

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 8, 2019 • 8:30 a.m.



SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:30 a.m.

Worship Service, Chapel

9:30 a.m.

Carol Choir Rehearsal

Confirmation Class

* PCYG Bible Exploration

Peoples Forum

10:30 a.m.

Worship Service, Sanctuary

* Children's Sunday School

11:30 a.m.

Coppertones Rehearsal

Lunch & Lounge | Campus Ministry

Dance 149

*** Off This Week**

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!

5:30 p.m.

Community Meal

6:00 p.m.

Youth Choir Rehearsal

Children's Education

6:30 p.m.

Adult Formation Classes

Peoples Church YouthGroup

Yoga Class



THE PEOPLES CHURCH

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

517.332.5073 | ThePeoplesChurch.com

THE PEOPLES CHURCH STAFF

Office hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and Sunday mornings.

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Dr. Jonathan Reed, Director of Music
Elizabeth Reed, Children's Music & Bell Choir Director
Judy Kabodian, Musician in Residence
office@thepeopleschurch.com

COUNCIL OF ELDERS

Elders meet at 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month in the Robertson Room.

Jodi Cook, Chairperson
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.

ASL Interpreted Service

The Peoples Church is pleased to welcome ASL interpreters for our 10:30 a.m. worship service and for special events.



MAKE A GIFT

Please note, we have a new link for online giving (below):

<https://onrealm.org/thepeopleschurch/Give>

See back page for more information on **REALM!**

ORDER OF WORSHIP | DECEMBER 8, 2019

Prelude

"Creator of the Stars of Night"
Judy Kabodian, organ

arr. Wilbur Held

Welcome to The Peoples Church!

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

Worship is both personal and communal, formal and informal, intimate and casual. Here at The Peoples Church, we recognize that people come to worship God in both joy and pain, faith and doubt, with laughter and with tears. Our worship tries to reflect a desire both for meditation and celebration. Please know you are invited to participate in any and all ways you feel led. Our songs, prayers, words and actions are the works of imperfect people trying to worship a perfect God.

Call to Worship

Leader: Our journey in this season of Advent began with HOPE for Jesus is our hope and our salvation.

People: Come, Lord Jesus, and bring the gift of hope to all who are in need.

Leader: Today, we light the second candle, the candle of PEACE. Jesus is the Prince of Peace and he offers us comfort in the midst of chaos and discord.

People: Come, Lord Jesus, and bring the gift of peace to your children.

Leader: We light this candle and pray for God's peace to be present in the world, in our homes and in our hearts.

People: Come, Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace, and bless our time of worship!

Leader: All you people of PEACE, together let us worship our God!

Gathering Hymn

"O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?"

No. 104

Call of Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of love, we confess that we have stoked the fires of division and discord. Instead of seeking unity, we have separated ourselves from our neighbors and from you. Instead of building up our community, we have become critics and skeptics, unwilling to work for the greater good. In a world filled with ugly insults and barely veiled hatred, we have retreated to the sidelines. Forgive our lack of faith and our weak resolve. Sharpen our desire for peace and strengthen our willingness to work towards a just world for all your children. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Time for Silence and Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

Congregational Response "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" (verse 2 only)

No. 96

**Then cleansed be every life from sin; make straight the way for God within,
and let us all our hearts prepare for Christ to come and enter there.**

First Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

(Pew Bible Page 993; Large Print 1,032)

Passing the Peace of Christ *(Please stand if able)*

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

Communion

Special Music

"I Wonder As I Wander"

John Jacob Niles

Dr. Shawnthea Monroe, soprano

Second Reading

Matthew 3:1-12

(Pew Bible Page 690; Large Print 1,470)

Sermon

"Come Home"

Dr. Monroe

Hymn of Response

"Prepare the Way, O Zion"

No. 106

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

(During the pastoral prayer there will be a time to offer prayers of joy and concern, voiced aloud or silently for and on behalf of others.)

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.

Call to Offering

Thanksgiving and Dedication of Gifts

Offertory

"Prepare the Royal Highway"

arr. Wilbur Held

Act of Praise

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

God of glory, we are blessed to have enough to share with others. Accept this offering and the spirit in which it is given. Through the ministry of this church, teach us to walk in your light of hope and peace. May all your children prepare themselves for Christ's coming. Amen.

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

"From Heaven Above to Earth I Come"

Friedrich W. Zachau



**Floral Dedication:
Given to the glory of God.**

MSU HOLIDAY BRASS CONCERT

The MSU Holiday Brass Concert, hosted by the Fine Arts Committee, will be held on **December 9** at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The concert is free and open to the community. Join us for a delightful evening!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!

Join us for a community meal at 5:30 p.m. in Snider Social Hall followed by adult programming in the Robertson Room at 6:30 p.m. *Please note, WNL! programming will be on a holiday break on December 18, 25, 2019 and January 1, 2020. Regular programming will resume on January 8, 2020.*

MUSIC SUNDAY

Music Sunday is **December 15** during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Join us to hear joyful music fill the Sanctuary with *A Service of Lessons and Carols*, featuring a string orchestra.

PEOPLES FORUM

On **December 15**, The Peoples Forum welcomes Rev. Penny Swartz, who will deliver "Christmas Readings." Join us at 9:30 a.m. in the Robertson Room.

WINTER REFUGEE COLLECTION

We are currently collecting gift cards to Meijer and Target to support the Refugee Services program at St. Vincent DePaul Catholic Charities. Collection dates are: **December 8 and 15** in the Northwest Entrance. Your donation of a gift card will benefit the individualized needs of refugees in our community.

SOUTHSIDE KITCHEN VOLUNTEERS

The Peoples Church serves the Southside Kitchen on the third Tuesday of each month. Volunteers are needed in 2020 to help with the following dates: January 21, February 18, May 19, June 16, July 21 and August 18. Contact Jan Perron at: jrperron@comcast.net, for more details or to sign up.

BIBLE EXPLORATION

PCYG Bible Exploration will start back up on **December 15** at 9:30 a.m. in the youth den. Email Joe at: jkennedy@thepeopleschurch.com with any questions.

WPC ADVENT TEA: HAPPENING TODAY!

The WPC is hosting their annual Advent Tea **TODAY** from 11:45 a.m. - 1:45 p.m. in the Snider Social Hall, featuring special guest speaker, Ruelaine Stokes.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA MEMORIAL GIFTS

Return form in the Offertory plate on Sunday or to the church office.



_____ **YES! I would like to make a \$20 contribution to the Sanctuary Decorating Fund.**

Please accept my gift:

_____ **In Memory of**

_____ **In Honor of**

_____ **In Celebration of**

_____ **To the Glory of God**

Given by: _____

Please make checks payable to THE PEOPLES CHURCH and indicate "Poinsettias" in the memo line.

Deadline to order is December 16, 2019.

EDGEWOOD VILLAGE CHRISTMAS GIFTS

You're invited to help the children at Edgewood Village enjoy a wonderful Christmas. If you haven't already, please visit the Christmas tree in Friendship Hall with gift ideas. Select one of the ornaments from the tree, purchase the item listed and return the new, unwrapped gift by December 15 so it can be wrapped and delivered before Christmas morning! If you can assist with gift wrapping on Tuesday, December 17 at 1:30 p.m. in the Robertson Room, please sign up below and put in the offering plate.



YES! I CAN HELP WRAP GIFTS FOR EDGEWOOD VILLAGE! PLEASE CONTACT ME.

Name: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

2019 CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES



**6:00 p.m., Sanctuary; Family candlelight service
with Youth and Children's Choirs**

**9:00 p.m., Sanctuary; Traditional candlelight service
with the Sanctuary Choir**

ASL Interpreters will be provided at both Christmas Eve worship services.

A SEASON OF HOPE ADVENT TEA

TODAY!
Snider Social Hall
11:45 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.

Ruelaine Stokes,
Guest Speaker



Sponsored by  *Women
of Peoples Church*

OUT STANDING In Their Field

a musical to bring good tidings of great joy!

BY LEE DENGLER AND SUSAN NAUS DENGLER



Jubilate
MUSIC

OUT STANDING IN THEIR FIELD

**A Musical Featuring Children of
The Peoples Church!**

TODAY!
During the 10:30 a.m. service

Join us!