

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LANSING



Jesus among the teachers

510 W. Ottawa Street ▪ Lansing, Michigan 48933
(517) 482-0668 / www.lansingfirstpres.com
Facebook – Lansing First Presbyterian
Summer Church Office Hours (M-F) 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

SERVICE FOR OUR LORD'S DAY
DEC. 29, 2024 @ 10:00 AM
FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Christmas Carols, 4-hands SERGEI KVITKO & MEGAN HIGLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

PASTOR BOB HIGLE

Praise the Lord, all of creation!

God is exalted in heaven and earth.

In sun and moon and shining stars,

God is exalted in heaven and earth.

In sea creatures, land beasts, and flying birds,

God is exalted in heaven and earth.

From young to old, from princes to peasants,

God is exalted in heaven and earth.

Raise up your horns, lift up your voice,

for God is exalted in heaven and earth! Hallelujah!

++ HYMN #126[GTG] 126 Jesus, What a Wonderful Child

Specific sources for the words and the music of this piece from the African American heritage remain uncertain. The predictable rhymes suggest that, like "Jesus Light of the World" (see no. 127), it may have originated as a reflection on an existing Christmas carol.

SERVICE OF RENEWAL

CALL TO CONFESSION

PASTOR BOB HIGLE

In faith and in hope,
we trust that God is merciful and just
and receives our prayers with grace.
In humility and with meekness,
let us confess our sin together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God,
 though we are in awe of the dawn
 of your light in Jesus Christ,
 we remain self-centered
 and cling to the sin of the world.
 We celebrate the birth of our savior,
 yet we struggle in our commitment to follow him.
 We are called to pursue justice,
 love kindness, and walk humbly with you;
 yet we are content to seek our own comfort
 and conveniently ignore the cries
 of those in need.
 By the light of the Christ child,
 lead us on a path of goodness and righteousness,
 as we seek to love all of your bountiful creation.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

PASTOR BOB HIGLE

We are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved.
 The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.
 Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.
Amen.

++ RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS #447 [GTG] WE ARE FORGIVEN

447 We Are Forgiven

The musical score is written on three staves in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God. We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God." The guitar chords are: G, Am, D7, Gsus, G, C, G, Am7, Dsus, D, G, Am, D7, Gsus, G, C, G, Am7, D, G.

To sing, rather than simply say, a response to the Declaration of Forgiveness has the effect of making the moment both more affirmative and more corporate. The musical repetition of the two sentences also strengthens awareness of what it means to be assured of God's pardon.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text
 MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson, 1995
 Music © 1995 Hal H. Hopson

WE ARE FORGIVEN
 10.8.10.8

++ **PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

PASTOR BOB HIGLE

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

And also with you.

#752 [GTG] *Dona nobis pacem*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

MS. MEGAN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PASTOR BOB HIGLE

O God,
through your mighty acts
we receive grace upon grace.
From your fullness,
feed us with your life-giving Word,
that our lives, like bread,
may feed a hungry world.

Amen.

FIRST READING Colossians 3:12-17

PASTOR BOB HIGLE

¹²As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

SPECIAL MUSIC "Nocturno" by Franz Strauss GWEN BOTTING ON FRENCH HORN

SECOND READING Luke 2: 8-14

PASTOR BOB HIGLE

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to

them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

SERMON CHRISTMAS CAROL SING
HIGLE

Led by MEGAN

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

GWEN BOTTING

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: #600 [GTG]

600

Amen

A - men, a - men.

A - men, a - men, a - men.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text
MUSIC: African American; arr. Nelsie T. Johnson, 1988

AMEN

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS**OFFERTORY MUSIC** "Noel" by Matt Redman, Chris Tomlin & Ed Cash

MEGAN HIGLE, SOPRANO

*Love incarnate, love divine. Star and angels gave the sign.
Bow to babe on bended knee, the Savior of humanity.
Unto us a child is born. He shall reign forevermore.
Noel, noel. Come and see what God has done.
Noel, noel. The story of amazing love, the light of the world given for us, noel.
Son of God and Son of man, there before the world began.
Born to suffer, born to save, born to raise us from the grave.
Christ the everlasting Lord, He shall reign forevermore.
Noel, noel. Come and see what God has done.
Noel, noel. The story of amazing love, the light of the world given for us, noel.*

++Doxology #608 [GTG]

Praise God, from Whom 608
All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise Christ, all
peo-ple here be-low; praise Ho-ly Spir-it ev-er-
more; praise Tri-une God, whom we a-dore.

Prayer of Dedication

HYMN #136 [GTG] Go, Tell It On the Mountain

Like other material from oral traditions, 19th-century African American spirituals flourished without being written down. Their refrains were their most stable parts, and narrative stanzas were often improvised to fit. These Nativity stanzas attempt to recall that tradition.

BENEDICTION

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

*PLEASE BE AWARE THAT WE USE CAMERAS TO BROADCAST VIDEO OF OUR CHURCH SERVICES. LICENSED MUSIC STREAMED WITH PERMISSION UNDER ONE LICENSE, LICENSE #A-731144. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED."

INFORMATION FOR THE DAY

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MORNING'S SERVICE:

LITURGIST:	PASTOR BOB HIGLE
ORGANIST:	SERGEI KVIKTO
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:	MEGAN HIGLE
DIRECTOR OF CHURCH LIFE / COMMUNITY OUTREACH:	PRINCE SOLACE
PASTOR:	REV. STANLEY JENKINS

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AND HYMNS are available.

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, December 29

10:00 a.m.
12:30 p.m.

Worship service – Sanctuary
Victory in Jesus Ministries – Chapel

Monday, December 30

9:00 a.m.
5:30 p.m.

Church closed
GIL classes
Yoga – Yoga room

Tuesday, December 31

9:00 a.m.
6:30 p.m.

Church closed
GIL classes
Glen Erin Pipe Band – Litten Hall

Wednesday, January 1

Church closed

Thursday, January 2

9:00 a.m.-2
7:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m.

GIL Classes
Victory in Jesus Min Bible - Library
Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Capital City Chordsmen, sanctuary

Friday, January 3

5:30 p.m.

Yoga

Saturday, January 4

Sunday, January 5

10:00 a.m.
12:30 p.m.

Worship service - Sanctuary
Victory in Jesus Ministries Worship – Chapel

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

NAME TAGS: Would you like a name tag? Or does your old one need to be replaced? Please email Pam Blair blairkids3@yahoo.com or call/text 517-281-9099. The deadline to get names for the printer is December 22, 2024.

ADULT FORUM

(11:15-12:15 in Litten Hall downstairs or on zoom).
(Childcare is available through this time.)

No Adult Forum December 29, January 5

Adult Education Committee wishes everyone a blessed Christmas and joyous New Year! Adult Forum resumes January 12, 2025