

SUNDAY WORSHIP

FEBRUARY 27, 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

Nursery Care is available for
children under 3

Sunday School begins after the
Children's Moment

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
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
smonroe@thepeopleschurch.com

Rev. Dr. Devon Herrell (517) 908.4448

Associate Pastor, United Methodist
dherrell@thepeopleschurch.com

Jess Beurkens (517) 908.4446

Finance Administrator
jbeurkens@thepeopleschurch.com

Dana Johnson (517) 908.4449

Preschool Director
djohnson@thepeopleschurch.com

Beth Lundy (517) 908.4453

Membership Coordinator
blundy@thepeopleschurch.com

Zack Matthews (517) 908.4444

Facility Director
zmatthews@thepeopleschurch.com

Kathi Mitchell (517) 908.4447

Children's Christian Education Director
kmitchell@thepeopleschurch.com

Elizabeth Price (517) 908.4452

Communications Specialist
eprice@thepeopleschurch.com

Elisha Smith (517) 332.6264

Youth Director
esmith@thepeopleschurch.com

Judy Kabodian, Musician in Residence

Elizabeth Reed, Children's Music & Bell Choir Director

Dr. Jonathan Reed, Director of Music

Todd Smith, Hospitality Coordinator

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. Bev Mason, 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 | February 27, 2022

Prelude

Oh! Had I Jubal's Lyre
Judy Kabodian, Organist

G.F. Handel

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 Come into God's presence and prepare to be amazed.
God is with us: to challenge, to comfort, to heal.

**All We have entered God's house ready to be amazed.
Our hearts and minds are open to receive what the Lord offers.**

One Come into Christ's presence and prepare to be transformed.
Christ is in our midst: to guide, to teach and to bless.

**All Jesus is the One who turns our darkness into light.
We will wait upon the Lord and pray for transformation.**

One Children of God, let us rejoice and sing!
Let us praise the Lord and all that God has done!

**All Rejoice and sing for God is here!
Worship the Lord and sing God's praises!**

***Gathering Hymn**

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty (v. 1-3)

no. 35

Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation! All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near; join me in glad adoration!

Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth, shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth! Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him! All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him! Let the amen sound from his people again; gladly for aye we adore him.

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty
Text: Joachim Neander (1680)
Music: Stralsund Erneuwerten Gesangbuch (1665)
Copyright: 2013
CL#: 1698862

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we confess that we do not trust you fully. We put our hope in worldly gain and human promises, then find ourselves defeated and lost when things fall apart. You have loved us fully and unconditionally but we do not seek your love nor do we always love you in return. On this Transfiguration Sunday, we admit we do not welcome transformation because we fear what it would require of us. We would like to be left to our own devices, but you love us too much to do that. Forgive us, Holy One. Help us to trust in your love and in your call. May we, like those first disciples, rise up and not be afraid. We pray all this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

****Confession Response***

Spirit of the Living God

no. 288

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Passing the Peace of Christ

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

Children's Moment

Anthem

River In Judea

arr. John Leavitt

Sanctuary Choir, Directed by Dr. Jonathan Reed

Oftentimes I dream of music, and the river that freely flows. And it sings a song sweeter than honey, one everybody knows. Late at night I hear it singing then again when I wake at dawn. And it fills me up with hope and goodwill, the will to go on, go on. **Refrain: There is a river in Judea that I heard of long ago. It's a singing, ringing river that my soul cries out to know.** I believe it keeps on Travelin' but it rests on the Sabbath day. And the time when it pauses in stillness, I almost hear it pray. When I'm weary and downhearted, how I long for the song it sings, for the calm within its gentle blue, the peace that it brings, it brings. **Refrain.** May the time not be too distant when we meet by the river shore. 'Til then dream of that wonderful day as we sing once more, once more: **Refrain.**

Scripture

John 2:1-11

Sermon

"The Miracle of Transformation"

Rev. Brian Johnson

Hymn of Response

More Love to Thee, O Christ (v. 1-3)

no. 828

More love to thee, O Christ, more love to thee! Hear thou the prayer I make on bended knee.

This is my earnest plea: more love, O Christ, to thee; more love to thee, more love to thee!

Once earthly joy I craved, sought peace and rest. Now thee alone I seek; give what is best.

This all my prayer shall be: more love, O Christ to thee; more love to thee, more love to thee!

Then shall my latest breath whisper thy praise; this be the parting cry my heart shall raise.

This still its prayer shall be: more love, O Christ, to thee; more love to thee, more love to thee!

More Love to Thee, O Christ
Text: Elizabeth Payson Prentiss (1856)
Music: William Howard Doane (1870)
Copyright: 2013
CLI#: 1698862

Induction of New Members

Alan DeGraw — Julie DeGraw — Stephanie Klein — Linda Forward

Profession of Faith

We believe the teachings of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and with the help of God, we will strive daily to live the life of purity, unselfishness, and service which He exemplified to the world.

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***

Gracious God, thank you for the blessings you have given us year after year. Help us to wisely use the time we have been given. Lead us and show us how to serve you through all the people around us who are in need. Amen.

****Sending Hymn***

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy! (v. 1-4)

no. 305

Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song! For Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long! In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns supreme, empowering us to catch the vision, dream the dream! In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Let courage be our friend; let wisdom be our guide, as we in mission magnify the Crucified! In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the lord!

Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song! For Christ the Lord has triumphed o'er the ages long! In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!
Text: Brian Dill (1988)
Music: John Darwall (1770)
Copyright: 2013
CLI#: 1698862

****Benediction***

****Benediction Response***

Postlude

Go Forth in Praise

Eugene Englert

WEEKLY HAPPENINGS AT THE PEOPLES CHURCH

PEOPLES FORUM: March 6th, join us as we hear from Dana Johnson, Director of The Peoples Church Preschool. Presentations are held in the Robertson Room and over Zoom from 9:30—10:15 a.m. If you would like to join online, go to zoom.us, click join meeting, **Meeting ID: 843 6791 4516, Passcode: 907964.**

CAMPUS MINISTRY: Join us on Sundays following service for Lunch and Lounge—a time of fellowship, food and rest. Campus Ministry also meets at **6:30 p.m. on Wednesday nights** for Bible Study! Theology on Tap has been cancelled for the month of February.

PEOPLES CHURCH YOUTH GROUP: We have resumed **in-person meetings on Sunday evenings**. Reach out to Elisha Smith for more details: esmith@thepeopleschurch.com.

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.**

TOWN & GOWN & GREAT DECISIONS: Town and Gown and Great Decisions will sponsor the upcoming session with Devon Akmon, Director of the MSU Museum and Science Gallery on "*Where We Go From Here: A New Direction for the MSU Museum*" **next Tuesday, March 1st**. All presentations are held in the **Robertson Room and over Zoom**. To join online, click [here](#) (online bulletin only), and when prompted enter passcode: Town&Gown. Town and Gown is held from 5-6:20 p.m. on Tuesday evenings. View upcoming presentations [here](#) (online bulletin only). Dr. John Waller, program director, sends a weekly email announcing the Town & Gown speaker and topic, and Zoom information. To register, go to the Age Alive home page: <https://www.agealive.org>. Scroll down half way, and you will see information on the Town & Gown series and how to register to receive weekly notices and the Zoom link for each session.

SERMON PREVIEW GROUP: The sermon preview group will meet **Wednesday, March 2nd at 9 a.m.** to review **Joel 2:1-2, 12-17**. Join us on zoom by clicking [here](#), or enter the meeting ID into your zoom app: 813 6414 0406.

WEDNESDAY NOON MEN'S GROUP: We continue our study of *If God is Love, Don't be a Jerk* by John Pavlovitz.

CHiCs (CONNECTED HEARTS IN CHRIST) WOMEN'S GROUP: We meet on **Thursday evenings from 7-8:30 p.m. both by zoom and/or in person**. For more information about CHiCs or to join the group, contact Beth Lundy at lundybb@comcast.net or 610-246-0029.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MORE ON OUR GUEST SPEAKER

The Peoples Church is grateful to have guest speaker Rev. Brian Johnson with us today!

Rev. Brian Johnson is a graduate of Olivet Nazarene University and Northern Baptist Theological Seminary where he earned a Master of Divinity. Prior to his appointment as the Executive Minister of ABC-MI he was an Associate Pastor in Illinois for 5 years and Senior Pastor of Crossroads Community Church in Stockbridge, MI for over 15 years where he led a significant turnaround. In recent years, Rev. Johnson also served as a Region Board member and a Contract Consultant for ABC-MI; which is where God began to birth in his heart a vision for seeing an entire region of churches realize a transformative experience that causes the Kingdom of God to be manifest. He is married to Erika Johnson, a Benefits Administrator for the University of Michigan and worship leader for Crossroads Community Church. Together, they have two daughters, Eliana and Elisabeth. In his spare time, Rev. Johnson enjoys investing in the lives of young men by coaching High School Boys Basketball in his community.

PREPARING FOR LENT

The Community Lenten Devotional is available online and in print by today. There are multiple ways to participate on **Ash Wednesday (March 2nd)**. Drive Thru ashes will be available from **8 a.m.—2 p.m. via the drop off loop on the North Side of the Church**—off Albert Street. An in person **Ash Wednesday** service will be held in the **sanctuary at 7 p.m.** We continue to broadcast all services on our YouTube channel.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Confirmation classes will **begin March 6th, from 5:30-6:30 p.m.** If you know a middle school aged child who would be interested, please reach out to Elisha Smith (esmith@thepeopleschurch.com) or Rev. Dr. Devon Herrell (dherrell@thepeopleschurch.com).

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY PICTURES

Unfortunately, we are not able to use pictures from the last pictorial directory. However, you will be included in the directory even if you did not have a recent picture taken. If you do not want to be included, please contact Beth Lundy at blundy@thepeopleschurch.com, or call 517-908-4453.

COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP



Coffee hour will return following the conclusion of service on **March 13th in Friendship Hall!** We hope you will join us!



Every Wednesday in Lent, Rev. Dr. Devon Herrell invites you to walk the labyrinth in the **Snider Social Hall from 4-7 p.m.** She will have resources for you to participate and options for guided meditation. Just bring yourself, an open mind, and an adventurous spirit! We hope you will join us. For more information about Praying the Labyrinth Way, view our February *Portal*.



Take a few moments to visit the new Fine Arts Committee exhibit by Michigan artist Sharon McAuley which is now on display throughout the halls bordering the church Sanctuary and the Thomsen case across from the library. Additional pieces can be found in the Kiosk adjacent to the church office. The exhibit is titled "This Re-birthing: Coming Alive Painting with Oils" and grew out of personal loss as well as the political, cultural and environmental crises afflicting our world. Eight months prior to the onset of the Covid pandemic, Sharon's husband, Frank passed away and in that turbulent world she was seeking hope, renewed vitality and a re-emergence of life. That culminated in a creative explosion — she put down her brushes and began painting with her hands. The exhibit features nearly 30 pieces resulting from that effort. It features both brush-applied and hand-applied oil work that portray healing, hope and a rebirth of life. The exhibit will be on display through May 19. Pick up a catalog for the exhibit in the NW entrance of the church. Pieces in the exhibit are for sale. Contact the Church office for a price list and information about how to contact the artist.