on Hill Street and Washtenaw Avenue next Sunday, July 23. First Pres youth will be selling our parking spaces to the public beginning at 11:10 a.m. to raise money for youth mission. If you are able to park at the Forest Avenue Parking Structure that day, thank you! **Free parking vouchers are available in the Church Office today and until July 21 for Art Fair parking on Sunday, July 23** in the Republic Parking Structure at 650 South Forest Avenue, one block from the church, for all who want to enjoy the fair after worship.

Opportunities to serve abound! Would you be willing to serve as an usher for worship at 9:30 or 11:00 a.m.? Or as a substitute usher? Ushers typically serve on a team that serves three months out of the year. Training is provided. Contact Rev. Rogers if you would consider serving.

Join a Small Group this summer. Groups are offered on Sunday and Wednesday nights in July and August. More information is available in the Church Office and online. Let's journey together this summer toward mercy, justice, and walking humbly with God!

Our "First Pres Summer Reads" series includes three remarkable books, available for purchase in the Church Office, which reflect the themes of mercy, justice, and humility. The July selection is *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson (\$12). Our August book is *Reaching Out* by Henri Nouwen (\$10).

Keeping in step with our summer theme of "Walking With Jesus," we invite you to pick one of four historic walks and organize with others to pool your miles. Learn the reasons behind a selected walk, and ponder where you might find Jesus along the road. If you have completed a walk, please stop by the table at Coffee Hour for your prize.

First Pres Kids Read! *The Journey* by Francesca Sanna

Summary: This book is based on true stories of refugee families looking for a new home when their lives are impacted by war. As the reality of life for a refugee family escaping to a new home is told, a happy ending is not described, but hope moves on beyond the end of the story.



Questions for parents and kids:

1. What are some ways we can make a difference for people who come into our lives from other places?
2. When was the last time you made a new friend? What are some of the wonderful things about meeting someone new?
3. What are some prayers we can offer to God when we are moving to a new place or when we meet someone from a new place?

Please contact Debbie MacVey if you would like to see a copy of this book.

"Be fair, be kind and walk with God" is our children's summer reading theme from Micah 6:8.

PASTORAL AND PROGRAM STAFF

Reverend Dr. Fairfax F. Fair, Pastor/Head of Staff

Reverend Melissa Anne Rogers, Associate Pastor

Reverend Jay Sanderford, Associate Pastor

Deborah MacVey, Director of Children's Education and Family Ministries

Tom Granum, Director of Music Ministries

Carol Muehlig, Organist and Handbell Director

Resident Ministers:

Reverend Daniel Ervin

Reverend Angela Ryo

Sandy Talbott, Wellness Coordinator/Parish Nurse

Youth Interns:

David Endicott, Claudia Morville,

Sean Tichenor, and Abby Wilson



1432 Washtenaw Avenue
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
734-662-4466
info@firstpresbyterian.org
www.firstpresbyterian.org