



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Ann Arbor | Michigan

AUGUST 27, 2017

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP  
9:30 a.m.

## 🌿 Gathering 🌿

**PRELUDE**

*Adagio*

Edward Elgar

**LIFE IN THE CHURCH**

Rev. Dr. Fair

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Let us worship the God of grace together.

**All: The kingdom of God is here and coming.**

One: A mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.

**All: The kingdom of God is here and coming.**

One: Yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all was leavened:

**All: The kingdom of God is here and coming.**

One: Treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid, then joyfully sells all and buys the field:

**All: The kingdom of God is here and coming.**

One: A merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one of great value, sells all of his possessions and buys the pearl:

**All: The kingdom of God is here and coming.**

\* **HYMN 420**

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

CWM RHONDDA

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Adapted from *A Brief Statement of Faith*)

One: Loving God, you created all things good,

**All: yet, we confess, we do not always trust you.**

One: You made us in your image,

**All: yet we rebel against you; we hide from our Creator.**

One: You gave us your word, your promise,

**All: yet we ignore your commandments, we accept lies as truth, we exploit neighbor and nature, we abandon your covenant.**

One: And yet... You, God, chose us and you continue to choose us.

**All: You act with mercy and compassion to redeem us again and again.**

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One: Forgive our arrogance; forgive our idol-making.  
Open our ears to hear your voice, O God.

**All: Set us free again, that we might put our hope, our trust, our faith  
only in you.**

## SILENT CONFESSION

## 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

Kim Byers-Granito

## GOSPEL READING Matthew 16:13-20

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

## ANTHEM *Upon This Rock* John Ness Beck

Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven. And whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Lo, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone; the flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds has come. Arise, and come away!

*The congregation is invited to stand and sing:*

**The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;  
She is His new creation by water and the word;  
From heaven He came and sought her to be His holy bride;  
With His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.**

**Yet she on earth hath union with Father, Spirit, Son,  
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:  
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,  
Like them the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with Thee.**

## A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

*Children through grade five are invited forward.*

## EPISTLE READING Romans 12:1-8

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

## SERMON

Rev. Sanderford

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## ✿ Responding ✿

\* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (from the *Belhar Confession*)

**We believe: that God's life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity, that God's life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world;**

**We believe: that the credibility of this message is seriously affected and its beneficial work obstructed when it is proclaimed in a land which professes to be Christian, but in which the enforced separation of people on a racial basis promotes and perpetuates alienation, hatred and enmity;**

**We believe: that any teaching which attempts to legitimate such forced separation by appeal to the gospel, and is not prepared to venture on the road of obedience and reconciliation, but rather, out of prejudice, fear, selfishness and unbelief, denies in advance the reconciling power of the gospel, must be considered ideology and false doctrine.**

\* **HYMN 422**     *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*     BEACH SPRING

**WELCOME**

Rev. Rogers and  
Eric Koenig-Reinke

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

### **OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS**

**Offertory**                     *Many Gifts, One Spirit*                     Allen Pote

Many gifts, one spirit, many songs, one voice. Many reasons, one promise, many questions, one choice. O God, we pray for unity, give guidance from above. In our differences unite us in the circle of your love. O God, remind us we are not alone. Though we move on different pathways, we are walking to your throne. Help us learn to love each other, show us ways to understand. We are members of one family, growing strong by joining hands. Take our many ways of working, Blend the colors of each soul into the beauty of a rainbow. Give us life, Lord, make us whole.

\* **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**

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## 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 369**      *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*      I'M GONNA LIVE

\* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

\* **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

**Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;  
Let the gift of Thy salvation be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
Serving thee whom we adore,  
Serving thee whom we adore.**

\* **POSTLUDE**      *St. Thomas Processional*      Gerre Hancock

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\* 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 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](http://www.firstpresbyterian.org). If you have questions, please visit the **Welcome Center**, just outside the Social Hall. Greeting you there today are Barbara Mueller and Gail Grady. **Church Office** volunteer is Jane Bartman. **Greeters** are Harriet Brouwer and Holly, Aidan, and Chloé Majorprice at 9:30 a.m., and Linda Lampman and Pat Gilbreath at 11:00 a.m. **Ushers are** Bill Austin (head) and Nancy Fox at 8:00 a.m.; Bill Austin (head), Olivier Jolliet (captain), Nicole Jolliet, Barry Swartz, Jeanette Swartz, Sandy Herold, and Lynn Hamilton 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 Hillemonds Chapel 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 Diane Knibbs and Chris Queen at 9:30 a.m., and Linda Lampman at 11:00 a.m. "If you want that splendid power in prayer, you must remain in loving, living, lasting, conscious, practical, abiding union with the Lord Jesus Christ." – C. H. Spurgeon

**Chancel flowers** are given by their son Rob in loving memory of Howard and Dorothy Parker who were married on August 26, 1939.

**The red rosebud** honors the birth of Peter Blake Kinzinger, born August 7, 2017, son of John and Klarrisa Kinzinger and grandson of John and Jane Kinzinger.

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## 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.waamradio.com](http://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 Betty Anderson, Kim Byers-Granito, Nancy Fox, and Linda Lampman. 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 Opportunity:

**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 are the foundation for this time of casual conversation and reflection. All are welcome!

**The Aeolian Chorale presents its free concert *Madrigals, Motets and More*** this afternoon at 4:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. All are invited.

**T2A2 Small Group** meets at 7:00 p.m. at Chris Wahl's house. Wherever you are in your faith journey, we invite all in their twenties and thirties to come and build community with us. For more information, contact a pastor or the Church Office.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Communion Food Collection** is next Sunday. As we are fed at the Lord's Table, we also come to feed others and lend support to those in need. Please bring food donations or financial contributions for The Back Door Food Pantry which serves Ann Arbor.

**Blessing of the Backpacks is next Sunday, September 3.** Children are invited to bring their school backpack with them to worship. "A Time With Young Disciples" will focus on the children starting back to school. We also invite children to bring a new school supply to support the Washtenaw Intermediate School District Education Project for Homeless Youth. A list of requested supplies is available online, in the current newsletter, and in the Church Office.

**Join us for an Ice Cream Social next Sunday, September 3!** At 10:30 a.m., during Coffee Hour, enjoy Washtenaw Dairy ice cream and lots of toppings. Celebrate the end of our summer break and the beginning of the new school year with Vanilla, Triple-Chocolate Overload, Superman, and Rainbow Sherbet. Want to help set up, serve, or clean-up? Contact Karla Olson-Bellfi ([karlaolsonbellfi@gmail.com](mailto:karlaolsonbellfi@gmail.com)).

**Mature Singles** (single men and women over age 60) meet this Friday, September 1, 5:30 p.m., at Applebee's, 2310 Green Road.

**First Pres Kids Read!** *If You Plant a Seed* by Kadir Nelson

Summary: A fuzzy, brown rabbit and a tiny notch-eared mouse plant tomato, carrot, and cabbage seeds and then wait for the plants to grow and produce. This story shows how a seed of kindness can bear sweet fruit.

Questions for parents and kids:

1. What did Rabbit and Mouse learn about kindness, generosity, and hospitality?
2. Where do you see God in this story?

Contact Debbie MacVey to see a copy of this book. "Be fair, be kind and walk with God" is our children's summer reading theme.

**Youth Kickoff Cookout** is Sunday, September 10. Youth (grades 6-12) and their families are invited to gather around 4:30 p.m. at the home of Doris and Tom Granum, 1478 Fieldstone Court. We will eat at 5:30 p.m. RSVP with Tom (tgranum@firstpresbyterian.org).

**The Men's Study Group** meets the first and third Fridays from 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. in the Lewis Room for coffee, study, and conversation. Join us beginning this Friday, September 1, and continuing until May. The fall book is Martin Thielen's, *What's the Least I Can Believe and Still Be a Christian? A Guide to What Matters Most*. Books are available in the Church Office for \$12.00. Questions? Contact Rev. Sanderford. All are welcome!

**Singers are invited to join the Chancel Choir, which rehearses Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.** Contact Tom Granum for more information.

**Mature Ministries Kick-Off Event is Tuesday, September 5.** Join us in the Social Hall at 11:00 a.m. to hear two featured speakers, to enjoy a gourmet lunch (\$5) at noon by Chef Christine, to learn about our 2017–18 trips and presentations, and to meet our new Resident Ministers. **Please register for this Kick-Off Event by September 1** by contacting the Church Office (662-4466), by signing up online, or by contacting Rev. Rogers. Friends and community members are welcome!

**The Tuesday morning Women's Bible Study Group** will resume on Tuesday, September 12, at 9:00 a.m., in the Curtis Room. Study books will be available on the first day for \$20. For additional information, contact Mary Kay Gray, Anne Kloack, or Lois Nissy.

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**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



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