

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

March 15, 2020 • 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Rejoice
in the
Lord
always
I WILL SAY IT AGAIN
Rejoice
in
CHRIST JESUS

LET YOUR GENTLENESS
BE EVIDENT TO ALL
THE LORD IS NEAR

Do not be anxious about anything
but in everything, by prayer
and petition, with thanksgiving
present your requests to God
AND THE PEACE OF GOD which
transcends all understanding
will guard your hearts and your minds

Philippians 4:4–8 by Timothy R. Botts



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Ann Arbor | Michigan

Making God's Love Visible

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

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

Hearing-assistance devices and large-print bulletins and hymnals are available from the ushers.

Today's Call to Worship is adapted from Psalm 31. The Call to Worship is an assurance, generally from scripture or alluding to scripture, that God is with us—with us in the sanctuary, in our hearts, among the people of God. We are reminded that God is not distant or sleeping, but as near to us as our own breath. The Creator, the Sovereign, the God of all, calls us to gather and promises to be here with us.

Cover Art is by Timothy Botts, whose work focuses on calligraphy. Well-known for his transformation of Bible verses into art, Timothy has published books, released single prints, and been featured in museums and churches. Through years of experience, Timothy experiments with new styles and typefaces. He says, "My creative work as a calligrapher with holy words continues to be the most powerful way for me to pray."

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY *Prelude on "Aberystwyth"
Sarabande on "Land of Rest"*

Gerald Near

As the voluntary begins, let the time and the music help to center you for worship.

LIFE IN THE CHURCH

Rev. Rogers (9:30)

Rev. Ruhf (11:00)

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In you, O Lord, I seek refuge; in your righteousness deliver me.

All: Incline your ear to me; be a rock of refuge for me.

One: For your name's sake lead me and guide me;

All: Into your hands I commit my spirit, O faithful God.

One: I will exult and rejoice in your steadfast love,
for you have set my feet in a broad place.

All: I trust in you, O Lord; my times are in your hand.

One: Blessed be the Lord, who has wondrously shown steadfast love to me!

**All: Be strong, and let your heart take courage,
all you who wait for the Lord.**

* **HYMN 796** *We Come to You for Healing, Lord*

LAND OF REST

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: O God – Because so many in our world live with fear,
and we ourselves carry anxieties that distort our hope,

All: We come to this place hoping for reassurance of your presence.

One: Because we have grown apart from our siblings in the human race
and injured those around us with failures of trust and kindness,

All: We turn to this church as an instrument of your reconciliation.

One: Because we know that our comforts constrain the wellbeing of others,
and that it is within our reach to ease many burdens,

All: We come to this time to renew the zeal of our caring.

One: We are here because we need you, O God.

**All: We confess our need of your healing touch,
our yearning for your word of forgiveness
to bring us to life, to make us new, to move us on.**

SILENT CONFESSION

KYRIE

Lord, Have Mercy

KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, _____ have mer - cy. Christ, _____ have mer - cy.

Lord, _____ have mer - cy. Lord, _____ have mer - cy.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

During Lent, we offer a new spiritual practice: exchanging the Peace of Christ using American Sign Language. The Liturgist will teach simple signs that (along with fist- or elbow-bumps) are both mindful of good health and eloquent of the care of Christ alive among us.

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**"Forgive our sins as we forgive," you taught us, Lord, to pray,
but you alone can grant us grace to live the words we say.**

*This is Stanza 1 of Hymn 444, *Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive*.*

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

John Whittier-Ferguson (9:30)

Katie Parker (11:00)

GOSPEL READING

Mark 9:14–29

(pew Bible page 44)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

arr. Gregory Pysh

Chancel Choir; Kristin Reynolds, oboe; and Alicia Rowe, cello

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.

A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES (9:30)

Children through grade five are invited forward.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness:

God promises always to love and forgive us — even when we don't follow God's way, or when we do things that hurt others. Everyone makes mistakes; that is why we confess our sin together. When we confess our sin, we say that we are sorry for these things, and we ask God to forgive us and help us live new lives. Because Jesus lived and died and rose again for us, we know that nothing can ever separate us from God's love.

Confessions of Faith
play a prominent role in our Presbyterian heritage; indeed, a dozen of them, spanning the 4th to the 20th centuries, comprise the first volume of our denominational constitution. The Apostles' Creed has even deeper roots: it is thought to reflect the affirmations made at baptism by Christians as early as the 2nd century. As we say these ancient words again together today, we acknowledge our unity with that ancient testimony: "one Lord, one faith, one baptism" (Ephesians 4:5)

During the offering, take a minute to sign the friendship pads found in each pew. If you are visiting with us, please leave your contact information so that we can reach out to you!

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (9:30)

To preserve a spirit of worship, we ask that any photos be taken after the service.

Benjamin and Allison Tatum present their son, Griffin Russell Ryan Tatum, born November 3, 2019, for baptism.

* Affirmation of Faith *The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Thanksgiving over the Water and Baptism

Hymn 486 *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise* KINGDOM
Please sing Stanzas 1 and 2.

EPISTLE READING Philippians 2:12–13, 4:4–9 (pew Bible page 197)
The grass withers; the flower fades—
the word of our God endures forever.

SERMON *Unafraid* Rev. Dr. Spalding

RESPONDING

* **HYMN 668** *Golden Breaks the Dawn* LE P'ING

WELCOME Rev. Johnson (9:30)
Rev. Mares (11:00)

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Offertory *Jesus, Lover of My Soul* arr. Hart Morris
Sanctus Ringers; Kristin Reynolds, oboe

* **Doxology** OLD HUNDREDTH
**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**

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 804** *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!* MARION
Please sing stanzas 1–4.
- * **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**
- * **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**
Then on, ye pure in heart! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!
Your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.
- * **CLOSING VOLUNTARY** *Final* Gerald Near

This Lent the Prayers of the People use the form of the “bidding prayer” – a form of intercessory prayer which may trace back to pre-Reformation England (the Old English word for the verb “to pray” is “biddan”). The Liturgist invites or “bids” us to pray for various needs or concerns; each invitation is followed by a brief silence during which we hold our individual prayers for each concern in mind and heart. We hope the gentle floating sound of “singing bells” adds a sense of mystical beauty to the connection between our prayers and God’s heart.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

Please know that all, including visitors and newcomers, are invited to share in the life of the church. A full description of church events is online at www.firstpresbyterian.org. **If you have questions, please visit the Welcome Center, just outside the Social Hall.** Greeting you there today are Jeanette Swartz and Michele Madden.

Musical leadership is provided by Sanctus Ringers; Chancel Choir; Kristin Reynolds, oboe; and Alicia Rowe, cello. **Acolytes** include Zoe Millward. **Music copyright:** All music is reprinted under Onelicense.net A-720542. All rights reserved. **Cover art copyright:** Philippians 4:4–8 © 2016 Timothy R. Botts | Eyekons.

Chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Larry and Magdaline Ouimet by Mark Ouimet; in thanksgiving to God for the blessing of their great-grandson, Griffin Russell Ryan Tatum, by Len and Ginny Rezmierski; and in loving memory of Elizabeth Dean Doezema by Margaret Leonard.

A pink rosebud celebrates the birth of Karina Jane Brown, daughter of Katherine Voorhorst and Justin Brown, born February 29, 2020. First-time grandparents are Jane and John Voorhorst. Great-grandparents are John and Reda Santinga. **A pink rosebud** celebrates the birth of Colette Emeline Wolf, daughter of Holly and Spencer Wolf, born February 25, 2020. Great-grandmother is Pat Gilbreath. **A red rosebud** celebrates the birth of Collin Bruce Gandert, son of Katie and Cory Gandert, born January 31, 2020. First-time grandparents are Amy and Jason Lindauer.

The Church Office is staffed by Robin Agnew. **Greeters** are Nancy Oliver and Barb and Dick Carlisle (9:30) and Linda Lampman and Prue Heikkinen (11:00). **Sound system volunteers** are Rol Kibler (9:30) and Roger Hsiao (11:00). **Ushers** are Bill Austin (head), Diane Knibbs, and Brian Rubel (8:00); Bill Austin (head), Olivier Jolliet (captain), Angela Yang, Dean Gilchrist, Spaulding Clark, Keith Molin, Becky Donnaly, Karen Hockett, and Ken Westfall (9:30); and Bill Austin (head), Jeannette Middleton (captain), Jim Douglass, and the Pakela family (11:00). **The prayer team** is available for those desiring prayer in Hillemonds Chapel after the 9:30 and 11:00 services. **Prayer team volunteers** are Carolyn Schultz and Martha Kershaw (9:30) and Pamela Rinker and Carole Hendrickson (11:00). Following the 8:00 service a minister is available for prayer at the Communion Table. “Prayer is not a convenient device for imposing our will upon God, or bending His will to ours, but the prescribed way of subordinating our will to His.” — John Stott

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).

Join us for Coffee Hour in the Social Hall immediately following the 9:30 a.m. worship service.

Cookie bakers are Julie Rupp, Elsa Stuber, and Beth Caldwell. Child-friendly, peanut-free purchased snacks are available for children.

Adult Education Opportunities:

9:30 a.m. **The Bible @ 9:30** meets in the French Room to study Galatians.

First Friends meets in the Lewis Room to discuss *Entering the Passion of Jesus*, by Amy-Jill Levine.

11:00 a.m. **Exploring the Faith** meets in Monteith Hall for "Won't You Be My Neighbor?" Today's focus is "Just the Way You Are," a story of Peter and Jesus.

Children's Opportunities:

9:30 a.m. **Sunday School classes** for crib through fifth graders

10:30 a.m. **Children's Choir**

11:00 a.m. **Childcare** available for crib through Kindergarten

11:00 a.m. **"Exploring the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper,"** a workshop for Kindergarten and First Grade Families, is in the Family Space (Room 301). Led by Rev. Frazier and Beca Torres-Davenport, this workshop will help children and parents understand the Sacrament of Communion and how this meal is celebrated in worship.

Youth Ministry Opportunities:

9:15 a.m. **Munch & Mingle** in the Lower Level hallway

9:30 a.m. **Sunday School**

4:30 p.m. **Youth + Creative Arts**

5:30 p.m. **Youth Group (6th–12th grades)**

A New Member Class meets today, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., in the Curtis and Founders Rooms.

Joining will take place next Sunday, March 22, at a New Member Breakfast. If you feel moved to become a member of our church family, please attend. All are welcome!

Professor Scott Ellsworth, historian, author, teacher, and First Pres member, speaks about his most recent book, *The World Beneath Their Feet: Mountaineering, Madness, and the Deadly Race to Summit the Himalayas*, in the Social Hall at 4:00 p.m.

T2A2—Twenties and Thirties of Ann Arbor—invites the participation of all young adults looking to build community. **Small Group** meets tonight, at 7:00 p.m., to discuss the Gospel of Luke.

Bring your questions and insights, wherever you are on your faith journey. Contact us at T2A2@firstpresbyterian.org for more information.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRES

The March Presbyterian Women Gathering is this Wednesday, March 18, beginning with Bible Study in the Lewis Room at 9:30 a.m. A brief business meeting at 10:45 a.m. in Monteith Hall, precedes a Skype Session with Michael and Rachel Ludwig, Mission Co-Workers in Niger, Africa. Lunch (\$7) is at noon in the Social Hall. Men are welcome to attend the program and lunch.

Mature Singles meet this Friday, March 20, at 5:30 p.m., at Knight's Restaurant, 2324 Dexter Avenue.

Peeps & Pizza Fun is this Saturday, March 21, in the Social Hall, at 11:00 a.m. This event is for all ages.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Concerned about Coronavirus? For the latest info on how First Pres is preparing for this outbreak please visit our website and check the Coronavirus Corner in the weekly Our Life Together. Please know that we are talking and making plans as this outbreak unfolds.

The Harvard Glee Club concert scheduled for this Friday, March 20, has been canceled.

Our Annual Suds 'n Sheets Campaign for Cass Community Social Services is underway. Drop off donations of paper towels and laundry detergent in baskets provided in the Welcome Center.

Lenten Small Group Study: *Lent in Plain Sight* by Jill Duffield is available for purchase in the Church Office for \$14. Information about group study opportunities is available online.

“Energize, Coordinate, Communicate!” Local Community Mission Coordinators are invited to gather on Sunday, March 29, at 12:15 p.m. in the Founders and Curtis Rooms. Our aim is to celebrate past and current areas of engagement, energize volunteers for the future, communicate about present programs and coordinate resources of people, funds and equipment. Join together as we “Make God’s Love Visible” in our Ann Arbor and Southeast Michigan communities. Contact Rev. Sanderford, Helena Prince (thprince@comcast.net), or Jim Peggs (jpegs@umich.edu) for more information.

Are you interested in helping those experiencing homelessness? Sign up either online or at Coffee Hour for the March 23–28 ministry at Alpha House. You can also sign up for a March 22 tour of Alpha House. Questions may be directed to: Paula Doering (paulahdoering@gmail.com or 904-8068); Gail Einhaus (gail@einhaus.us or 646-6093); and Ruth Jensen (ruthannjensen@gmail.com or 276-2846).

Easter Lilies in Memory or Honor of a Loved One add beauty to our Easter worship and bring joy to the sick and home bound to whom the lilies are delivered following worship. Lilies may be ordered online (click “Easter Lilies in Memory or Honor”) or in the Church Office until Monday, April 6, at noon.

Welcome College Students! Our Campus Ministry, UKirk@UMich, welcomes you to College Lunch on Sundays following the 11:00 a.m. service, to coffee breaks during the week, and to other fellowship opportunities. Follow us on Instagram@UKirkUMich for future events and past photos. Contact our Campus Pastor Rev. Evans McGowan (campus@firstpresbyterian.org) for more information.

Calling All Artists...to support the Adult Education series “Living with Hope in the Age of Climate Change” (April 19 – May 31). The Liturgical/Visual Art Team would like to solicit artists of First Pres to create art to reflect on climate change. All art forms are welcomed! This exhibit will hang in the Social Hall for the duration of the Adult Ed series. Art exhibit creations are due in the Church Office by April 15. For more information, contact Dave VanderMeer, Minister of Music & Fine Arts.

SAVE THE DATES!

Next Sunday, March 22 — De-escalation Training sponsored by the Safety Team

John Riley from Gentle Response will lead the training in the Social Hall, 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. Ushers, church officers and others interested in learning how to de-escalate a tense situation are invited. Sign up online or contact Sandy Talbott (stalbott@firstpresbyterian.org). Reservations are required, but the training is free.

Sunday, March 29 — Stations of the Cross Exhibit Opens

Artist Angie Miller leads a discussion at 11:00 a.m. about how her artwork reflects the Stations of the Cross in the world today. Her artwork will be on display in the Social Hall through Easter.

Sunday, April 19, 11:00 a.m. — “Cancer: Now What?”

A 6-week adult ed discussion group begins on this date and ends on Sunday, May 24. The class will use *Cancer: Now What?*, a book by Kenneth C. Haugk, founder of Stephen Ministries, as a discussion resource. The book is available in the Church Office (\$30).

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Robin Agnew, Administrative Assistant

Liz Call-Boyce, Finance Assistant

Reverend Andrew Frazier, Resident Minister

Pat Gilbreath, Welcome Center Volunteer Coordinator

Lisa Haddrill, Technology Coordinator

Dr. Paul Haebig, Interim Organist

Almer Harris, Maintenance Specialist

Reverend Khayla Johnson, Resident Minister

Mary Jones, Publications Coordinator

Cindy King, Administrative Assistant

Reverend Evans McGowan, Campus Ministries Coordinator

Reverend Mark Mares, Minister of Youth & Families

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 Amy Ruhf, Resident Minister

Reverend Jay Sanderford, Associate Pastor

Reverend Dr. Rick Spalding, Interim Pastor

Sandy Talbott, Wellness Coordinator & Parish Nurse

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

David VanderMeer, Minister of Music & Fine Arts



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