

Sanctuary Service

July 16, 2023



THE PEOPLES CHURCH

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

Sunday (Summer) Schedule

Sanctuary Service: 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary & Livestreamed on YouTube.

Sunday School takes place 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

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe (517) 908.4442
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Elisha Smith (517) 332.6264
Youth Director
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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. 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, 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 | July 16, 2023

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

Prelude In the Garden arr. Dale Wood
Judy Kabodian, Organist

Welcome Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

*Call to Worship

One God's Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.
Open yourselves to receive the Word God offers.

**All We choose to follow the light Christ offers.
We open ourselves to what God will teach.**

One There is more to this world than meets the eye.
Let us look for signs of the Spirit.

**All With faith in the present and hope for the future,
We come to worship and praise the Lord.**

***Gathering Hymn** Thy Word is a Lamp Unto My Feet no. 458

Refrain: *Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and light unto my path.*

When I feel afraid, and I think I've lost my way, still you're there right beside me. Nothing will I fear as long as you are near. Please be near me to the end.

Refrain

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee
Text: Henry van Dyke (1907)
Music: Ludwig van Beethoven (1824)
Copyright: 2013
CLI#: 1698862

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we know you understand us more deeply than we understand ourselves. You know how much the cares of this life weigh us down. Our thoughts and actions are often shortsighted. We fail to value the wonder of life all around us, the gift of family and friends, the amazing reality of your Spirit dwelling in us. Forgive us for taking so much for granted. Forgive all the ways we have turned away from you. Make our souls rich soil in which your Word can take root. We pray all this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

***Confession Response** Breathe on Me, Breath of God no. 286

Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life anew, that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.

Passing the Peace of Christ

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

Sacrament of Baptism

Reece Anderson Murray
Parents: Alexa Haye-Murray & Andrew Murray

Elder (to the Congregation):

Do we, the members of the church of Jesus Christ present here at The Peoples Church, promise to be Reece's family of faith, now and always, offering whatever he might need to better serve and follow our Lord and Savior? And do we promise to encourage him to walk humbly with his Lord all the days of his life?

Congregation: By God's grace, we do.

Elder: Brothers and sisters, we now celebrate the gift of grace in the Sacrament of Baptism.

Congregation: There is one body and one spirit. There is one hope in God's call to us. There is one Lord, one faith, and one baptism, one God, creator of us all.

Pastor: Reece Anderson Murray, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, One God, Mother of us all. Amen.

Congregation: We thank you, God, for Reece! Bless him and keep him, now and forever. Amen.

Special Music

Every Time I Feel the Spirit
Bell Quartet: Kyle Dymond, Sarah Dymond,
Cory McElwee, Jan Small

Kevin McChesney

Scripture Reading

Matthew 13:1-9

Sermon

“How Does Your Garden Grow?” Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

Hymn of Response

God of the Fertile Fields (v. 1-4)

no. 714

God of the fertile fields, shaper of earth that yields our daily bread: forth from your bounteous hand come gifts your love has planned, that all in every land be clothed and fed.

We would be stewards true, holding in trust from you all that you give; help us in love to share, teach us like you to care for people everywhere, that all may live.

As grows the hidden seed to fruit that serves our need, so your reign grows. Let all our toil be used, no gift of yours abused, no humble task refused your love bestows.

God of the country side, dear to the Christ who died to make us one: we pledge our lives anew in faithful love to you. Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.

God of the Fertile Fields
Text: Georgia Harkness, 1955, alt.
Music: Felice de Giardini, 1769
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



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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ASL INTERPRETERS NEEDED: We are looking for more ASL (American Sign Language) interpreters to help interpret during our services. Duties would include interpreting during our Sunday worship services, holiday services, and some special events. If you (or someone you know) are an ASL interpreter and are interested in serving in this vital ministry at The Peoples Church, please contact us by emailing office@thepeopleschurch.com, or by calling our office, (517) 332-5073, for more details about scheduling and compensation.

HELP NEEDED: Alexa is looking for more helpers in our Sunday School ministry! If you enjoy working with children and wouldn't mind volunteering on occasional Sundays, email Alexa at ahayes-murray@thepeopleschurch.com.

COUNCIL OF ELDERS: The Peoples Church is looking for members who would like to serve as an elder or a member of the Nominations Committee:

Council of Elders (Three-year term): The Elder Council is responsible for the spiritual, physical, and overall welfare of the church. The council is comprised of 15 members, the clerk, and the treasurer, all of which are elected from active members of the church at the annual Fall Election Meeting. In addition, there is one representative selected from each denomination. The typical meeting schedule of the council includes a ministry meeting on the second or third Tuesday of each month, and the elders' meeting on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Elders are elected to serve a three-year term and can serve two terms consecutively. New members take office January 1.

Nomination Committee: The Nomination Committee is comprised of eight members and typically meets annually in August to recruit and select candidates for the Elder Council and the Nomination Committee slate for the congregation to vote on during the Fall Election Meeting. Members are selected to serve two-year terms, and must take a year off before serving again on the committee.

UNDIE SUNDAYS: Undie Sundays are returning, collection begins **June 11 and ends August 13**. Community Engagement will be collecting NEW underwear (underpants, socks, & tees) children, K-12. Look for the red kids stuff basket at the Welcome Desk to leave donations, or they may be dropped off in TPC office. All items will be delivered to the LOVE Clothing Closet at Judson Memorial Baptist Church. Questions? Contact Ruth Worthington by emailing worthin2@msu.edu.

PROGRAMMING AT THE PEOPLES CHURCH

ACHE: Adults Connecting and Having Events is a young adult group that meets twice a month. Young adults are invited to join ACHE as we catch a Lansing Lugnuts game on **Friday, July 21 at 7 p.m.** Email pastor Haley to reserve a ticket! To keep up with events, follow us on Instagram @ache_thepeopleschurch, or contact Pastor Haley by emailing hhansen@thepeopleschurch.com.

ENGAGING THE WORD: Pastor Haley leads the in-person study group on **Mondays from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Robertson Room**, and Pastor Shawnthea leads the **Wednesday Zoom session from 9 to 10 a.m.** The Zoom link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86068627263>. The passage for this week is Psalm 139.

PEOPLES CHURCH YOUTH GROUP: PCYG will NOT be meeting this evening. **Tuesday, July 18, 5-7:30 p.m.**, PCYG will be serving at Allen Neighborhood Center! **Wednesday, July 26, 3-7:30 p.m.** PCYG will be helping prepare and serve the Wednesday night community dinner at the church! **Saturday, August 5**, PCYG is going to Michigan's Adventure! More times and details will be announced soon! This is the time of the year where we welcome our incoming 6th grade students! If you know any new (or older) students who are interested in PCYG please contact our youth director, Elisha, by emailing esmith@thepeopleschurch.com.

PUB THEOLOGY: We meet on the **second Tuesday each month, 6:00 p.m. at Crunchy's** to engage in conversation about faith, life, and what is happening in the world.

TUESDAY MORNING MEN'S GROUP: The Tuesday Morning Men's Group is currently reading 'Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home' by Richard Foster. We continue to meet at **7:30 a.m. on Tuesdays in the Robertson Room.**

WEDNESDAYS @ PEOPLES CHURCH: A community dinner is hosted **every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. in the Social Hall.** At **6:30**, Shawnthea Monroe teaches dance aerobics in the gym. All are welcome! (Faith & the News Bible study will not meet through the summer.)

