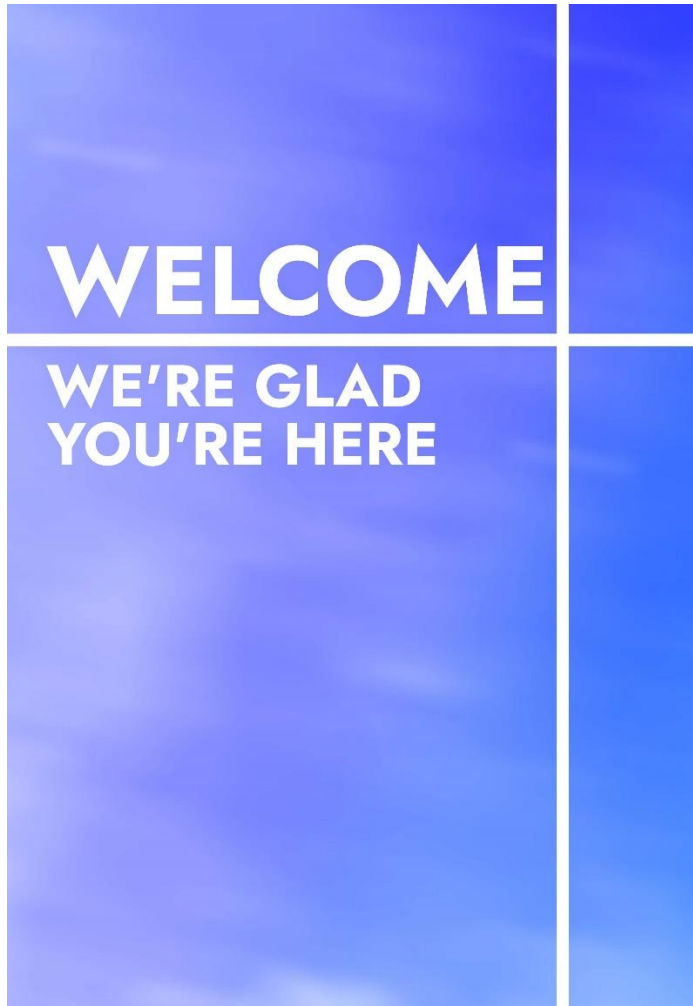


**THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF LANSING**



**510 W. Ottawa Street ▪ Lansing, Michigan 48933**

**(517) 482-0668 [www.lansingfirstpres.com](http://www.lansingfirstpres.com)**

**Facebook - Lansing First Presbyterian**

**Church Office Hours (M-Th) 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 & 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Sept. 8, 2024 10:00 a.m.

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*In order to maintain our worship environment, please turn off your cell phones. Thank you.*

## PRELUDE

Brooke Broughton

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor Bob Higle

Trust in the Lord,  
**who made heaven and earth;**  
trust in the Lord,  
**who loves every part of it.**  
Trust in the Lord,  
**who cares for those in need;**  
trust in the Lord,  
**who leads us to do the same.**  
Let us worship God,  
**who shows us the way.**

**++HYMN #611 [GTG]** Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

*This well-known melody was created to provide a choral setting for J.C.F. von Schiller's poem, "An die Freude" (To Joy), as the final movement off Beethoven's Ninth Symphony. The author, a prominent Presbyterian pastor and author, wrote the words with this tune in mind.*

## SERVICE OF RENEWAL

Call to Confession

Pastor Bob Higle

Unison Prayer of Confession

**You love us with open arms, O God**  
**Forgive us when we do not put your love into practice:**  
**when we do not challenge the injustice around us;**  
**when we are not generous with the gifts we have to share;**  
**when we are slow to compassion and quick to judgment;**  
**when we contribute to the brokenness of the world**

**++**Indicates to stand in body or spirit

**instead of helping to make it whole.  
Forgive us, O God, of the ways we fall short.  
Free us to try again, and let your love lead the way.**

Assurance of Pardon

Pastor Bob Higle

Now stand firm in your faith,  
covered by the saving grace of God  
and ready to proclaim the gospel of peace.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!  
**Thanks be to God.**

++Response to Forgiveness #583 [GTG] Glory to God

SERVICE MUSIC

# Glory to God

# 583

*Gloria, gloria*

Capo 3: (Bm) (Em) (A) (D)  
Dm Gm C F (chords continue)

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!  
Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

++PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Pastor Bob Higle

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Be Still and Know

***Be still and know that I am God (three times).***

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Ms. Megan

## BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pastor Bob Higle

Faithful God, how blessed are those  
who hunger and thirst for righteousness.  
Sanctify us by your Word and Spirit  
so that we may glorify you  
in the company of the faithful;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### GOSPEL READING

Mark 7:24-37

Pastor Bob Higle

<sup>24</sup>From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, <sup>25</sup>but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. <sup>26</sup>Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. <sup>27</sup>He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." <sup>28</sup>But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." <sup>29</sup>Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." <sup>30</sup>So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

<sup>31</sup>Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup>They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. <sup>33</sup>He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. <sup>34</sup>Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." <sup>35</sup>And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup>Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup>They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### ANTHEM

"Creator of the Stars of Night" arr Nancy M. Rabe

Chancel Choir

*Creator of the stars of night, your people's everlasting light,  
O Christ, redeemer of us all, we pray you hear us when we call. '   
When this old world drew on toward night, you came; but not in splendor bright,  
Not as a monarch, but the child of Mary, blessed mother mild.  
At your great name, o Jesus, now all knees must bend all hearts must bow;*

*All things on earth with one accord, like those in heav'n, shall call you Lord.  
Come in your holy might, we pray, redeem us for eternal day;  
Defend us while we dwell below from all assaults of our dread foe.  
Amen.*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Joshua 3:7-17

Rev. Stanley Jenkins

<sup>7</sup>The LORD said to Joshua, "This day I will begin to exalt you in the sight of all Israel, so that they may know that I will be with you as I was with Moses. <sup>8</sup>You are the one who shall command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant, 'When you come to the edge of the waters of the Jordan, you shall stand still in the Jordan.'" <sup>9</sup>Joshua then said to the Israelites, "Draw near and hear the words of the LORD your God." <sup>10</sup>Joshua said, "By this you shall know that among you is the living God who without fail will drive out from before you the Canaanites, Hittites, Hivites, Perizzites, Girgashites, Amorites, and Jebusites: <sup>11</sup>the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth is going to pass before you into the Jordan. <sup>12</sup>So now select twelve men from the tribes of Israel, one from each tribe. <sup>13</sup>When the soles of the feet of the priests who bear the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the earth, rest in the waters of the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan flowing from above shall be cut off; they shall stand in a single heap."

<sup>14</sup>When the people set out from their tents to cross over the Jordan, the priests bearing the ark of the covenant were in front of the people. <sup>15</sup>Now the Jordan overflows all its banks throughout the time of harvest. So when those who bore the ark had come to the Jordan, and the feet of the priests bearing the ark were dipped in the edge of the water, <sup>16</sup>the waters flowing from above stood still, rising up in a single heap far off at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan, while those flowing toward the sea of the Arabah, the Dead Sea, were wholly cut off. Then the people crossed over opposite Jericho. <sup>17</sup>While all Israel were crossing over on dry ground, the priests who bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan, until the entire nation finished crossing over the Jordan.

**Sermon**

Rev. Stanley Jenkins

**++HYMN #79 [GTG]**

Light Dawns on a Weary World

*This is a hymn whose tune came first. Upon hearing it, the author recalled the watered garden of Isaiah 58:11, which in turn led to Isaiah 55:12, paraphrased in the refrain. Then came the stanzas, organized around their first two words: Light dawns, Love grows, Hope blooms.*

**THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER (all bread served is gluten free)**

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

... who forever sing to the glory of your name

Sanctus (**Sung in unison**) #552[GTG] *Holy, Holy, Holy*

552

Holy, Holy, Holy

Capo 3: (D) F (A) C (D) F (G) (A) (D) B<sup>b</sup> C F

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
2 Bless - ed is he who comes in the

(A) C (D/F#) F/A (F#m) Am (G) B<sup>b</sup> (A) C (Bm) Dm

pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

(G) B<sup>b</sup> (D) F (A) (Bm) C Dm (Em7) Gm7 (A) C (Dsus) Fsus (D) F

full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer (**unison**)

**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.**

Pastor: Words of Institution

## The Sharing of the Bread and Cup

### Unison Prayer after Communion

**Strengthen us, O God, in the power of the Holy Spirit, to bring good news to the poor, to lift blind eyes to sight, and to loose the chains that bind. Keep us faithful in your service until that day when Christ comes in final victory, when we shall feast with all the saints in the joy of your eternal realm. We pray in the name of Jesus, our crucified and risen Savior. Amen.**

## PRESENTING OUR GIFTS

### Offering

Offertory Music     “For Everyone Born” arr Tom Trenney

Chancel Choir

*For everyone born, a place at the table,  
For everyone born, clean water and bread,  
A shelter, a space, a safe place for growing, for everyone born, a star overhead.  
And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy,  
Compassion and peace;  
Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!  
For woman and man, a place at the table,  
Revisiting roles, deciding the share,  
With winsome and grace, dividing the power, a system that's fair.  
And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy,  
Compassion and peace;  
Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!  
For young and for old, a place at the table,  
A voice to be heard, a part in the song.  
The hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled, for young and for old, the right to belong.  
And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy,  
Compassion and peace;  
Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!  
For everyone born, a place at the table, to live without fear, and simply to be,  
To work, to speak out, to witness to worship,  
For everyone born, the right to be free!  
And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy,  
Compassion and peace;  
Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!*

**++ Doxology #607 [GTG]**

***Praise God, from whom all blessing flow;  
Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.***

**Prayer of Dedication**

**++HYMN #547 [GTG] Go, My Children, With My Blessing**

*Because this Welsh melody usually sets evening texts, that author was asked to create one for use in daytime. His recasting of the Aaronic blessing in Numbers 6:22-27 imagines that passage as a benediction that might be spoken by God at the conclusion of a worship service.*

**BENEDICTION**

**BLEST BE THE TIE 306[GTG]**

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

**POSTLUDE**

Brooke Broughton

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**MORE LIGHT**  
PRESBYTERIANS





## INFORMATION FOR THE DAY

Participants in this morning's service:

Liturgist	Pastor Bob Higle
Organist/Pianist	Brooke Broughton
Music Director	Megan Higle
Bells of First Director	Darin Showalter
Pastor	Rev. Stanley Jenkins

**Flowers today are provided in memory of George and Sebhia Mackoul from the Mackoul Family.**

**FLOWER CHART** There are many dates available on the chart to celebrate special days in our church family. The new price is \$50. Simply sign up on the chart (in the office hall), indicate the occasion that you would like celebrated or honored (birthday, anniversary or memorial), write a check to the church and give it to Betsy, and we will order for you. If you would like to purchase or provide a silk arrangement for use when we don't have a fresh arrangement scheduled, please see Judy Whitman. Thank you! - Worship Committee.

**"YOUR SUPPORT IS VITAL TO OUR MISSION! PLEASE SCAN THIS CODE WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE TO GIVE SECURELY ONLINE." Take a picture with your phone and it will take you to the website to make a donation.**



# THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

## **Sunday, September 8**

10:00 a.m. Morning Worship - Chapel  
11:30 a.m. Tail Gate  
12:30 p.m. Victory in Jesus Ministries Worship – Chapel

## **Monday, September 9**

9:00 a.m. GIL Class  
10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting - Library  
5:30 p.m. Yoga – Yoga Room  
6:30 p.m. Bells of First rehearsal – Choir room  
7:00 p.m. Membership Committee

## **Tuesday, September 10**

7:00 a.m. City Election – All Day  
9:00 a.m. GIL Class  
2:30 p.m. Building and Grounds Committee – library  
5:30 p.m. Worship Committee – Library  
6:30 p.m. Glen Erin Pipe Band – Litten Hall  
7:00 p.m. Capital City Chordsmen rehearsal – Chapel

## **Wednesday, September 11**

9:00 a.m. GIL Class  
12:00 p.m. Lectionary Bible Study – library  
4:30 p.m. Lansing Children’s Choir rehearsal  
5:30 p.m. Yoga – Yoga Room  
7:30 p.m. Deacons meeting – Library

## **Thursday, September 12**

9:00 a.m. GIL Class  
9:50:00 p.m. NWI Food Distribution – Litten Hall  
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal – Choir room  
7:00 p.m. Victory in Jesus Ministries– Library

## **Friday, September 13**

10:00 a.m. GIL classes  
5:30 p.m. Yoga – Yoga Room

## **Saturday, September 14**

## **Sunday, September 15**

10:00 a.m. Morning Worship – Chapel  
11:30 a.m. Adult Forum – Litten Hall  
11:30 a.m. Children’s Faith Formation  
11:30 a.m. Finance Committee  
12:30 p.m. Victory in Jesus Ministries Worship - Chapel

# CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

**Calling all quilters!** We have a special project designed to celebrate the seamstresses and seamsters in our congregation AND help solve the echo problem in Litton Hall. We would like to hang a collection of quilts from the congregation – even if they are wall hangings or lap quilts – to 1) celebrate our creative mothers and grandmothers (and perhaps a dad or grandpa?) and 2) absorb some of the unwanted reverberation in Litton Hall to improve listening for everyone. We plan to make a plaque that names all the makers, including Daisy DeHaven. If you have any quilts that you are not using that were created by you or your ancestor, please let Gwen Botting know what you have to donate. Please let her know the approximate size (double bed, lap quilt, whatever), who created it, and any interesting tidbit of history that goes with it – for instance if some quilts in the past were donated to charity, or if the maker was also a rabid knitter and made kids mittens and hats to give away, or anything like that. We plan to make a small booklet describing the quilts and quilters if we have enough information to make it worth the effort.

If anyone knows where any quilts or banners or wall hangings might be stored in the church, please let Gwen know. Gwen Botting, [gwenbotting9496@gmail.com](mailto:gwenbotting9496@gmail.com) or 616-755-2221.

**Volunteers are needed.** Our young learners are looking for a few people to be “helpers” during their learning time. They need help with cutting, gluing, snacks, etc. (You will be aided by the teacher for that day, so no preparation is required.) Contact Megan Higle at [mhigle@lansingfirstpres.org](mailto:mhigle@lansingfirstpres.org).

**Music Ensembles** Chancel choir and handbell choir will start rehearsals at the beginning of September! Both groups welcome new members!

Chancel Choir Director, Megan Higle, [megan.higle@gmail.com](mailto:megan.higle@gmail.com)

Bell Choir Director, Darin Showalter, [darinjshowalter@gmail.com](mailto:darinjshowalter@gmail.com)

**Per Capita Reminder:** The annual per capita payment to the Lake Michigan Presbytery this year is \$40.05 per member. Hopefully every member can pay that amount. The check can go to the church noting “per capita.” Please consider paying the per capita for those who cannot afford to. Last year, we paid the Presbytery dues of about \$11,000.

**World Communion Sunday Potluck October 6, 2024,** after worship. Bring a dish to share that represents your heritage or a dish that is a family favorite. If you are able, please label the country or area your dish represents. There will be carts at the main entrance to take your dish downstairs. Drinks and place settings will be provided.

# **ADULT FORUM . . . begins next week!**

(11:30-12:30 in Litten Hall downstairs or on Zoom).  
(Childcare can be available through this time.)

**September 15**

## **CHURCH FINANCIAL LITERACY AND STEWARDSHIP**

**Elder Ceci Anderson, leading**

Come learn about how our Church finances are organized and utilized.

Come learn about stewardship. Come learn how your donations and pledges work to fulfill the mission of the Church, building the Kingdom of God.

Afterwards, join with others at the new restaurant/pub Salt Rock (across the garden from the church parking lot) to support a new community business.

**September 22**

## **OUR FAITH, OUR ELECTIONS, THE SHAPE OF OUR NATIONAL FUTURE**

**Rev. Charlie Herrick, leading**

With just two months to go before the all-important presidential (and other crucial offices) election, it's a good time to come together to share our hopes and anxieties. This session will be more or less an extension of last May's discussion on "whether the U.S. is/was/was meant to be/was founded as/*should be* a 'Christian nation.'" In the time since then, that question has been raised among certain voices with still more specificity. How are we, as Christians, to walk the line between expressing our faith on the crucial issues of our time, and being assured, as some do, that imposing a specific iteration of Christianity upon our increasingly diverse population would solve our societal issues? We all have thoughts about this. Come and share.

**September 29**

## **INTRODUCTION TO THE "JOB"**

**Elder Ceci Anderson, leading**

Learn about the "jobs" of Membership, Deacon and Elder within our Presbyterian Polity. How best can you faithfully participate with us?