

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LANSING



Potluck Mural, Central Square Cambridge, 1994, David Fichter, Divinity Library, Vanderbilt University

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Facebook – Lansing First Presbyterian
Church Office Hours (M-F) 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

SERVICE FOR OUR LORD'S DAY

FEB. 16, 2024 @ 10:00 AM
SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

OPENING MUSIC

Sometimes I Feel like a Motherless Child arr. Kathleen Wissinger
BELLS OF FIRST

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair arr. Jason W Krug BELLS OF FIRST

CALL TO WORSHIP

SHERRI DEMARCO

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,
whose confidence is in God.
They will be like a tree planted by the water,
sending out roots by the stream.
This tree does not fear when heat comes;
its leaves are green, its fruit endures.
So come, let us place our trust in God!
Let us live in blessed faith together!

++ HYMN #247[GTG] Now the Green Blade Rises
Although there were some traditional Easter carols, this hybrid one has been created by grafting a 20th-century English text onto a late 15th-century French tune. The allegory of the dying and rising grain as a parallel for Christ's Resurrection is probably based on John 12:24.

SERVICE OF RENEWAL

CALL TO CONFESSION

SHERRI DEMARCO

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Sustaining God,
you would have us be deeply rooted in you,
finding strength in your word
and nourishment in your grace.
More often, though, we live as chaff,**

++Indicates Congregation standing as able

**blown here and there
by the winds of circumstance.
Forgive our lack of permanency
and our failures to hold fast
to our commitments.
Grow in us faith
that we might be firmly planted
in your promises,
released from sin,
and open to the life you have shown us
in Jesus Christ.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SHERRI DEMARCO

The waters of grace refresh our lives
and bring forth a new creation.
This is good news!
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

++ RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS #659 [GTG]

***Know that God is good. Know that God is good.
Know that God is good; God is good; God is good.***

++ **PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

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

SHERRI DEMARCO

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

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

MS. MEGAN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SHERRI DEMARCO

Saving God, source of our calling,
your Word is full of power and glory.
Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us
so that we may receive your grace
and live as your beloved children;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 1

SHERRI DEMARCO

¹Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;
²but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law they meditate day and night.
³They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.
⁴The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
⁵Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;
⁶for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC “Die Seele Ruht in Jesu Händen” by J.S. Bach
Arr. by Harold Bauer
Sergei Kvitko, piano

GOSPEL READING

Luke 6:17-26

REV. STANLEY JENKINS

¹⁷He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰Then he looked up at his disciples and said: “Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. ²¹“Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. “Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. ²²“Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. ²⁴“But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. ²⁵“Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. “Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. ²⁶“Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

SERMON

REV. STANLEY JENKINS

++HYMN #816[GTG]

If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee

This hymn is a testimony of experience. The original seven-stanza German text (based on Psalm 55:22) and its tune were created by the author / composer at the age of twenty in thanksgiving for finding employment many weeks after being left almost penniless following a robbery.

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)

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: #554 [GTG]

554

Amen

Capo 3: (G) (A) (Bm) (G) (D) (A) (Bm) (Em7) (A) (Dsus) (D)
B^b C Dm B^b F C Dm Gm7 C Fsus F

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

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text
MUSIC: American folk melody; arr. Richard Proulx, 1995
Music Arr. © 1995 GIA Publications, Inc.

LAND OF REST

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY MUSIC "Be Still" by Jennifer Lunday Lewis

CHANCEL CHOIR

Be still.

Be still my soul, and know that God is with you. Breathe peace from God that soothes and makes you whole.

Be still and know that nothing is beyond His hand. He will provide, sustain your weary soul.

It is well with my soul.

When tears of loss and loneliness ensnare you, know, as a child of God, you're not alone.

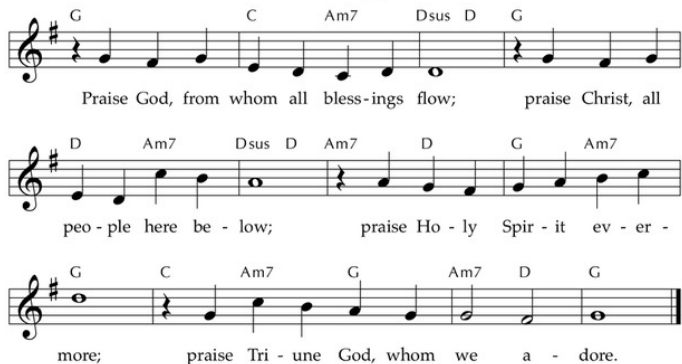
When life brings storms of pain and deep despair, God's voice will calm rough waters:

"Peace be still." It is well, with my soul.

"Be still and know that I am God."

++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 #353 [GTG]

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

This hymn develops the imagery of Jesus' remark (Matthew 7:24-27 / Luke 6:47-49) that those who believe in him and act on that belief are like someone who builds a house on a rock. The text is set to a tune created for it by a prolific 19th-century American composer and editor (William Batchelder Bradbury).

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

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INFORMATION FOR THE DAY

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MORNING'S SERVICE:

LITURGIST:

SHERRI DEMARCO

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:

MEGAN HIGLE

ORGANIST:

SERGEI KVIKTO

DIRECTOR OF CHURCH LIFE / COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

PRINCE SOLACE

PASTOR:

REV. STANLEY JENKINS

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AND HYMNS are available.

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, February 16

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

Monday, February 17

9:00 a.m. GIL classes
9:00 a.m.-4 AARP Tax assistance – Litten Hall
10:00 a.m. Staff meeting – Library
5:30 p.m. Yoga – Yoga room
6:30 p.m. Bells of First rehearsal – Sanctuary

Tuesday, February 18

9:00 a.m. GIL classes
9:00 a.m.-4 AARP Tax assistance – Litten Hall
2:30 p.m. Building & Grounds – Library
6:00 p.m. Mid-MI Photo Officers - Library
6:30 p.m. Glen Erin Pipe band rehearsal – Litten Hall
7:00 p.m. Capital City Chordsmen rehearsal - Chapel

Wednesday, February 19

9:00 a.m. GIL classes
10:30 a.m. Lectionary Bible study – Zoom
4:30 p.m. Lansing Children’s Choir rehearsal – Choir room
6:00 p.m. Wired Word Bible study - Zoom
5:30 p.m. Yoga – yoga room
7:00 p.m. Session meeting – GIL room

Thursday, February 20

9:00 a.m. GIL classes
6:30 p.m. Capitol City Quilt Guild – Litten Hall
7:00 p.m. Victory in Jesus Ministries Bible Study - Library
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, February 21

5:30 p.m. Yoga – Yoga room

Saturday, February 22

Sunday, February 23

10:00 a.m. Worship service - Sanctuary
11:15 a.m. Annual Congregational Meeting - Sanctuary
11:30 a.m. Adult Forum – Litten Hall
11:30 a.m. Children’s Faith Formation
12:30 p.m. Victory in Jesus Ministries Worship – Chapel

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

June Fitton, Steve and Victoria's mother and mother-in-law and a recently received member, passed away on Feb. 12. She was in hospice for about a month and had a peaceful transition to be with her Lord. There will be more information soon about her funeral.

TODAY'S SPECIAL MUSIC

We are blessed to hear Dr. Sergei Kvitko as he shares his musical gifts during our worship service. His recital tour and upcoming recording feature some of his favorite works, transcribed for solo piano. The opening piece, "**Die Seele Ruht in Jesu Händen**" (My Soul Rests in Jesus) from J.S. Bach's *Cantata No. 127*, will be a moment of reflection and peace.

As we enter this season of worship and meditation, we are honored to be a place of welcome and rest for all who love sacred music. We look forward to the beauty and inspiration of more of Sergei's musical offerings this spring. Join us as we lift our hearts in worship through music!

Show off your talent by yourself or with a group. A **talent show** will take place on **March 8, 2025, at 3 pm**. If you want to be in the show please contact Pam Blair blairkids3@yahoo.com The show needs an audience too, so if you are not in the show come to be wowed and enjoy the fun.

Do YOU attend Worship on Sunday Mornings?

Consider being a "**Lenten Candle Reader**" during the season of Lent!

The Worship Committee is looking for readers/candle snuffers for the Sundays in Lent (March/April) to lead a reading and prayer at the beginning of worship. Please see Gwen Botting to sign up for a Sunday!

Looking for ways to volunteer at Lansing First Presbyterian Church?

The Christian Education Committees (Adult and Youth) are hoping YOU might be interested in helping shape programming, events and materials for our church family.

Please see Ceci Anderson, Alyse Collins or Megan Higle for more information. YOU are welcome and needed!

Adult Education (Ceci Anderson, chair) meets, currently, on the First Monday at 2:00 p.m. (in person and on zoom).

- Adult Forum Programming
- Bible Studies
- Lent & Advent Devotionals
- Library
- Book Group

Youth Education (Alyse Collins, chair) meets, currently, on the First Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. (via zoom).

- Sunday School
- Child Care Room/Staff
- Children’s Moment
- Christmas Pageant
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Outdoor Playground
- Youth Fellowship w/Holt Presbyterian Church

The **Capitol City Chordsmen** are presenting their big annual show on **March 8, 2025, at 7:00 pm**. “Turn Your Radio On” will include quartets, the chorus, fun times, audience participation, Steve Warnaar’s quartet and a story about Matt Ottinger trying to get his first job. Good, old-fashioned entertainment for only \$22. Call 517-896-3804 for tickets.

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held on Sunday, February 23, 2025 after worship. The Annual report, including the financial report, will be presented along with the budget for the coming year. The pastor's terms of call and election of nominees to fill leadership vacancies will be voted on by members.

Per Capita Reminder: The annual per capita payment to the Lake Michigan Presbytery for 2025 is **\$42 per member**. This is for every member to consider. The check can go to the church noting “per capita.” Please consider paying a per capita for those who cannot afford to.

There will be a **Pottery Fundraiser to benefit our Food Pantry starting on February 28 and going through March 9**. There will be lots of pottery (79 pieces!) by Terri Froemel, and **other crafters are welcome to donate their wares** to generate funds for our Food Pantry. If you have items to donate, please contact Gwen Botting, co-chair, Worship, Music and the Arts Committee. GwenBotting9496@gmail.com or 616-755-2221. Church members

and the general public will be able to “purchase” an item for a donation – cash or check – in envelopes provided. More details coming up! This is a very generous gift from Terri, who attends worship online. Thank you, Terri, in advance!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (INCLUDING ADULT FORUM AND CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION)

11:15-12:15 (ish) after worship service in Litten Hall (adults) and Sunday School room (children)

Childcare is available through this time - please let Childcare staff know if this is needed.

February 16 TODAY!

Adult Forum - "The Journey Home" - join Elder Willye Bryan as she shares her recent travels to discover her ancestors in Cameroon.

Children's Faith Formation - “Do Not Fear! One Step At A Time” - Alyse Collins, teacher

February 23

Adult Forum - "The Journey Home (part 2)" - join Elder Willye Bryan as she shares her recent travels to discover her ancestors in Cameroon.

Children's Faith Formation - “Care for Creation: Appreciate God's Creation” - Pam Blair, teacher

March 2

Adult Forum - “Restore Hope” - join Dr. Eleanor Kue with ways we, as private citizens, can aid families in our community in search of resources.

Children's Faith Formation - Library & Story Time with Ms Megan (library)

March 9

Adult Forum - “Make Disciples: Live As A Disciple” - join Elder Ceci Anderson and Director of Christian Education, Megan Higl, as we begin our Multi-Generational Bible Study for the season of Lent. (Fruits of the Spirit)

Children's Faith Formation - “Make Disciples: Live As A Disciple” - Pam Blair, teacher