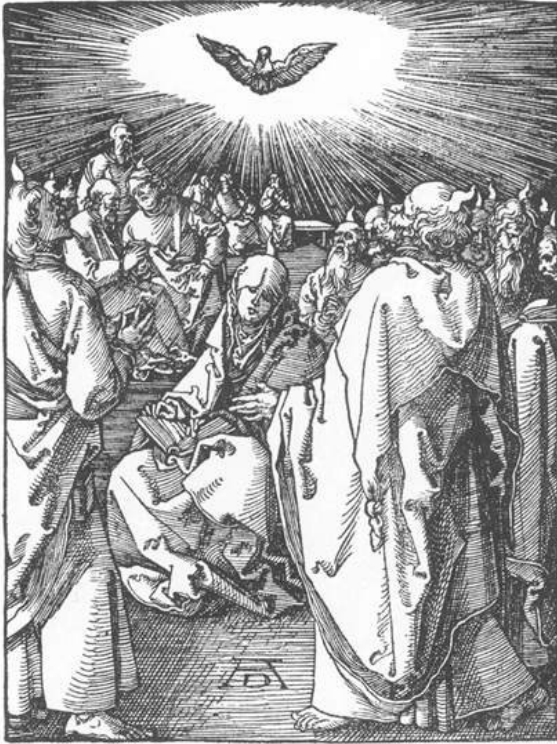


Sanctuary Service

January 15, 2023



THE PEOPLES CHURCH

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

517.332.5073 | ThePeoplesChurch.com

Sunday Schedule

Chapel Service: 8:30 a.m.

Sanctuary Service: 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary & Livestreamed on YouTube.

Sunday School is held after the Children's moment.

Nursery Care is provided for Children Under 3.

A Nursing Room is available for those who need it. Ask an usher or the Welcome Desk for directions.

W@PC

Wednesdays @ Peoples Church is a weekly community dinner followed by programming. Join us at 5:30 p.m. in the Social Hall!

ASL Interpreted Service

The Peoples Church is proud to welcome ASL interpreters for our Sunday worship service and for special events.

Sensory Tool Kit

A Sensory Tool Kit is reserved for individuals who get overstimulated during church services and need something to help calm the nervous system. The kit can be borrowed at the Welcome desk.

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

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Vince Watson
Events Coordinator
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Judy Kabodian, Musician in Residence

Elizabeth Reed, Children's Music & Bell Choir Director

Dr. Jonathan Reed, Director of Music

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. Diane Shafer, 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, dial (844) 933-0517 and follow prompts.

MAKE A GIFT ONLINE

[CLICK HERE!](#)



Order of Service | January 13, 2023

Prelude

I Love to Tell the Story
Judy Kabodian, organist

arr. Emma Lou Diemer

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: God has given us a Light for all nations.
May salvation reach every corner of the earth.

**All: Behold the Lamb of God,
Who takes away the sin of the world!**

One: Do not be distracted by the idols of the world.
Open your eyes and see God's presence in your life.

**All: Do not be distracted by the pointless chatter of the world.
We will open our ears and listen for God's still, small voice.**

One: God has rewritten the story of our lives.
We rejoice in the news of our salvation.

**All: God has put a new song in our hearts.
Let us sing to the Lord and rejoice!**

***Gathering Hymn**

To God Be the Glory (v. 1-2)

no. 634

*To God be the glory; great things he has done! So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin, and opened the life gate that all may go in.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let
the people rejoice! O come to the Father through Jesus the Son, and give him the glory: great
things he has done!*

*Great things he has taught us; great things he has done, and great our rejoicing through Jesus
the Son; but purer and higher and greater will be our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we
see. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the
Lord; let the people rejoice! O come to the Father through Jesus the Son, and give him the
glory: great things he has done!*

To God Be the Glory
Text: Fanny Jane Crosby
Music: William Howard Doane, 1875
Copyright: 2013
CLI#: 1698862

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, you have sent us prophets who testify to your light but we have ignored them and looked for something better. You have spoken to us in the words of the wise but we don't want to hear things that challenge us. Forgive our sins and all the ways we have separated ourselves from you. Let your light shine in us and through us so others might see your love. Amen.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

***Confession Response** Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates (v. 3) no. 93

**Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide.
Let me thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in me reveal.**

Passing the Peace of Christ

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

Children's Message

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

Anthem

Precious Lord, Take My Hand arr. Roy Ringwald
Sanctuary Choir, directed By Dr. Jonathan Reed

Precious Lord, take my hand, bring me home through the night, through the dark, through the storm, to thy light. I have been to the mount, I have seen the Promised Land: Precious Lord, precious Lord, take my hand. Precious Lord, take my hand, bring thy child home at last, where the strife and the pain all are past: I have dreamed a great dream that thy love shall rule our land: Precious Lord, precious Lord, take my hand. Precious Lord, take my hand, take thy child unto thee, with my dream of a world that is free. For that day when all flesh joins the glory thou hast planned, precious Lord, precious Lord, take my hand.

First Scripture

Isaiah 63: 7-9

Second Scripture

John 1: 29-34

Sermon

Unwelcome Messengers Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

Hymn of Response

Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice (v. 1-3)

no. 163

Wild and lone the prophet's voice echoes through the desert still, calling us to make a choice, bidding us to do God's will: "Turn from sin and be baptized; cleanse your heart and mind and soul. Quitting all the sins you prized, yield your life to God's control.

"Bear the fruit repentance sows: lives of justice, truth, and love. Trust no other claim than those; set your heart on things above. Soon the Lord will come in power, burning clean the threshing floor: then will flames the chaff devour; wheat alone shall fill God's store."

With such preaching, stark and bold, John proclaimed salvation near, and his timeless warnings hold words of hope to all who hear. So we dare to journey on, led by faith through ways untrod, till we come at last like John to behold the Lamb of God.

Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice
Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., 1985
Music: Joseph Parry, 1876
Copyright: 2013
CL#H: 1698862

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

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



To make a gift online, please scan the QR code.

***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

With grateful and cheerful hearts, we offer our gifts to you, O God. Thank you for providing us with more than enough to share. Bless these gifts and help us to use them wisely for the benefit of others. We pray and serve in Jesus' name. Amen.

***Sending Hymn** Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart (1, 3-5) no. 688

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart; wean it from earth; through all its pulses move; stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art, and make me love thee as I ought to love.

Hast thou not bid us love thee, God and King; all, all thine own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind? I see thy cross; there teach my heart to cling. O let me seek thee, and O let me find!

Teach me to feel that thou art always nigh. Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear, to check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh. Teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

Teach me to love thee as thine angels love, one holy passion filling all my frame; the baptism of the heaven-descended Dove, my heart an altar, and thy love the flame.

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

Text: George Croly, 1867

Music: Frederick Cook Atkinson, 1870

Copyright: 2013

CCLI#: 1698862

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response**

Postlude

A Festal Fanfare
Judy Kabodian, organist

J.S. Bach

Floral Dedication



Today's Floral arrangements are a gift from Frank Marxer

In memory of Celia Wycoff-Marxer and Carol Turner

PROGRAMMING AT THE PEOPLES CHURCH

COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP: After the service, please join us in Friendship Hall for freshly brewed coffee, sweet treats, and fellowship!

CAMPUS MINISTRY: Campus Ministry will meet after church today at Noodles & Company for lunch.

TAIZE SERVICE: This month's Taizé Service is January 22nd at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel. Services consist of repetitive and meditative singing, prayer, Scripture, and silence. It is a powerful, quiet, contemplative worship experience. This service is inter-denominational and all are welcome.

ACHE: Adults Connecting and Having Events is a young adult group that will meet on January 19th & 26th this month. To keep up with events, follow ache_thepeopleschurch on Instagram.

PUB THEOLOGY: We meet on the second Thursday each month at Crunchy's to engage in conversation about faith, life, and what is happening in the world.

ENGAGING THE WORD: Led by Pastor Shawnthea, this group meets in-person on Mondays from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Robertson Room and Wednesdays on Zoom from 9 to 10 a.m. The Zoom link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88178100531>. **Bible Study is paused on MLK Day (January 16th).**

WEDNESDAYS @ PEOPLES CHURCH: A community dinner is hosted every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. in the Social Hall, followed by your choice of dance aerobics with Shawnthea Monroe, or Faith & the News bible study in the library. We hope you can join us for Wednesdays @ Peoples Church!

TUESDAY MORNING MEN'S GROUP: The Tuesday Morning Men's Group is currently reading *The Divine Conspiracy: Rediscovering Our Hidden Life in God* by Dallas Willard. We continue to meet at 7:30 a.m. on Tuesdays in the Robertson Room.

MEN'S WEDNESDAY NOON DISCUSSION GROUP: Please join us in the Robertson Room for our discussion of John Pavlovitz's book "A Bigger Table".

CHICs (CONNECTED HEARTS IN CHRIST): In January, CHiCs (Connected Hearts in Christ) Women's Small Group will be reading *Accidental Saints* by Nadia Bolz-Weber. Lately, many have become disillusioned with Christianity. This book demonstrates what happens when ordinary people share communion, read scripture together and tell each other the reality of their lives. This book is an account of their journey toward wholeness and will ring true for both believers and skeptics. If you are interested in joining the group or have questions, contact Beth Lundy at lundybb@comcast.net or (610)246-0029.

VOICES OF THE COMMUNITY: On Sunday, February 5th, Cheryl Ronk will present 'The Borrowing Brilliance of Lung Transplantation' in the Robertson Room at 9:30 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: The 2023 Congregational Meeting is a chance for members to review, discuss, and approve the budget for 2023. The meeting will be held during 10:30 worship on January 29th.

READING PEOPLE: The Reading People will meet on January 19th in the Robertson Room from 1:30 to 3 p.m. to discuss *The Henna Artist* by Alka Joshi. Led by Liz Raduazo, we will discuss this award winning novel about Lakshmi, a woman who escapes from an abusive marriage and becomes a highly regarded henna artist and confidante to the wealthy women of Jaipur, while her own secrets remain hidden. We invite you to join us for a lively discussion!

REBEKAH-HANNAH CIRCLE MEETING: We will gather for lunch and fellowship at Coral Gables on January 25th at 12 p.m.



EMPTY BOWLS

CHILI COOK-OFF



Let's add some warmth to these c-c-cold winter days! Join us on Sunday, February 12 in the Snider Social Hall following 10:30 worship for the EMPTY BOWLS Chili Cook-Off. Members of the Greater Lansing Potters Guild have generously donated some of their best hand-crafted bowls for sale, with proceeds benefitting the hungry in the Greater Lansing Area. We'll have a friendly competition of homemade chili tasting, complete with prizes for each of three winners in two divisions: Youth and Adult (18+). This is a popular event that warms hearts, souls, and tummies on a February afternoon! We seek chili chefs, servers, event volunteers, and of course, tasters! The Chili Cook-Off is an occasion not to be missed! If you are interested in making chili, please reach out to Julie Pierce (Juliep2315@gmail.com or text 517.897.0943). If you would like to volunteer, reach out to Robin Matheson (Matheso4@msu.edu or text 517.290.3223).