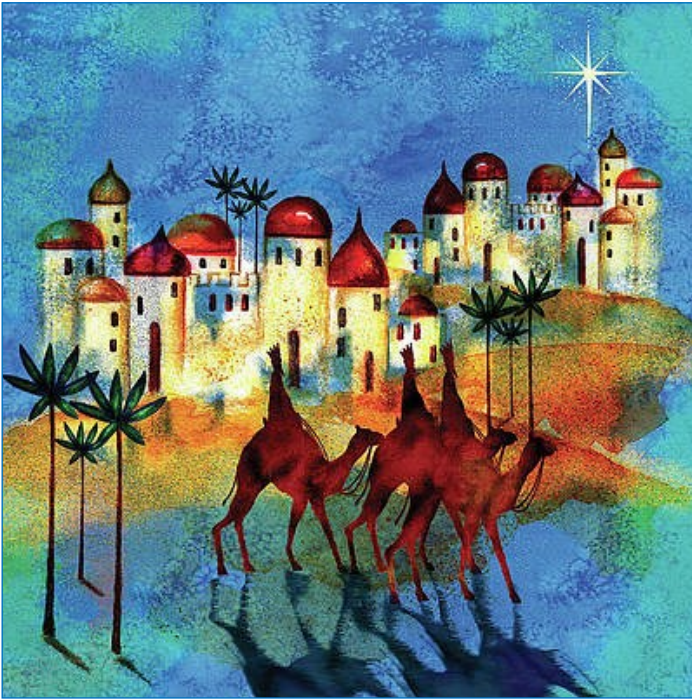


EPIPHANY SUNDAY JANUARY 2, 2022



THE PEOPLES CHURCH

200 W. Grand River Ave. | East Lansing, MI 48823
517.332.5073 | ThePeoplesChurch.com

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Worship Service: 10:30 a.m. -
in the Sanctuary & Livestream
on YouTube

There is no Sunday School
today

WEDNESDAY NIGHT PROGRAMMING

Our community meal
outreach program continues.
Individually prepared meals
can be picked up between
5:00—6:00 p.m. in the
Northwest entrance of the
building. For more details,
check out [The Peoples
Church Facebook page](#).

ASL Interpreted Service

The Peoples Church is proud
to welcome ASL interpreters
for our 10:30 a.m. worship
service and for special
events.

THE PEOPLES CHURCH STAFF

Office hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri., and Sunday mornings. Phones are monitored from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

Reception Desk (517) 332.5073

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe (517) 908.4442
Senior Pastor, United Church of Christ
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Rev. Dr. Devon Herrell (517) 908.4448
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Children's Christian Education Director
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Elizabeth Price (517) 908.4452
Communications Specialist
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Elisha Smith (517) 332.6264
Youth Director
esmith@thepeopleschurch.com

Dr. Jonathan Reed, Director of Music
Elizabeth Reed, Children's Music & Bell Choir Director
Judy Kabodian, Musician in Residence
Rev. Penny Swartz, Minister Emeritus

COUNCIL OF ELDERS

Elders meet at 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month in the Robertson Room. Kari Naghtin, Chair (elders@thepeopleschurch.com)

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Whether you are young or old, rich or poor, doubtful or hopeful...no matter where you are in your faith journey, **YOU** are welcome here.

For those with children, be assured that noises and wiggling are signs of a church that is alive and growing; your entire family is welcome in worship.

JOIN US REMOTELY!

To join the online
livestream of the
worship service, click
[here!](#)

To join the worship
service via telephone,
please dial
(844) 933-0517
and follow the prompts.

**MAKE A GIFT
ONLINE**

[CLICK HERE!](#)

Order of Service | January 2, 2022

Prelude

In Thee Is Gladness
Judy Kabodian, Organist

J.S. Bach

Please take this opportunity to fill out the black attendance pad found at the end of your pew.

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

***Call to Worship**

One Arise; shine, for your light has come!

All We are called out of our darkness into light.

One Lift up your eyes and look around.

All We rejoice in the gift of light.

One Come let us worship the God of light and joy and peace.

All We come to kneel at the cradle of the babe, the light incarnate.

One Arise and shine! Your light has come!

All Let us worship and celebrate Jesus!

***Gathering Hymn**

As with Gladness Men of Old (v. 1-3)

no. 150

As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold; as with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright; so, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led to thee.

As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to thy lowly bed, there to bend the knee before thee, whom heaven and earth adore; so may we with willing feet ever seek thy mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare at thy manger, rude and bare, so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy, all our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to thee, our heavenly king.

As with Gladness Men of Old
Text: William Chatterton Dax (1858)
Music: Conrad Kocher (1838)
Copyright: 2013
CL#: 1698862

Prayer of Confession

Almighty and merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you and one another in both our actions and our inactions. We recognize that in Jesus our light has come, yet often we choose to walk in the shadows and ignore the light. Gracious God, forgive our sins and remove from us the veil of darkness which shrouds our lives. Illumine us by your Word so we may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory and reflect your love in the world. Amen.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

***Sung Response**

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice (v. 3)

no. 132

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall. Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

The peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

Children's Moment

Solo

Love Came Down at Christmas
Ben Clements, Bass

arr. Gilbert Martin

Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely Love divine; Love was born at Christmas: Star and angels gave the sign. Worship we the Godhead, Love incarnate, Love divine; Worship we our Jesus: But wherewith for sacred sign? Love shall be our token; Love be yours and love be mine, Love to God and all men, Love for plea and gift and sign, Love for plea and gift and sign.

Scripture

Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon

“Late to the Party”

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

Hymn of Response

What Child is This (v. 1, 3)

no. 145

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping? This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him. The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him. Raise, raise the song on high. The virgin sings her lullaby.

Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

What Child is This
Text: William Chatterton Dix (1871)
Music: English ballad (16th Century)
Copyright: 2013
CLI#: 1698862

Pastoral Prayer 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Invitation to Give

Offertory

****Act of Praise***

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

****Prayer of Dedication***

God of light and promise, we bring our gifts to further your work in a dark world. May they bring your light to those overwhelmed by darkness, pain, and loneliness. Accept these gifts of money and time, indeed, the gift of our very selves. Let them shine for all to see, and be brought into the sphere of your love and righteousness. Amen.

Service of Communion

Invitation

Prayer of Consecration and Blessing

Words of Institution

Sharing of Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy One, you have spread the table and made us feel welcome. You have nourished our souls and healed our wounds. You have banished the darkness and warmed our hearts. May the peace and love we feel in this moment become the blessing we share with the world. We thank you for all these gifts and so much more. Amen.

****Sending Hymn***

On This Day Earth Shall Ring (v. 1, 3-4)

no. 141

On this day earth shall ring with the song children sing to the Lord, Christ our King, born on earth to save us; him the Father gave us. Id-e-o-o-o, id-e-o-o-o, id-e-o gloria in excelsis Deo!

God's bright star, o'er his head, wise men three to him led; kneel they low by his bed, lay their gifts before him, praise him and adore him. Id-e-o-o-o, id-e-o-o-o, id-e-o gloria in excelsis Deo!

On this day angels sing; with their song earth shall ring, praising Christ, heaven's King, born on earth to save us; peace and love he gave us. Id-e-o-o-o, id-e-o-o-o, id-e-o gloria in excelsis Deo!

***Benediction and Response**

Go now in peace. Never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of every day. Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true. Know God will guide you in all you do. Go now in love, and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see. God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

Postlude

Praise be to Thee, Lord Jesus Christ

Helmut Walcha

****Please stand as able***



WEEKLY HAPPENINGS AT THE PEOPLES CHURCH

PEOPLES FORUM: Peoples Forum will recess until **January 9th**—see you in the new year!

CAMPUS MINISTRY: Campus Ministry will recess until **January 12th**, when Campus Ministry will begin meeting Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. for dinner and bible study.

PEOPLES CHURCH YOUTH GROUP: PCYG will recess until **January 9th** —enjoy your break!

TUESDAY MORNING MEN’S GROUP: The Tuesday morning Men’s group is reading *Everyone’s a Theologian: An Introduction to Systematic Theology* by R.C. Sproul. We continue to meet at **7:30 a.m. on Tuesdays in the Robertson Room.**

SERMON PREVIEW GROUP: The sermon preview group will resume **Wednesday, January 5th, 2022** as we look at Luke 3:15-17, 21-22. Join us on zoom by clicking [here](#), or enter this meeting ID into your zoom app: 813 6414 0406.

WEDNESDAY NOON MEN’S GROUP: We have completed our study of *The Tyranny of Merit*. We will recess until **Wednesday, January 12th**, when we begin our study of *If God is Love, Don’t be a Jerk*, by John Pavlovitz.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LET’S PLAY GAMES! (POSTPONED)

Due to the rise in Covid-19 cases, we will be postponing our game night, originally scheduled for **January 2nd**, until February—we hope we are able to safely play games with each other soon!

FEBRUARY PORTAL

Submissions for the February *Portal* are due **January 15th**. Please send content to Elizabeth (eprice@thepeopleschurch.com).

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

If you are interested in becoming a member of The Peoples Church, or simply want to know more about this remarkable community of faith, consider joining our next New Members Class on **January 23rd at 11:30 a.m.** Please contact Robin Matheson at matheso4@msu.edu or 517-290-3223 to register or get more information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONTINUED)

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE

Chairs of Ministry: It is again time to assemble the annual report for Peoples Church. Ministry reports should include activities and achievements of the ministries and other events/information that you would like to share with our church family. The Annual Report of The Peoples Church provides well-documented records for our yearly activities and adds to the rich history of Peoples Church. Reports are due on **January 10th** and should be sent to Elizabeth at eprice@thepeopleschurch.com. Below you will find a list of who submitted a report in the 2019 or 2020 Annual Report:

- Senior Pastor
- Clerk
- Chairperson of the Elders
- Associate Pastor
- Children's Christian Education Director and Chairperson
- Campus Ministry Chairperson
- Peoples Church Youth Group Director
- Building & Grounds Chairperson
- Community Engagement Chairperson
- Finance Ministry Chairperson
- Personnel Chairperson
- Preschool Director
- Welcome Ministry Chairperson(s)
- Worship Ministry Chairperson
- Women of Peoples Church Chairperson