



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Ann Arbor | Michigan

SEPTEMBER 17, 2017

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

🌿 Gathering 🌿

PRELUDE

LIFE IN THE CHURCH

Rev. Sanderford (8:00)

Blair Buckley (9:30)

Rev. Parks-Piatt (11:00)

FAITH IN ACTION

Text to Give

Bill Wood

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 111)

One: Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

**All: Great are the works of the Lord,
studied by all who delight in them.**

One: Full of honor and majesty is God's work, and God's righteousness endures forever.

**All: The Lord is gracious and merciful;
the works of God's hands are faithful and just.**

* HYMN 371

Lift High the Cross

CRUCIFER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God and creator of us all, we confess that, rather than being thankful for the grace we know, we begrudge others the grace you show them. We confuse justice and fairness and neglect to admit our own shortcomings. Humble us. Open our eyes to our great need for forgiveness and enable us to treat those around us with the mercy and kindness you offer us all. We ask it in the name of Jesus Christ who prayed that we might all be one.

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."

* **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

**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.**

 **Proclaiming** 

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Cheryl Gulbranson (8:00)

Kari Michalowski (9:30)

Downs Herold (11:00)

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 55:6-9

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

ANTHEM (9:30/11:00)

Seek Ye the Lord

J. V. Roberts

Seek ye the Lord while He may be found; call ye upon Him while He is near.
Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous one his thoughts, and
return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy, and abundantly pardon.

A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES (9:30)

Children through grade five are invited forward.

NEW TESTAMENT READING Matthew 20:1-16

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

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Fair

 **Responding** 

* **HYMN 415**

Come, Labor On

ORA LABORA

WELCOME

Eric Koenig-Reinke (9:30/11:00)

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

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Offertory (9:30/11:00)

* **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.**

* **Prayer of Dedication**

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION (8:00)

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 177

Lift Up the Gates Eternal

PROMISED ONE

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**Our God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home.**

* POSTLUDE

* 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**. 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 Nancy Fox and Lee Evans. **Church Office** is staffed by Robin Agnew. **Greeters** are Jane Hayes and Nelly Petrock at 9:30 a.m. and Judy Landau and Marilyn Gibson at 11:00 a.m.

Ushers are Bill Austin (head) and Ron Greiner at 8:00 a.m.; Bill Austin (head), Paul Smith (captain), Carol Smith, Olivier Jolliet, Nicole Jolliet, Dean Gilchrist, Jinx Cooke, Dick Cooke, Beth Sanderford, Ron David, and Holly, Aidan, and Chloe Majorprice at 9:30 a.m.; and Bill Austin (head), Brady West (captain), Cindy Lambrides, Jeannette Middleton, and Jim Douglass at 11:00 a.m.

The prayer team is available for those desiring prayer in Hillegonds Chapel, after the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. services. Prayer team members are Jeanette Kibler, Annette Fraser, and Pat Gilbreath at 9:30 a.m. and Catherine Kendall and Carol Downton at 11:00 a.m. Following the 8:00 a.m. service a minister is available for prayer at the Communion Table. "We have to pray with our eyes on God, not on the difficulties." – Oswald Chambers

The chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Dr. Julian Hoff by his wife Diane and their family; and in loving memory of Kathleen Martin by Julie, John, Mary, and Graham Corey.

The red rosebud celebrates the birth of Oliver George Gill, son of Kevin and Becca Gill, born September 7, 2017, in Ann Arbor. Grandparents are Clem and Margo Gill.

Musical leadership is provided by Lucas Alvarado, tenor, and Chancel Choir.

TODAY'S EVENTS

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

A meeting of the congregation has been called by Session to immediately follow the 9:30 a.m. worship service today for the purpose of electing church officers – elders and deacons – for the Class of 2020 and members of the 2018 Congregational Nominating Committee.

Join us for Coffee Hour outside (weather permitting) on the Circle Terrace immediately following the Congregational Meeting. **Cookie bakers** are Carly Groves, Karen Gardstrom, and Marilyn Gibson. **Fair Trade Coffee is for sale during Coffee Hour today.** Your purchase supports a living wage for coffee farmers and subsidizes our commitment to serve Fair Trade Coffee at all church events. More than good coffee, it's "just" coffee. Stop by Coffee Hour today or the Church Office during the week to make your purchase.

Tell Me More about This Church! All prospective members and interested non-members are invited to join us today at 12:15 p.m. in the Founders Room to learn more about First Pres. Dr. Fairfax Fair hosts a one-hour conversation, lunch included. What would you like to know? Ask anything you wish about our theology, worship, polity, history, mission program – or about how Dr. Fair came from warm Texas to cold Michigan!

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.

9:30 a.m. Classroom Assignments:

Crib	Room 103	First Grade.....	Room 302
Toddler	Room 104	Second & Third Grades..	Room 303
Two Year Olds	Room 101	Fourth Grade.....	Room 305
Three Year Olds	Room 100	Fifth Grade	Room 304
Fours/Young Fives/ Kindergarten	Room 102		

11:00 a.m. Classroom Assignments:

Crib	Room 103
Toddler & Two	Room 104
Three Year Olds – Kindergarten	Room 101

Children's Choir rehearses 10:30 – 10:55 a.m. in Room 300. Children's Choir will rehearse every Sunday when Sunday School is scheduled. There will be no rehearsals on Family Sundays. The children will first sing for the 9:30 World Communion Sunday service on October 1.

Full youth programming begins today! All sixth through twelfth graders are invited to participate in these opportunities:

All-Youth Munch & Mingle is in the Youth Room at 9:20 a.m.

Sunday School and Confirmation Classes begin at 9:30 a.m.

Sixth and Seventh Grades Lower Level 4
Eighth Grade ConfirmationCurtis/Founders Rooms
Ninth through Twelfth GradesYouth Room

Youth Choir (grades 6-12) rehearses 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. in the Choir Room on the third floor. They are preparing music for the September 24 Hymn Festival and for the 9:30 service on October 1.

All-Youth Dinner is at 5:30 p.m. in the Social Hall.

Mids, our middle school youth group, meet at 6:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. **Keys, our high school youth group,** meet at 6:00 p.m. in the Youth Room.

Adult Education Opportunities:

The Bible @ 9:30 is engaged in a study of the book of Acts in the French Room/Library. Rev. Ed Koster is the presenter. All are welcome for study and robust discussion.

First Couples continues a study of *A Life of Meaning* by Bob Abernathy, drawing from PBS's Religion & Ethics News Weekly series, in Monteith Hall at 9:30 a.m. Today's session, focusing on "Evil and Suffering," will explore issues such as pain and loss, grief and ordinary tragedies, and the place of hope in faith.

Exploring the Faith meets in Monteith Hall at 11:00 a.m. for "The Reformation: Then and Now." Today's session, "The People of the Parish: A Candid Examination of Parish Life before the Reformation," looks at ordinary life in medieval British parishes just before the Reformation. Katherine French, J. Frederick Hoffman Professor of History at UM, is the presenter.

First Pres College Ministries is excited to kick off a new school year. We invite all college students to meet in the Welcome Center after the 11:00 a.m. service each Sunday so we can treat you to lunch. We also invite you to meet for "Wednesdays @ 8:00," a weekly gathering for fellowship, snacks and faithful conversation. For more information, please contact Rev. McGowan (emcgowan@firstpresbyterian.org) or Resident Minister Blair Buckley (bbuckley@firstpresbyterian.org).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The fall meeting of College of Elders is Saturday, September 30, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m., in the Social Hall. If you are a PCUSA teaching or ruling elder, please RSVP to the Church Office by September 25.

Make First Pres your church home! Join us as members by attending the New Member Class on October 1, 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Lunch and child-care are provided. The New Member Breakfast is on October 15 at 8:00 a.m. (childcare provided), and new members are introduced in worship that morning. We would love to welcome you to formal membership as a full or affiliate member! Contact Rev. Rogers to learn more (mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org; 355-2351).

Are you a young(ish) adult looking to connect with others in Ann Arbor? Twenties and Thirties of Ann Arbor (T2A2) is a great way to meet people and build community! Join us for a Wednesday evening hangout, discuss faith-related questions in a Sunday evening small group, and/or engage in service and justice-making opportunities as your schedule allows. To learn more or receive updates about events, email Rev. Parks-Piatt (dparks-piatt@firstpresbyterian.org).

Chancel Choir rehearses Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. If you are interested in joining, please contact Tom Granum.

You are invited to our hymn festival, “Our God, Our Help in Ages Past - Our Hope for Years to Come,” led by guest organist and director Dr. Michael Burkhardt next Sunday, September 24, 3:00 p.m., in the Sanctuary. In addition to congregational singing and Dr. Burkhardt playing organ, participants include Youth Choir, Chancel Choir, Sanctus Ringers Handbell Choir, brass quartet and percussion.

Let your love show. We who are First Pres let God’s love show daily in ways large and small. Your fellow church members who make up the Annual Giving work group want to provide daily inspiration for “Letting Love Show” and they need your help. Take pictures of people letting love show. Add a scripture or a very short prayer and submit them to photos@firstpresbyterian.org. Beginning September 24, your pictures will become visual devotionals emailed to members who request them and will be placed on the Church’s Facebook page, Instagram account, and website.

Mature Ministries Book Discussion is Sunday, October 8, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m., at the home of Mary Smith (A2 Westside). We will discuss *Option B: Facing Adversity, Building Resilience, and Finding Joy* by Sheryl Sandberg. Drinks and snacks are provided. Sign up in the Church Office or with Rev. Rogers (mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org; 355-2351). If you need a ride, let us know.

You are invited to the Organ Improvisation Competition sponsored by the UM Conference on Organ Music Saturday evening, September 30, 7:00 p.m., in our Sanctuary. You are also invited to an organ recital presented by Dr. Jason Alden, organ, at 2:00 p.m., Monday afternoon, October 2, in our Sanctuary, of Louis Vierne’s *Symphonie IV*. Both events are open to the public at no charge.

Orchestra rehearsal begins Sunday, October 1, at 2:00 p.m. Please contact Tom Granum for more information.

Mature Singles (single men and women over age 60) meet this Friday, September 22, 5:30 p.m., at Knight’s Steakhouse, 2324 Dexter Avenue. All are welcome!

There is no need to call or visit the church to request a room for a meeting space or to submit a work order at First Pres. Check out the user-friendly form under “Signups/Forms” on our website.

You are invited to be part of the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) response to Hurricane Harvey. Some of the high water from Hurricane/Tropical Storm Harvey has subsided, but the threat in Texas remains and recovery efforts are underway. An untold number of homes have been damaged. More than 18 Presbyterian Churches were damaged, some severely. PDA assessment teams are on the ground, assessing damage and planning for the recovery efforts. Volunteer rebuilding teams will be needed in the near future; contact Rev. Sanderford if you are interested. To support recovery efforts, you may send checks directly to the church, made out to First Presbyterian Church Ann Arbor with “PDA: Harvey” in the memo line. You may also donate directly to PDA online, through our First Pres web site.

Want to do something tangible and immediate to help hurricane victims in the Houston area? Help with our Bucket Brigade September 24 at 10:30 a.m. in the Social Hall. We will fill 50 five gallon buckets with cleaning supplies to be shipped to Houston by the Presbytery of Detroit. Help fill buckets, fill your own bucket at home (info in the Social Hall today), or donate to purchase supplies with a check to First Presbyterian with “Cleanup Bucket” on the memo line.

Join us in feeding our neighbors. First Presbyterian Church collects food from the UM Stadium and Crisler Arena after football and basketball games with the support of the Sodexo organization. The food is given to Cass Community Services and Second Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church, both in Detroit. Volunteer online on our First Pres website or contact Rev. Sanderford.

Please contact the Church Office to:

- order a First Pres name tag (\$8 for either a magnetic or clip style)
- request to have your child baptized
- inform us of any changes to your basic contact information
- let us know if you are hospitalized
- purchase a bag of Fair Trade coffee (\$12) for use at home

Saturday Suppers return on Saturday, October 21, and our friendly hosts open their homes to welcome you. Small groups of 8 or 10 meet for a potluck supper. New church members and frequent visitors find this a good way to meet new people and learn more about our church family. Sign up online from Monday, September 18 through Monday, October 9, or in person during Coffee Hour on October 8. Contact Sara VanderVoort (saravoort@gmail.com) for more information.

Smart Phone Giving has launched! Have you tried our new text giving or Give+ Church app options? In a matter of seconds, you can make fast one-time donations or opt to make recurring gifts. Check out the Smart Phone Giving brochure located in your pew and take it or the wallet card home with you for reference. We welcome your donations through any method you choose. Please contact Anna Miller, Finance Manager (amiller@firstpresbyterian.org) if you have questions.

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

Blair Buckley, Resident Minister

Eric Koenig-Reinke, Resident Minister

Reverend Dorothy Parks-Piatt, Resident Minister

Reverend Evans McGowan, Campus Ministries Coordinator

Essie Koenig-Reinke, Youth Ministries Coordinator

Sandy Talbott, Wellness Coordinator/Parish Nurse

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Anna Miller, Finance Manager

Adrian Prundeanu, Facilities Manager

Linda Robinson, Office Manager

Lisa Haddrill, Technology Coordinator

Mary Jones, Publications Coordinator/Pastor's Assistant

Cindy King, Administrative Assistant/Children's Education Assistant

Robin Agnew, Administrative Assistant

Almer Harris, Maintenance Specialist



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