

Sanctuary Service

August 13, 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

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

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



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Order of Service | August 13, 2023

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

Prelude

Sheep May Safely Graze

J.S. Bach

Judy Kabodian, Organist

Acolytes: Malcolm & Miles

Welcome

***Call to Worship**

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

One We live in a world of winners and losers,
A world of undisguised greed and competition.

**All Yet our salvation comes from Christ Jesus.
His ways are not the world's ways.**

One We live in a world of fear and hatred,
A world that sets limits on compassion and welcome.

**All But Jesus is our hope and our salvation,
And Christ calls us to love without reservation.**

One Come, all you who are weary of the ways of this world.
Enter God's house and know you belong.

**All How wonderful it is to gather together in peace!
We will worship God and learn God's ways.**

***Gathering Hymn**

When Morning Gilds the Skies (v. 1-3)

no. 667

When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries: may Jesus Christ be praised! Alike at work and prayer to Jesus I repair: may Jesus Christ be praised!

Does sadness fill my mind? A solace here I find: may Jesus Christ be praised! Or fades my earthly bliss? My comfort still is this: may Jesus Christ be praised!

Let earth's wide circle round in joyful notes resound: may Jesus Christ be praised! Let air and sea and sky from depth to height reply: may Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this, while life is mine, my canticle divine: may Jesus Christ be praised! Be this the eternal song through all the ages long: may Jesus Christ be praised!

When Morning Gilds the Skies
Text: German hymn, c. 1800
Music: Joseph Barnby, 1868
Copyright: 2013
CLI#: 1698862

Prayer of Confession

God of boundless mercy, we confess it is easy to get caught up in an endless cycle of competition. We hunger for status and crave personal power. We fill our days with things that distract us but do not satisfy. We buy into the myth that we are independent and have no need for other people. We have even separated ourselves from you. Lord, have mercy on us. Forgive us for not putting you at the center of our lives. We ask for your mercy and healing, in Christ's 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!**

Children's Moment

Special Music

All Creatures of Our God and King
Kyle and Sarah Dymond, Bells

arr. Larry Sue

Scripture Reading

Genesis 29:15-28

Sermon

"Virgin, Wife, or Widow?"

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

Come sing to God, O living saints; sing praises to God's name. God's anger is not permanent; God's love will never wane. Though tears may tarry for the night with sighs of deepest pain, yet joy comes with the morning sun, a peace that is not vain.

In my success I felt secure; how good you've been to me. I said that this is my own work, ascribing all to me. But when you turned aside your face, my life was filled with fears. I begged for help; to you I cried with loud and bitter tears.

What good is gained by my disgrace, what profit in defeat? My grave cannot confess your name, nor praise for you repeat. Now hear, O Lord, my plaintive cry; be merciful to me. Accept my longing heart's request and from death set me free.

You change my grief to joy-filled dance; my sorrows you destroy. In faithfulness you hear my cry and fill my life with joy. And so to you my heart shall sing; my voice your goodness raise. You are my God, forevermore. My life shall sing your praise.

Come Sing to God
Text: Fred R. Anderson, 1986
Music: Gesangbuch der Herzogl. 1784
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.

Prayer of Dedication

Merciful God, the gifts we bring are so small compared to the needs in our world. But you once fed a crowd of thousands with a few small loaves and fishes, so we ask you to multiply our gifts as well. Through our gifts and our ministry, may the hungry be fed, the grieving find comfort, and the outcast be welcomed. Amen.

The God of Abraham praise, who reigns enthroned above, the Ancient of Eternal Days, the God of love! The Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven confessed, we bow before your holy name, forever blessed.

Your goodly land we seek, with peace and plenty blessed, a land of sacred liberty and Sabbath rest. There milk and honey flow, and oil and wine abound, and trees of life forever grow with mercy crowned.

You have eternal life implanted in the soul; your love shall be our strength and stay, while ages roll. We praise you, living God! We praise your holy name: the first, the last, beyond all thought, and still the same!

God of Abraham Praise

Text: Moses Maimonides (12th cent.); vers. Daniel ben Judah Dayan (1404); stanzas 1, 3 trans. Thomas Olivers (1770)

Music: Jewish melody (17th cent.) adapt. Meyer Lyon and Thomas Olivers (1770)

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***Benediction**

Postlude

Tocatta in G Minor
Judy Kabodian, Organist

Johann Pachelbel

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

KICKOFF SUNDAY: Our 2023 Kickoff Sunday is **September 10!**

RETURNING TO TWO SERVICES: On **Sunday, September 10**, Kickoff Sunday, our **10:30 a.m.** service will resume. Our **8:30 a.m.** service will resume the following week on **Sunday, September 17.**

CONFIRMATION NOTICE: Dr. Monroe will be teaching this year's confirmation class. If you, or someone you know, is 13 or 14 years old and would like a chance to take a deep dive into the Christian faith, please contact Dr. Monroe by sending an email to smonroe@thepeopleschurch.com.

2023 WOMEN'S RETREAT: You will not want to miss this year's women's retreat at the **St. Francis Retreat Center in DeWitt on Friday, September 22 and Saturday, September 23!** Join us for conversation, fellowship, and worship. This year's presenter is Shannon Craigo-Snell, who will lead a conversation about Serving God With Our Whole Selves. The cost is \$120 single occupancy or \$105 double occupancy, which covers the program, four meals, and all accommodations. If you would like to register, or have questions about the retreat, please contact Beth Lundy by emailing Blundy@thepeopleschurch.com. Scholarships are available upon request.

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.

JOIN SANCTUARY CHOIR & HANDBELL CHOIR: Fall is almost upon us, which means it's time again for Sanctuary Choir and Clarion Ringers to begin rehearsals and Sunday performances. Whether you previously sang and rang with the choirs, or if you haven't but would like to try, you're invited to check it out! The **Clarion Ringers rehearse Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.**, and the **Sanctuary Choir rehearses Thursdays at 7 p.m.** Sanctuary Choir's **first rehearsal will be Thursday, September 7.**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Love Clothing Center is in desperate need of volunteer teams to help during the back-to-school season. The center is located at Judson Memorial Baptist Church in Lansing, and is open 9 a.m.— 2:30 p.m. on Saturdays from August 5 until September 30. Volunteers help parents find clothing for their children, sort and bag clothing, and aid center coordinators with a variety of tasks. To learn more about volunteering at Love Clothing Center, send an email to cslansing@outlook.com, or call (517) 394-5413.

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.

PROGRAMMING AT THE PEOPLES CHURCH

ACHE: Adults Connecting and Having Events is a young adult group that meets twice a month. 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 Matthew 15:21-28.

PEOPLES CHURCH YOUTH GROUP: PCYG will NOT be meeting this evening. 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 **first Tuesday each month, 6:00 p.m. at Crunchy's** to engage in conversation about faith, life, and what is happening in the world. There will not be a Pub Theology gathering in August.

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.**

VOICES OF THE COMMUNITY: Voices of the Community" commences again **September 10 at 9:30 a.m.** with an incredible speaker, Johnny Agar from Rockford, Michigan. Johnny was born with Cerebral Palsy, but has achieved many goals in his 28 years with the help of his family and "Team Agar." Johnny was featured on CBS twice within the last few months, and he and his father have been invited to compete in the Hawaiian Ironman 2024. Johnny also wrote a book entitled 'The Impossible Mile: The Power of Living One Step at a Time.' Join us in The Robertson Room to hear Johnny's incredible story.

WEDNESDAYS @ PEOPLES CHURCH: During the month of August, we are taking a break from our **Wednesday evening community dinners! Join us Wednesday, September 13 when they resume!** 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.)

