

# Sanctuary Service

## September 24, 2023



“The last  
will be first,  
and the first  
will be last.”  
Matthew 20:15



## THE PEOPLES CHURCH

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

517.332.5073 | [ThePeoplesChurch.com](http://ThePeoplesChurch.com)

### SERVICE INFORMATION

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

There is Sunday School 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

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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!



@TPCEASTLANSING



THE PEOPLES CHURCH  
OF EAST LANSING

MAKE A GIFT ONLINE  
[HERE!](#)



# Order of Service | September 24, 2023

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

## **Prelude**

My God, How Wonderful Thou Art  
Judy Kabodian, Organist

F. Melius Christiansen

Acolytes: Izaak and Madelyn

## **Welcome**

## **\*Call to Worship**

Kyle Dymond

One O give thanks to the Lord and call upon God's holy name.

**All We will make known God's deeds among all the people.**

One Sing songs of praise to our Creator! Glory in God's holy name.

**All We seek the Spirit of the living God and our hearts rejoice!**

One God's patience is everlasting and God's mercy endures forever.

**All We give thanks for the gift of our salvation! Let us worship the Lord!**

## **\*Gathering Hymn**

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty! (v. 1-4)

no. 1

*Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee. Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!*

*Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea; cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.*

*Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee, though the eye of sinfulness thy glory may not see, only thou art holy; there is none beside thee, perfect in power, in love and purity.*

*Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea. Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!*

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

Text: Reginald Heber (1827)

Music: John Bacchus Dykes (1861)

Copyright: 2013

CLI#: 1698862

## *Prayer of Confession*

**Holy God, with trembling lips we confess our sins to you. All our waking hours are marked by selfishness. We pretend we have earned your love and believe others are unworthy of such grace. We ask for inclusion but practice exclusion. When others suffer, we are quick to offer prayers but slow to offer material assistance. Forgive us for all the ways we have failed to follow Jesus. Soften our hearts and release us from our anxieties. We pray all this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

## *Moment of Silent Reflection*

## *Assurance of Pardon*

### *\*Confession Response*

There is Now a New Creation

no. 774

There is now a new creation through the grace of Jesus Christ, peace and reconciliation with the God of endless life.

## *Passing the Peace of Christ*

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

## *Children's Moment*

### *Anthem*

God of the Deep

Sanctuary Choir directed by Dr. Jonathan Reed

Each time I stand and wonder at the vastness of the sea, I know that there are mysteries too great and deep for me. The wide expanse of water reaches far beyond my sight, and yet I know the One to whom its depths are full of light. The wide expanse of water reaches far beyond my sight, and yet I know the One to whom its depths are full of light. The mighty waves roll into shore and break upon the sand, compelled by unseen forces that I cannot understand. The currents run beneath the waves in perfect, charted paths; a skillful hand directs their courses, as it ever has. The wide expanse of water reaches far beyond my sight, and yet I know the One to whom its depths are full of light. The ocean teems with living things who never see the sun, and yet there is an eye who sees and knows them, every one; and that same eye has fathomed all the mysteries of my days. When tears have dimmed my sight, a heart of love still charts my ways. When simple explanations lie too deep for me to find, I rest in God who holds the whole creation in his mind. I hope in him whose skill and wisdom far exceed my own. The secrets of the hidden depths belong to God alone.

**First Scripture Reading**

Psalm 105:1-6

**Second Scripture Reading**

Matthew 20:1-16

**Sermon**

“God is Too Good”

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

**Hymn of Response**

There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy (v. 1 & 2)

no. 435

*There’s a wideness in God’s mercy, like the wideness of the sea. There’s a kindness in God’s justice, which is more than liberty. There is no place where earth’s sorrows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place where earth’s failings have such kindly judgment given.*

*For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind. And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind. If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God’s Word, and our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.*

There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy  
Text: Frederick William Faber (1854)  
Music: Dutch melody; arr. Julius Rontgen (1906)  
Copyright: 2013  
CLI#: 1698862

**Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer**

Rev. Haley Hansen

**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**

**Because of your presence, Holy God, the ministry of this church shines with the light of Christ. Use this offering and all our gifts to build up this community through the work and witness of this church. May our words and our deeds bring Good News to the world in Christ’s name. Amen.**

*My song forever shall record the tender mercies of the Lord; your faithful love will I proclaim, and every age shall know your name.*

*I sing of mercies that endure, forever firm, forever sure, a strong support that never dies, established changeless in the skies.*

*Almighty God, your lofty throne has justice for its cornerstone, and shining bright before your face are truth and love and boundless grace.*

*With blessing is the nation crowned whose people know the joyful sound; they in the light, O Lord, shall live, the light your face and favor give.*

My Song Forever Shall Record

Text: *The New Metrical Version of the Psalms*, 1909

Music: Trier ms., 15th cent.

Copyright: 2013

**\*Benediction**

**\*Benediction Response**

**Postlude**

Sonata II: Fugue  
Judy Kabodian, Organist

Felix Mendelssohn



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CROP HUNGER WALK:** The Greater Lansing CROP Hunger Walk is **Sunday October 8, beginning at 2 p.m.** The CROP Hunger Walk raises funds to fight world hunger and 25% of what is raised is allocated locally. Local agencies such as the Greater Lansing Food Bank, Southside Kitchen, and several other organizations that serve the community benefit from the walk. The walk is a 5K (3.2 miles) and will start at Grace United Methodist Church on Boston Ave. Lansing, MI, rain or shine. For more information about the walk, see the informational display in Friendship Hall. You can sign up to walk or make a contribution to The Peoples Church walk team by visiting the following link online: [events.crophungerwalk.org/2023/team/the-peoples-church](https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2023/team/the-peoples-church). Questions about the walk and The Peoples Church walk team can be emailed to Susan Kilmer, [sdkilmer@aol.com](mailto:sdkilmer@aol.com).

**CHURCH TOURS:** Join us for "The Peoples Church Talk and Tour" on **Sunday, October 1** if you would like to learn more about the history and ministry of The Peoples Church. To participate in the guided tour, come to the front of the sanctuary at the end of the 10:30 a.m. service. The tour will take about 45 minutes.

## ***ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont.)***

**NEW ART EXHIBIT:** The Fine Arts Committee has announced the installation of its latest exhibit, 'Where ART Thou??: Playful Reflections on Religion and Scripture' by local artist and member of The Peoples Church, Chance Liscomb. The exhibit will be on display throughout the hallways bordering the sanctuary, the kiosk in the Rotunda, and Friendship Hall until December 7. Find an exhibit program across from the Welcome Desk to learn more about Chance and his beautiful exhibit. You can also visit Chance's website, [www.sculpturebychance.com](http://www.sculpturebychance.com).

**HENRY & ANNABEL LARZELERE MEMORIAL LECTURE:** The Peoples Church is hosting Dr. Kristin Kobes Du Mez for our annual Henry & Annabel Memorial Lecture on **Sunday, November 12 at 1 p.m.** The title of her lecture is 'Jesus & John Wayne and the Evangelical Reckoning.' Dr. Du Mez will give a brief presentation during our 10:30 a.m. sanctuary service, and there will be a luncheon following the service before her full lecture at 1 p.m. This free event is open to anyone who wants to attend, and all are welcome. Dr. Du Mez is a New York Times bestselling author and Professor of History and Gender Studies at Calvin University. She holds a PhD from the University of Notre Dame and her research focuses on the intersection of gender, religion, and politics. Her most recent book is 'Jesus and John Wayne: How White Evangelicals Corrupted a Faith and Fractured a Nation.'

**NYAKA FUNDRAISER:** Nyaka Global is back with its One-By-One fundraiser, *Soaring Above Adversity*. Celebrate with the friends and Ugandan staff of Nyaka **at Urban Beat in Old Town Lansing on Thursday, October 12 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.** For more information contact: [info@nyakaglobal.org](mailto:info@nyakaglobal.org), or call 877-466-9252.

**PORCH OF HEAVEN:** Porch of Heaven, which takes place **Mondays at 6:15 p.m. in the Telder Room**, is a new opportunity for communal contemplative prayer, reflecting on scripture, and using silence as its own form of worship. If you are curious about this new worship opportunity, try visiting Porch of Heaven tomorrow evening.

## ***PROGRAMMING AT THE PEOPLES CHURCH***

**ACHE:** Adults Connecting and Having Events is a young adult group that meets twice a month. **Friday, September 29 at 6 p.m.** ACHE is going out to Horrock's Beer Garden for dinner, drinks, and fellowship. Plan to meet in The Peoples Church parking lot at 6 p.m. and carpool to Horrocks. **Friday, October 6 at 7 p.m.,** there will be a bonfire at the home of Zack and Rachel Matthews. Food will be provided with vegetarian, gluten free, and dairy free options, but bring your own beverages! To keep up with events, contact Pastor Haley by emailing [hhansen@thepeopleschurch.com](mailto:hhansen@thepeopleschurch.com).

**ENGAGING THE WORD:** Pastor Shawnthea leads the in-person study group on **Mondays from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Robertson Room**, and the **Wednesday Zoom session from 9 to 10 a.m.** The Zoom link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86068627263>. Pastor Haley leads a Bible Study at **9:30 a.m. on Sundays in the Campus Lounge**. This week's passage is Philippians 2:1-13.

## ***PROGRAMMING AT THE PEOPLES CHURCH (cont.)***

**COLLEGE MINISTRY:** Campus/college ministry is picking up some familiar and new activities this fall! College students are welcome to meet **in the Campus Lounge on Sundays after the 10:30 a.m. service** for a free lunch! College students are also welcome **Thursdays at 5 p.m.** for dinner and an activity; each Thursday of the month there will be a different activity following dinner. For more information, contact Pastor Haley by emailing [hhansen@thepeopleschurch.com](mailto:hhansen@thepeopleschurch.com).

**THE KNITTING PEOPLE:** The Knitting People will meet in the Robertson Room **Thursday, September 28, from 1 - 3 p.m.** to bless completed items and work on baby blankets, prayer shawls, slippers, hats, and mittens. We invite interested knitters and crocheters to join us to share in our ministry of creating needed items for people in our community. We have yarn and needles, and are ready to assist you in doing this good work!

**PEOPLES CHURCH YOUTH GROUP:** PCYG will resume its normal Sunday meeting time **TONIGHT at 6:30 p.m.!** This is the time of the year when we welcome our incoming 6<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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. **Due to scheduling conflicts, Pub Theology gatherings will take place on the first Mondays in October and November.**

**TAIZE SERVICE:** Monthly Taize services resume **tonight at 6:30 p.m.** in the Chapel. Taize services take place on **the last Sunday of every month at 6:30 p.m.,** and consist of repetitive and meditative singing, prayer, scripture, and silence. It is a powerful, quiet, contemplative worship experience. These services are inter-denominational and all are welcome.

**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:** **Sunday, October 1 at 9:30 a.m.,** our very own Rev. Haley Hansen will be presenting 'Stories, Scripture, and Skepticism' about her journey from a career in journalism to one in ministry.

**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. Currently the group is reading 'Saving Jesus From the Church' by Robin Meyers.

**WEDNESDAYS @ PEOPLES CHURCH:** Our Wednesday Community Dinners are back! Join us **every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. in Snider Social Hall!** At **6 p.m.** Pastor Shawnthea teaches dance aerobics in the gym, and Pastor Haley teaches a financial wellness course at **6:30 p.m.** All are welcome!