

AUGUST 14, 2016

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP 9:30 a.m.

So Gathering S

PRELUDE

LIFE IN THE CHURCH

Rev. Ervin

FAITH IN ACTION Feeding Our Neighbors

Don Redding

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We are here,

All: in the name of Christ Jesus.

One: So ask right now,

All: and it shall be given to you.

One: Seek right now,
All: and you will find.
One: Knock right now,

All: and the door will be opened.

* **HYMN 458** Earth and All Stars DEXTER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess how hard it is to be like Jesus. How difficult it is to truly love the people around us; to care as deeply for their well-being as for our own, to delight in their good fortune without feeling envious. How often we act out of our own self-interest, putting our desires ahead of the needs of others, hoarding our resources rather than sharing them freely. It is easy to do what we know is wrong, to rationalize our bad decisions and behaviors, and make excuses for our hurtful words and actions. It is hard to love our enemies, pray for their well-being, and act in their best interests. Forgive us. Teach us to whole-heartedly love and listen to one another with generosity and compassion.

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

Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so; little ones to him belong, they are weak but he is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

尽 Proclaiming ♥

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Marti Wendler

EPISTLE READING Romans 12:9-21

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

ANTHEM Neither Death nor Life Jonathan Crutchfield When we lose our hold, we are held in the everlasting arms. My sheep hear my voice and they know me, and they follow me, and I give them eternal life. And they shall not die forever. For I am sure that neither death nor life will ever, nor things now, nor things to come will ever, nor mighty powers, nor height nor depth will ever separate us from the love of God. No one will snatch them from my hand. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them. I will give them eternal life. When we lose our hold, we are held in the everlasting arms. This is the voice of eternal life.

Text by H. Stephen Shoemaker

A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Children through grade five are invited forward.

GOSPEL READING Matthew 7:1-12

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

SERMON Rev. Rogers

Responding

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I refuse to believe that we are unable to influence the events around us. I refuse to believe we are bound by racism, war, and injustice. I believe those around me are my brothers and my sisters. I believe in dignity every day and that our brokenness can be healed. I believe we can overcome oppression and violence, without resorting to it. This means I seek to reject revenge and retaliation. I remember, "Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can."

Drawn from the writings of Martin Luther King, Jr. by Abigail Reichard, a student at Christian Theological Seminary. Posted on the Disciples of Christ Council on Christian Unity website. http://ccu.disciples.org/

* **HYMN 326** Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

MORECAMBE

WELCOME Rev. Béghin

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

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Offertory *Jesus Loves Me* arr. John Ferguson

Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so; little ones to him belong, they are weak but he is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me, he who died heaven's gate to open wide; he will wash away my sin, let his little child come in.

Jesus loves me, he will stay close beside me all the way. He calls children to his side, saying, "Come with me abide."

* 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.

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.



* **HYMN 438** Blest Be the Tie That Binds DENNIS

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love: The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

* POSTLUDE

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.

^{*} Prayer of Dedication

^{*} CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

^{*} Please rise in body or spirit.

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 Lorna Prescott and Peggy Jensen. Church Office volunteer is Diane Hockett. Greeters are John and Dawn Pankopf, Catherine Kendall, Anne Kloack, and Marilyn Gibson. Ushers are Bill Austin (head), Olivier Jolliet (captain), Nicole Jolliet, Chris Wahl, and Angela Yang.

The prayer team is available for those desiring prayer in Hillegonds Chapel, to the right of the piano in the Sanctuary, after the worship service. Prayer team members are Jeanette Kibler and Marie Moore. "In the end, the number of prayers we say may contribute to our happiness, but the number of prayers we answer may be of even greater importance." – Dieter F. Uchtdorf

The chancel flowers are given by Jeff and Cyndy Colton and Joan Snider in loving memory of their parents Nan and Jack Colton and Nan and Bill Martin.

We thank Carrie Banfield-Taplin, horn, and Lorna Young Hildebrandt, soloist, for providing musical leadership this morning.

The Call to Worship was written by Bruce Prewer and posted on his home page (http://www.bruceprewer.com/).

TODAY'S EVENTS

Worship is at 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. in Monteith Hall, and at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. **Radio Worship is broadcast at 11:00 a.m.**, on WAAM (1600 AM) and on the web (www.waamannarbor.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 Margie Van Tuyl, John and Dawn Pankopf, and Betsy DiMaggio.

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.

ConnectEd Conversations are at 10:45 a.m. in the French Room/ Library. This is a time of sharing, learning, and conversation together in community around God's Word.

All undergraduates are invited to a Free College Lunch following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Meet in the hallway outside Monteith Hall to walk to lunch together.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join us in celebrating the 190th anniversary of our founding next Sunday, August 21. Our guest preacher at the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. services is Dr. Scott Seay, professor of Church History at Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis. At 10:30 a.m. there will be a special celebration of the Circle Terrace as we kick off a year of "Looking Back, Growing Forward." Help us celebrate by filling out your story of "What First Pres Means To Me" (in six words only). Fill out your story online or ask for a card in the Church Office.

Our mature ministries program invites members and friends of all ages to attend a one-hour presentation, "Phone, Mail & E-Scams," presented by Justine Bykowski of Michigan's Consumer Education program. Join us Thursday, September 1, 10:45.a.m., in the Lewis Room to learn how to protect yourself. Sign up in the Church Office.

Ministry Through Music Opportunities:

Chancel Choir is beginning its new year with rehearsals at 7:00 p.m. on Thursdays in Monteith Hall. If you are interested in joining the Chancel Choir, contact Tom Granum.

Vokal Total, a youth choir from Germany, will worship with us next Sunday, August 21, for our 190th Anniversary Celebration. They will present a 15-minute program for the prelude at 9:15 a.m.

Chancel Choir presents:

Mozart Requiem, Sunday, November 6, 3:00 p.m. **Handel's Messiah**, **Part 1** (selected choruses), December 18 **John Rutter's Gloria** prelude of the 5:00 /7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve services

Children's Choir begins its new year Sunday, September 11, at 10:30 a.m. Children's Choir will rehearse every Sunday when Sunday School is scheduled. There will be no rehearsals on Family Sundays.

Other music ensembles are also beginning rehearsals.

Recorder Ensemble - next Sunday, August 21, 12:15 p.m.

Orchestra - Sunday, September 11, 2:00 p.m.

Youth Choir - Sunday, September 11, 4:30 p.m.

Sanctus Ringers Handbell Choir - Monday, September 12, 7:30 p.m.

Mature Singles meet this Friday, August 19, 5:30 p.m., at Outback Steakhouse, 3173 Oak Valley Drive. All are welcome.

Question of the week: Armstrong writes (p. 139) that to be compassionate requires that we live by the "principle of charity." We strive to see the truth and reason behind the opinions of others. Doing so, we will come to understand that if we were in the other person's shoes, we can imagine ourselves, in similar circumstances, feeling the same. To whom in your life do you need to offer the "principle of charity" even now? Can you work on this today?



First Pres Kids Read!The Lunch Thief by Anne C. Bromley with illustrations by Robert Casilla

Summary:

Rafael is hungry because someone stole his lunch. Rafael saw a new kid in his class sneak Rafael's lunch bag from underneath his desk and tuck it in his own backpack. How can he do something about the theft without picking a fight? Rafael's solution is inspired by his mother's advice to "Use your mouth before your fists."

Questions for Parents and Kids:

- 1. How can you show compassion to someone in need that preserves their dignity and helps build a foundation for friendship?
- 2. What do you know about the ministries in your community that are helping to feed the hungry and house the homeless? What can you do to help?

PASTORAL AND PROGRAM STAFF

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

Reverend Melissa Anne Rogers, Associate Pastor

Reverend Jay Sanderford, Associate Pastor

Reverend Dr. James Monnett, Director of Youth Ministry/Transitional Campus Minister

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

Tom Granum, Director of Music Ministries

Carol Muehlig, Associate Music Director and Organist

Resident Ministers:

Reverend Emily Béghin

Reverend Daniel Ervin

Reverend Angela Ryo

Alexis Allum, Peer Minister

Sandy Talbott, Parish Nurse

Youth Interns: Laura Stahl, Sean Tichenor, Abby Wilson

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Adrian Prundeanu, Facilities Manager

Linda Robinson, Office Manager

Michael Wright, Maintenance/Repair Manager

Susan Zidar, Finance Manager

Lisa Haddrill, Technology Coordinator

Mary Jones, Publications Coordinator/Pastor's Assistant

Cindy King, Administrative Assistant/Children's Education Assistant

Anna Miller, Finance Assistant

Robin Agnew, Administrative Assistant



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