

Sanctuary Service, May 5, 2024



THE PEOPLES CHURCH

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

517.332.5073 | ThePeoplesChurch.com

SERVICE INFORMATION

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

Sunday School will take place after the Children's Moment.

Professional 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.

Please join us after the service in our front lobby for coffee hour and fellowship!

LISTENING DEVICES

We now offer listening devices that amplify sound from stage microphones, which are available upon request.

ASL INTERPRETED SERVICE

The Peoples Church is proud to welcome American Sign Language interpreters for our Sunday worship services

SENSORY TOOL KIT

A Sensory Tool Kit is reserved for individuals who get over-stimulated 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

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe (517) 908.4442
Senior Pastor, United Church of Christ
smonroe@thepeopleschurch.com

Rev. Haley Hansen (517) 908.4448
Associate Pastor, United Methodist Church
hhansen@thepeopleschurch.com

Alexa Hayes-Murray (517) 908.4447
Children's Christian Education Director
ahayes-murray@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

Elisha Smith (517) 332.6264
Youth Director
esmith@thepeopleschurch.com

Samantha Stewart (517) 908.4452
Communications Specialist
sstewart@thepeopleschurch.com

Vince Watson
Events Coordinator
vwatson@thepeopleschurch.com

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. John Lindley, Chair (elders@thepeopleschurch.com).

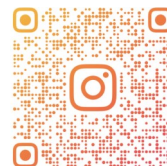
ALL ARE WELCOME!

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, you can find **The Peoples Church of East Lansing on YouTube!**

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



@TPCEASTLANSING



THE PEOPLES CHURCH
OF EAST LANSING

MAKE A GIFT ONLINE
HERE!



Order of Service | May 5, 2024

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

Prelude

Andantino
Judy Kabodian, Organist

Claude Debussy

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

***Call to Worship**

One Beloved, come into God's house and worship our Creator.
No matter what road you are on, you are welcome here.

**All We open our hearts to receive the Spirit.
May we learn to love as Jesus loves.**

One We come as we are, with questions and doubts.
God knows our hearts and loves us still.

**All May the Spirit of the Living God be present in this time.
In hope and faith, we gather to worship the Lord.**

***Gathering Hymn**

"God Is Here!" (v. 1-3)

no. 409

God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer, may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.

Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace; here are table, font, and pulpit; here the cross has central place. Here, in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech, here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.

Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold; here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old. Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you. You call us, but we have not listened. You have cried out to us through the suffering of others and we have pretended not to hear. Wrapped up in our own concerns, we have not kept our eyes on Jesus. We have been quiet when we should have shouted; we have been passive when we should have acted. As you forgive our sins, help us to truly repent and change our ways. We pray all this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

****Confession Response***

"Thine Is The Glory"

***Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.***

Passing the Peace of Christ

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

Children's Moment

Choir Anthem

"O Love"

Elaine Hagenberg

Sanctuary Choir directed by Dr. Sandra Snow

O Love, O Love, that will not let me go, O Love, I rest my weary soul in thee; I give thee back the life I owe, that in thy ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be. O Joy, O Joy, that seeks me through the pain, I cannot close my heart to thee; I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain that morn shall tearless be. O Love, O Love, that will not let me go, O Love, I rest my weary soul in thee; I give thee back the life I owe, I give thee back the life I owe and in thy ocean depths its flow shall richer, fuller be, that morn shall tearless be. O Love, O Love, that will not let me go.

Scripture Reading

Acts 10:44-48

Sermon

"Holding Back the Water"

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

Wash, O God, your sons and daughters, newborn creatures of your womb. Number them among your people, raised like Christ from death and tomb. Weave them garments bright and sparkling; compass them with love and light. Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit, holy dove and heart's delight.

Every day we need your nurture; by your milk may we be fed. Let us join your feast, partaking cup of blessing, living bread. God, renew us; guide our footsteps, free from sin and all its snares, one with Christ in living, dying, by your Spirit, children, heirs.

O how deep your holy wisdom! Unimagined, all your ways! To your name be glory, honor! With our lives we worship, praise! We your people stand before you, water-washed and Spirit-born. By your grace, our lives we offer. Recreate us, God, transform!

Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters
Text: Ruth Duck, 1987
Music: The Sacred Harp, 1844
Copyright: 2013
CL# 1098862

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 wonders, we respond to your call with these gifts. Send us out into the world to bring healing to the wounded, hope to the despairing, and help to anyone in need. By our giving, may our lives be transformed. We do all this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Service of Communion

Invitation

Prayer of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of history and hope, we leave this table of communion knowing that we are always connected with you and with all your beloved children. Through your Spirit, encourage us as we face the challenges of this age. Amen.

****Sending Hymn***

"I've Got Peace like a River" (v. 1-3)

no. 623

I've got peace like a river; I've got peace like a river; I've got peace like a river, in my soul.

Repeat

I've got joy like a fountain; I've got joy like a fountain; I've got joy like a fountain, in my soul.

Repeat

I've got love like an ocean; I've got love like an ocean; I've got love like an ocean, in my soul.

Repeat

I've Got Peace like a River
Text and Music: African American Spiritual
Copyright: 2013
CL# 1598662

****Benediction***

****Benediction 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

Overture in G Major

G.F. Handel

Judy Kabodian, Organist

USED BOOK & JEWELRY SALE REMINDERS

The Used Book and Jewelry Sale is slated for May 18 to May 19!

Jewelry donations are accepted **year round** and can be dropped off in the Main Church Office.

The Library Committee is collecting used books in good condition for the sale.

Donations can be placed on the **stage in the Snider Social Hall**. *We ask that you do not donate textbooks, magazines, encyclopedias, or special interest sets!*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JONATHAN REED'S RETIREMENT PARTY: On **Saturday, May 11th, from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**, we are hosting a reception in honor of Jonathan Reed at The Peoples Church. There will be appetizers, music, stories and laughter – some of Jonathan's favorite things! While there is no cost for this event, we do ask that you RSVP to The Peoples Church (office@thepeopleschurch.com). Donations will be gratefully accepted to offset costs.

CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS: The Community Engagement Ministry has chosen to provide a \$300 scholarship to any child or youth in our congregation who would like to attend summer camp administered by one of our 4 denominations. Those interested should register themselves. The scholarship will be reimbursed, or we can send a check if there is time. They are provided on a first come-first serve basis. To receive an application, contact Kim Gools at kgoals@yahoo.com.

NEW MEMBER INTEREST CLASS: If you are interested in learning more about The Peoples Church and the membership process, please attend our New Member Interest Class **today, following the 10:30 a.m. service in the Centennial Room** (in the basement just inside the Snider Social Hall). The class lasts about an hour. Childcare provided upon request. Please let Beth Lundy, blundy@thepeopleschurch.com, know if you are interested and/or have any questions.

BOOKS, JEWELRY & MORE SALE: Our big "Used Books, Jewelry & More Sale!" is just a month away and scheduled for **May 18-19th in Snider Social Hall and the Gym**. We are still accepting donations and need a few more volunteers to help work the sale. If you love thrifting or enjoy picking, you'll love browsing our sale while also helping others shop! Shifts can be 2-4 hours long or you can stay all day! Please email Jessica Eysselinck with your day/time requests at jess@eysselinck.com.

THE FISCHBACH LIBRARY COMMITTEE BOOK SCHOLARSHIP: The Library Committee established a \$300 Book Scholarship to be awarded to a graduating high school senior for the class of 2024. The committee received two outstanding applications and is pleased to announce that we will award two scholarships this year. Congratulations to Haley Phillips and Cooper Mellor. We wish you the best as you continue your education!

THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE: The Library Committee is collecting used books in good condition for the Book Sale. **Donations can be placed on the Stage in the Snider Social Hall.** We ask that you do not donate textbooks, magazines, encyclopedias, or special interest sets. Non-fiction and children's books are greatly appreciated! If you'd like to volunteer or if you have any questions, please contact Susan Godfrey at s.godfrey@sbcglobal.net.

IN-PERSON GREAT DECISIONS: We invite you to come to our first post-COVID Great Decisions **Thursday, May 9 from 4:30 to 6 p.m. in the Robertson Room**. In conjunction with the Peoples Church Earth Stewardship Committee, we are pleased to welcome our speaker, Omar Gates, a Climatologist for GLISA, the Great Lakes Integrated Sciences and Assessments Center at U of M. He will address the topic of climate change in the Great Lakes region, with a focus on Michigan; this will be followed by a Q and A session. All are welcome!

CARDBOARD PROPHETS DONATIONS: In 2024, The Peoples Church will be collecting a specific item each month to donate to Cardboard prophets, a Lansing-based group that provides help to the homeless. We are not asking for new items, but items that are donated must be laundered and in good repair. If you have gently used and clean items, please place them in the blue plastic storage bin located near the church office on the east side of the sanctuary. **In May**, we are collecting shoes and boots.

PROGRAMMING AT THE PEOPLES CHURCH

ACHE: Adults Connecting & Having Events is a group for young adults that meets twice a month for events and outings. For more information about ACHE, email Pastor Haley at hhansen@thepeopleschurch.com, and follow “ACHE The Peoples Church” on Facebook and “ache_thepeopleschurch” on Instagram.

CHICs: ‘Connected Hearts In Christ’ (CHICs) is back! CHICs will meet in the Robertson Room on the **second Thursday of the month, 6:30-8:30 p.m.** CHICs is a women’s group that meets for devotionals, discussion, and fellowship. To learn more about CHICs, please email Traci Dudley at tracidudley@gmail.com, or Susan Godfrey at s.godfrey@sbcglobal.net.

COLLEGE MINISTRY: Campus/College Ministry is specifically for college age folks to meet and connect for fellowship and special events. Campus Ministry usually meets twice a month for events and outings. For more information, contact Pastor Haley by emailing hhansen@thepeopleschurch.com, and follow Peoples Church Campus Ministry on Facebook and Instagram.

ENGAGING THE WORD: Pastor Shawnthea leads the in-person book study group on **Mondays from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Robertson Room**, and the Wednesday Bible study over Zoom from 9 to 10 a.m. The Zoom link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81926804577>. This week’s passage is Luke 24:44-53.

PEOPLES CHURCH YOUTH GROUP: Today, PCYG will have lunch at **12 p.m. to 12:45 p.m.** and then Youth Choir/Bells from **12:25 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.** After that will be lunch and printmaking—cards from **1:45 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.** Lastly, D&D Club will take place at **3:45 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.**

PORCH OF HEAVEN: Porch of Heaven is a Lectio Divina service that takes place **Mondays at 6:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary Balcony.** Lectio Divina is a long-practiced method of reading scripture that can inspire new insights into biblical texts. It involves silence, mindfulness, and sharing. If you are curious about this new worship opportunity, try visiting Porch of Heaven, or contact Tom Schaberg by emailing taschaberg1@gmail.com for more information.

PUB THEOLOGY: Pub Theology is a once a month gathering at HopCat to engage in conversation about faith, life, and what is happening in the world. The next Pub Theology gathering will be this **Tuesday, May 7 at 6:30 p.m.**

TAIZE SERVICE: Our last Taize service until fall is **May 19 at 6:30 p.m.** Taize services take place on the fourth Sunday of every month, and consist of repetitive and meditative singing, prayer, scripture, and silence. It is a powerful, quiet, contemplative worship experience. All are welcome.

TUESDAY MORNING MEN’S GROUP: The Tuesday Men’s Group are discussing the book, “Short Stories by Jesus—The Enigmatic Parables of a Controversial Rabbi” by Amy Jill-Levine, **Tuesday in the Robertson Room at 7:30 a.m.**

WEDNESDAY MEN’S GROUP: Join the men’s Wednesday discussion group that meets **every Wednesday at noon in The Robertson Room** for good conversation and donuts. The group is currently reading ‘*Letters to Malcolm*’ by C. S. Lewis. We will continue to meet through Wednesday, May 22nd and then will be taking a break until September.

WEDNESDAYS @ PEOPLES CHURCH: Join us **every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.** in Snider Social Hall for a community dinner! Dance aerobics will be held in the gym at **6 p.m.** and Pastor Haley will be hosting her Bible study at **6:30 p.m.** this week.