



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Ann Arbor | Michigan

JULY 22, 2018

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP

9:30 a.m.

🌿 Gathering 🌿

LIFE IN THE CHURCH

Rev. Buckley

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God is calling us into a life worthy of God's love,

All: With all humility and gentleness, may we bear with one another in love.

One: May we worship in the unity of the Spirit, in the bond of peace;

All: There is one body and one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism;

One: One God of us all, who is above all, and through all, and in all;

All: Come, let us worship our God, joined together in Christ Jesus our Lord.

* HYMN

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

MADRID

Come, Christians, join to sing: Alleluia! Amen!

Loud praise to Christ our King: Alleluia! Amen!

**Let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice;
praise is his gracious choice: Alleluia! Amen!**

Come, lift your hearts on high: Alleluia! Amen!

Let praises fill the sky: Alleluia! Amen!

**He is our guide and friend; to us he'll condescend;
his love shall never end: Alleluia! Amen!**

Praise yet our Christ again: Alleluia! Amen!

Life shall not end the strain: Alleluia! Amen!

**On heaven's blissful shore his goodness we'll adore,
singing forevermore: Alleluia! Amen!**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Women: O living Creator, O generous Compassion, you are our place of courage.

Men: Here we can pause; here we can rest, and here meet again our weakness.

Women: Here we are nourished to face the fury of the world..

Men: Living, loving, God, we seek in you the gift of life. We do not come for ourselves alone, but for our church, our community, our nation, our world.

We come in sorrow and trust for those bound to us by ties of faith, knowledge, school, and kinship.

Women: We come for those who are different from us, distant, separate and so many. We come because we have failed in love and peace. We have failed in mercy and justice.

***Men:* We have not kept your commandments of grace. We have not carried your cross nor have we fed your sheep.**

Women: We have not built up your kingdom of hope and peace.

***Men:* Living God, we seek you in the mercy of renewal.**

Women: Living God, as a community, as a nation, even as your Church we have turned away from the things that make for peace and give life. Forgive us for the evils in our midst.

***Men:* Loving God, we seek in you the grace of healing. Living God, we come bearing the incurable wound of the world, hearing and feeling all too clearly the cry of the world's pain, and of our own. Receive us, forgive us, heal us, restore us. Give us new spirits of hope and peace.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

You are invited to 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

Pat Gilbreath

EPISTLE READING Ephesians 4:1–16

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

A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Rev. Dr. Fair

Children through grade five are invited forward.

GOSPEL READING Mark 2:1–12

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

SERMON

A Door Set Open

Rev. Sanderford

GOOD NEWS: but if you ask me what it is, I know not;

It is a track of feet in the snow,

It is a lantern showing a path,

It is a door set open.

– from *Xmas Day*, in *The Notebooks, The Collected Works of G. K. Chesterton*

Responding

* PROFESSION OF FAITH (from *The Sarasota Statement*)

We, as people of faith, trust that God's transforming Word continuously meets us anew, and so we seek silence for reflecting, discerning, and imagining the Kingdom of God. We grieve the ways our silence indulges cowardice, justifies irresponsibility, and promotes fear in the face of injustice. Such silence leaves room for falsehood and complacency to choke out truth and compassion. As those being made new, we partner with Christ in bringing the Kingdom to earth as it is in heaven.

We decry any attempt to co-opt the gospel for purposes of excluding those whom Jesus sought, welcomed, and made his own. We trust that God is always at work in our world and in our lives, giving us joy and calling us to be faithful to Jesus' vision of the Kingdom.

* HYMN *They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love*

We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;
we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:

Refrain

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand;
we will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land: *Refrain*

We will work with each other; we will work side by side;
we will work with each other; we will work side by side,
and we'll guard human dignity and save human pride: *Refrain*

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one: *Refrain*

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WELCOME

Rev. Rogers

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

Song of Hope

ARGENTINA

May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.

**Praying, let us work for peace,
singing, share our joy with all,
working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.**

*** CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

*** CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

**Praying, let us work for peace,
singing, share our joy with all,
working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.**

* 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 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 Margie Perrett and Sara VanderVoort. **The Church Office** is staffed by Robin Agnew. **Greeters** are David and Jane Schmidt (9:30) and Marilyn Gibson and Marge Higley (11:00). **Sound system volunteers** are Rol Kibler (8:00) and David Endicott (9:30). **Ushers** are Bill Austin (head) and Nancy Fox (8:00); Bill Austin (head), Paul and Georgia Goodman, Angela Yang, Len Rezmierski, Joe Schmidt, and Keith and Sheila Bilby (9:30); and Bill Austin (head), Jim Douglass, and Ralph Winter (11:00). **The prayer team** is available for those desiring prayer in the Vance Room after the 9:30 service and in the Welcome Center after the 11:00 service. Prayer team members are Annete Fraser (9:30) and Mary McKeever (11:00). Following the 8:00 service a minister is available for prayer at the Communion Table. "Religion is no more possible without prayer than poetry without language or music without atmosphere." – James Martineau

Chancel flowers are given in gratitude for First Pres member — and former Chair of the Huron High School Music Department (he retired in 2017) — Rick Ingram, who will serve as our Interim Director of Music Ministries. We welcome Rick to our staff beginning tomorrow!

TODAY'S EVENTS

Worship is at 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. in Monteith Hall and at 9:30 a.m. on the Front Lawn. **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 on the Circle Terrace, or in the Social Hall in case of inclement weather, immediately following the 9:30 a.m. worship service. Fresh fruit is provided by Catherine Kendall and Dawn Pankopf.

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 Education Opportunities:

ConnectEd is an opportunity to gather after worship and discuss the theme of that morning's service and the summer books, *Credo* and *The Book of Joy*. Discussion will focus on the day's scripture, books, sermon, or music. ConnectEd meets for open conversation from 10:45 – 11:30 a.m. in the French Room/Library. A skilled facilitator guides the discussion.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Celebrate Tom and Doris Granum next Sunday, July 29, their final Sunday at First Pres. Our Director of Music Ministries for six years, Tom has accepted the position Director of Music Ministries and Organist, Mulberry Street United Methodist Church, Macon, Georgia. Help us honor and say farewell to the Granums at the July 29th Coffee Hour. If you would like to contribute to a purse for the Granums, checks made out to First Presbyterian Church with "Granums" on the memo line may be brought or sent to the Finance Office. Cards and notes may also be dropped off in the Church Office.

Our Campus Ministry, UKirk@UMich, is enjoying a summer break from regular activities. If you are a college or graduate student here this summer, please contact Revs. McGowan or Buckley at campus@firstpresbyterian.org. We would love to be in touch and invite you to special gatherings!

Finding joy, meaning, and purpose in a world that is often filled with suffering, doubt, and loneliness is the heart of our 2018 First Pres Summer Book Read. Two accessible books, *Credo* by William Sloan Coffin (\$11) and *The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World* by the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu (\$17), will be our guides for worship, conversation, and mindful exploration of the contours of a world filled with suffering and the resources of our Christian faith. Books may be purchased online or in the Church Office.

Volunteers are needed to provide fresh fruit for a healthier Coffee Hour this summer. If you are able to bring fruit (washed, cut up, ready to eat), please email Sandy Talbott (stalbott@firstpresbyterian.org), indicating the Sunday(s) you would like to volunteer, or sign up online.

Restore Hope, a support group for families coping with mental illness, meets this Tuesday, July 24, in Room LL4 at 7:00 p.m. Join us if you feel the need to talk with others who understand the unique challenges of caring for someone in your family who is struggling with chronic concerns. For more information, contact Rev. Rogers.

Would you like to sponsor Chancel Flowers in memory or in honor of a loved one? Currently, there are many available Sundays in upcoming months. Cost is \$50. Sign up online or by contacting the Church Office.

All are invited to attend a special Adult Education class on Sunday, August 26, a lecture, "From Backdoor to Front Door: A history of degradation and the restoration of the Great Lakes," by First Pres member Jennifer Day. Jennifer serves as Great Lakes Regional Coordinator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Join us at 11:00 a.m. in the Social Hall. This class is open to all, and is being held in preparation for the Mature Ministries trip to the Dossin Museum on Belle Isle and the Grosse Point Yacht Club on August 30. For more information, contact Rev. Rogers.

Is the world too loud for you? Are you looking for time to meditate, contemplate, and grow in faith? Our next 24-hour Silent Retreat at St. Augustine's House, Oxford, is the weekend of September 27–28. Cost is \$45, payable to First Pres two weeks before the retreat. Contact Rev. Annette Fraser (nnttfraser@gmail.com) for more information.

All middle school students (rising sixth through ninth graders) are invited to participate in four days of mission and service in the Detroit metro area Monday, August 20 – Thursday, August 23, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. daily. Cost is \$40. We will partner with such ministries as The Heidelberg Project, Howell Nature Center, and Second Mile Center. We'll celebrate the end of the week with a group trip to Jump Island in Brighton. Contact Essie Koenig-Reinke with questions or to sign up. Adults, please sign up to be a volunteer.

Mature Singles meet this Friday, July 27, at Classic Cup Café, 389 Jackson Road, at 5:30 p.m. All are welcome.

Are you "Meeting the Members"? Our email goes out once a week that introduces you to one of First Pres' amazing people. We've introduced you to Rob Bauman, Debbie Campbell, Luke Panning, Peg Talburtt, Chris Lin, and Callie Feyen. Who is next? To get these emails, go to the church website to subscribe, or leave a note for Lisa Hadrill in the Church Office. Want to be "met"? We need people who are willing to share something of their journey. Email or call Rev. Rogers to share your story!

PASTORAL AND PROGRAM STAFF

Reverend Dr. Fairfax F. Fair, Pastor/Head of Staff
Reverend Melissa Anne Rogers, Associate Pastor
Reverend Jay Sanderford, Associate Pastor
Tom Granum, Director of Music Ministries
Reverend Blair Buckley, Resident Minister
Reverend 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
Maeve Hammond, Ministry Fellow
Youth Interns:

David Endicott, William Lewis, Aedan Mulcrone



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