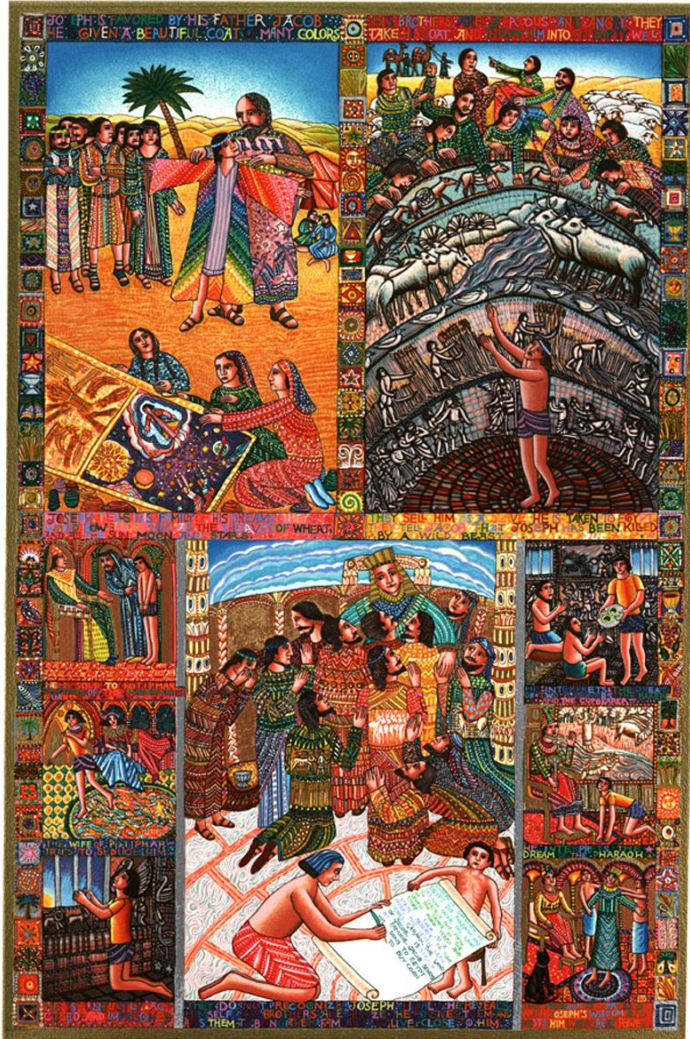


# THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LANSING



Story of Joseph, cont. John August Swanson, Vanderbilt University Divinity Library

510 W. Ottawa Street ▪ Lansing, Michigan 48933

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

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Summer Church Office Hours (M-Th) 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**SERVICE FOR OUR LORD'S DAY**  
AUGUST 25, 2024 @ 10:00 AM  
**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**

SERGEI KVITKO

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

WILLYE BRYAN

How lovely is your dwelling place,  
O God, most gracious host.

**My soul longs, indeed it faints,  
for the household of God.**

Even the sparrow finds a home  
and the swallow a nest  
at your table of grace,  
O homemaking God.

**Our hearts and our flesh sing for joy  
to you, the living God.**

**++ HYMN #636[GTG]** Let All the World in Every Corner Sing

*The 20th-century tune used here is among the few to honor the intention of the author, a 17th-century Anglican pastor and poet, to sing the refrain before, between and after the two stanzas. The mention of "psalms" in the second stanza is a clue that hymns were not yet common.*

**SERVICE OF RENEWAL**

CALL TO CONFESSION

WILLYE BRYAN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

CONGREGATION

++indicates standing in body or spirit

**O Lord, you are near to the brokenhearted,  
and you save the crushed in spirit.  
Be near to us in our brokenness,  
and love us into wholeness.  
You are near to people who are hurting,  
but we keep our distance to avoid hard conversations.  
You envision a world where all needs are met,  
but we hoard our possessions and cling to our power.  
Be near to us in our brokenness,  
and love us into wholeness.  
By your mercy, forgive our sins.  
By your grace, free us to try again.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON      WILLYE BRYAN

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 #188 [GTG] JESUS LOVES ME!**  
***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.***

**++ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**      WILLYE BRYAN  
May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

**#414 [GTG] *Be still and know that I am God (3x).***

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

MS. MEGAN

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

WILLYE BRYAN

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.**

## **FIRST READING:           John 6:56-69**

WILLYE BRYAN

<sup>56</sup>Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. <sup>57</sup>Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. <sup>58</sup>This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” <sup>59</sup>He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

<sup>60</sup>When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” <sup>61</sup>But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? <sup>62</sup>Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? <sup>63</sup>It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. <sup>64</sup>But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. <sup>65</sup>And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.” <sup>66</sup>Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. <sup>67</sup>So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” <sup>68</sup>Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. <sup>69</sup>We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

The word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

Horn Concerto in Bb, Mvt. II  
Gwen Botting, French horn

by Rheinold Gliere

**SECOND READING: Genesis 45:1-15**

REV. STANLEY JENKINS

45Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, “Send everyone away from me.” So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. <sup>2</sup>And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. <sup>3</sup>Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. <sup>4</sup>Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. <sup>5</sup>And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. <sup>6</sup>For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. <sup>7</sup>God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. <sup>8</sup>So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. <sup>9</sup>Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. <sup>10</sup>You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. <sup>11</sup>I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’ <sup>12</sup>And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. <sup>13</sup>You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” <sup>14</sup>Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. <sup>15</sup>And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

**SERMON**

REV. STANLEY JENKINS

**++ HYMN #465[GTG]**    What A Friend We Have in Jesus

*This text was written by an Irish-born immigrant to Canada to comfort his mother in Ireland when she was going through a time of special sorrow. The role of prayer as a source of strength and consolation is underscored by its repeated use as a rhyme word in all three stanzas.*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

REV. STANLEY JENKINS

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.**

(Prayers continue)

**OUR 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.**

**AMEN #568 [GTG]**

568

Amen

Capo 3: (Em) (D) (G) (Am) (Em) (B) (C) (D) (A)  
 Gm F B<sup>b</sup> Cm Gm D E<sup>b</sup> F C

A - men, a - men, a - men!

(Em) (D) (G) (Am) (Em) (B) (C) (Bm7) (E)  
 Gm F B<sup>b</sup> Cm Gm D E<sup>b</sup> Dm7 G

A - men, a - men, a - men!

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text  
 MUSIC: Marty Haugen, 1984  
 Music © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc.

AMEN (Haugen)

## PRESENTING OUR GIFTS

Offering

REV. STANLEY JENKINS

++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

REV. STANLEY JENKINS

## HYMN #269[GTG] Lead On, O King Eternal!

*Not everything that looks like a battle ends up being one. This text, written for a seminary graduation, works well with its martial tune in the first stanza; but later stanzas turn from such imagery and focus on “deeds of love and mercy” and courage for life’s journey.*

## BENEDICTION

REV. STANLEY JENKINS

Blest Be the Tie That Binds #306[GTG]

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

**POSTLUDE**

SERGEI KVITKO

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**MORE LIGHT**  
PRESBYTERIANS



## INFORMATION FOR THE DAY

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MORNING'S SERVICE:

LITURGIST:	WILLYE BRYAN
ORGANIST / PIANIST:	SERGEI KVITKO
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:	MEGAN HIGLE
DIRECTOR OF CHURCH LIFE / COMMUNITY OUTREACH:	PRINCE SOLACE
PASTOR:	REV. STANLEY JENKINS
SOLOIST:	GWEN BOTTING

**LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AND HYMNS** are available.

**Flowers today are in honor of the 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of Chuck and MaryLou Gebhardt.**

**FLOWER CHART** There are many dates available on the chart to celebrate special days in our church family. The 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, 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, August 25**

10:00 a.m.

11:30 a.m.

12:30 p.m.

Sunday service – Chapel

Finance Committee - Library

Victory in Jesus Ministries – Chapel

### **Monday, August 26**

10:00 a.m.-5

5:30 p.m.

GIL classes

Yoga – Yoga room

### **Tuesday, August 27**

10:00 a.m. -2

9:00 a.m.

6:00 p.m.

6:30 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

GIL Classes

NWI Food Truck prep

Mid MI Photo Officers – Library

Glen Erin Pipe Band rehearsal – Litten Hall

Capital City Chordsmen rehearsal – Chapel

### **Wednesday, August 28**

10:00 a.m.-5

12:00 P.M.

5:30 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

GIL Class

Bible study – via Zoom

Yoga – Yoga room

Session – Gill room

### **Thursday, August 29**

9:00 a.m.

1:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

NWI Food Truck prep

Bridge in the Parlor

Victory in Jesus Ministries – Library

### **Friday, August 30**

5:30 p.m.

Yoga – Yoga Room

### **Saturday, August 31**

### **Sunday, September 1**

10:00 a.m.

12:30 p.m.

Sunday service/ Communion served – Chapel

Victory in Jesus Ministries Worship – Chapel

**Blessing of the Backpacks**

Calling all students and teachers!  
Bring your backpacks and teaching bags to church on Sunday, September 8 for our Blessing of the Backpacks.



**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, [darinshowalter@gmail.com](mailto:darinshowalter@gmail.com)

The **Garden Committee** meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7pm via Zoom. Our meetings are scheduled for the remainder of the year as follows:

- August 28
- September 25
- October 23

**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.