

SUNDAY WORSHIP

JUNE 13, 2021



THE PEOPLES CHURCH

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

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

All regularly scheduled Sunday programs have been suspended until further notice.

Worship Service: 10:30 a.m. - in the Sanctuary & Livestream on YouTube

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!

WNL! programming will return when it is safe to do so. Updates will be provided as they happen.

A community meal is still served for those who need one. Meals can be picked up between 5:00—6:00 p.m. in the Northwest entrance of the building.

ASL Interpreted Service

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

THE PEOPLES CHURCH STAFF

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

Reception Desk (517) 332.5073

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe (517) 908.4442

Senior Pastor, United Church of Christ
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Rev. Penny Swartz (517) 648.8987

Minister Emeritus & Associate Pastor, NACCC
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Front Desk Receptionist
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Elisha Smith (517) 332.6264

Youth Director
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Dr. Jonathan Reed, Director of Music

Elizabeth Reed, Children's Music & Bell Choir Director

Judy Kabodian, Musician in Residence

COUNCIL OF ELDERS

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



PHONE NUMBER

To join the worship service via telephone, please dial
(844) 933-0517
and follow the prompts.

MAKE A GIFT ONLINE

CLICK HERE!

Order of Service | June 13

Prelude

“Andantino”

Claude Debussy

Judy Kabodian, Organ

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

Call to Worship

One Lay down your burdens and enter this holy place.
All God’s children are welcome in this house.

**All It is good to give thanks to God!
God’s mercy and love endure forever.**

One God knows our troubles and remembers our need.
Our prayers are answered and our hearts are at peace.

**All It is good to give thanks to God!
God’s power and might reign over all.**

One Listen and learn the story of God’s love.
Remember all that God has done for you and rejoice.

**All We will praise God for all that we have received!
With all our gifts, we worship the Lord!**

Gathering Hymn

“For the Beauty of the Earth” (verses 1-4)

No. 14

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night, hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind’s delight, for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

Prayer of Confession

We confess, O God, that we do not understand all the mysteries of the faith. Your kingdom seems far away and we cannot imagine the path that leads us there. Instead of focusing on you, we busy ourselves with earthly concerns. We strive for wealth, status and beauty, forgetting that these are treasures that do not last. We do not listen for your voice, nor do we seek you in silence. We have stuffed ourselves with plans and pleasures, yet we hunger for you. Forgive our sins and pull us back into your presence. We pray all this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

Congregational Response

**By this promise that you love us, by your gift of peace restored,
by your call to heaven above us, hallow all our lives, O Lord.**

Passing the Peace of Christ

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

Children’s Moment

Solo

“Sometimes a Light Surprises”

Arr. by Craig Courtney

Michaela Larsen, Soprano

Sometimes a light surprises the Christian while she sings; it is the Lord who rises with healing in his wings: when comforts are declining, he grants the soul again a season of clear shining, to cheer it after rain. In holy contemplation we sweetly then pursue the theme of God’s salvation, and find it ever new; set free from present sorrow, we cheerfully can say, let the unknown tomorrow bring with it what it may. It can bring with it nothing but he will bear us through: who gives the lilies clothing will clothe his people too: beneath the spreading heavens no creature but is fed; and he who feeds the ravens will give his children bread. Though vine nor fig tree neither their wanted fruit should bear, though all the fields should wither, nor flocks nor herds be there; yet, God the same abiding, his praise shall tune my voice; for, while in him confiding, I cannot but rejoice, I cannot but rejoice.

Scripture

Mark 4:26-34

²⁶He also said, "This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground.

²⁷Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. ²⁸All by itself the soil produces grain—first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. ²⁹As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come."

³⁰Again he said, "What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth. ³²Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade." ³³With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand. ³⁴He did not say anything to them without using a parable. But when he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything.

Sermon

“Embracing the Mystery”

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

Hymn of Response “God of the Fertile Fields” (Verses 1-3) 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.

Prayers of the People

Rev. Penny Swartz

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

[Give Now \(onrealm.org\)](https://onrealm.org)

Offertory

Act of Praise

Praise God, from whom all blessing flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

All that we have is yours, Holy One. What we offer in support of the church is but a small part of what we have received. Receive this offering in the spirit in which it is given and may our shared ministry be extended by the time, talents and treasure we invest. Bless us and these gifts in Jesus' name. Amen.

Closing Hymn

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds ” (verses 1-3,5) No. 306

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love. The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

Before our Maker's throne we pour our ardent prayers. Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.

We share our mutual woes; our mutual burdens bear. And often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.

From sorrow, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free; and perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.

Benediction and Response

“Go Now In Peace”

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

“Toccatina in G Major”

William H. Pachelbel

VIRTUAL GROUPS

Below are some of our currently offered Bible studies or fellowship groups that meet virtually, via Zoom.

SERMON PREVIEW GROUP: meets each Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. Join the meeting here. Meeting ID: 883 8071 4830. You can also dial 1.929 205 6099 and when prompted enter 883 8071 4830.

TUESDAY MORNING MENS GROUP: As men of faith, we read the Bible and other books, listening for God's voice and direction for our lives. We also listen to each other, looking to support and challenge each other's walk of faith. As we endeavor to do so, we find ways to put God's word into action in our lives and in God's wider kingdom on earth. If you are interested in joining us, we are meeting in the Robertson Room each Tuesday at 7:30 am. We are wrapping up *Life on the Vine: Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit* and will start a new book in the coming weeks.

CAMPUS MINISTRY: Campus Ministry Bible Study will continue through the summer on Tuesday evenings at 8pm via zoom. Please contact Haley Hansen at haleyhansen02@gmail.com if you are interested in receiving the zoom link!

SUMMER PCYG: PCYG is having bimonthly summer events! Please contact Elisha Smith at esmith@thepeopleschurch.com to be added to the email list to stay updated on summer events, or if you know a 6th-12th grade student interested in joining PCYG!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WPC ANNUAL JEWELRY SALE & USED BOOK SALE

Thank you to those members who have generously donated books for the used book sale. The organizers **will no longer be taking books**, but will still gladly accept jewelry donations through July 30. Please drop off in the church office anytime Monday - Friday (9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.) Sale will be Saturday August 7 from 9am-6pm and Sunday August 8 from 9am-2pm. Thanks to your generosity, they look forward to a very successful event.

UNDIE SUNDAYS

UNDIE SUNDAYS are returning to Peoples Church starting Sunday June 13th and ending Sunday August 15th. Community Engagement will be collecting NEW underwear (tees, underpants and socks) for school age children. Look for the red basket labelled KIDS STUFF at the welcome center. All underwear will be delivered to Judson Memorial Baptist Church's Love Clothing Closet. Questions? Contact Ruth Worthington at worthin2@msu.edu.

VBS SUPPLIES NEEDED!

We are excited to be having VBS this June 21-25 at Woldumar Nature Center! We are in need of a few supplies, so please [click this link](#) to donate. We appreciate your support for making this week a wonderful one for our kids!

VIRTUAL FELLOWSHIP*

Join us, virtually, each Sunday, following the 10:30 a.m. worship service for fellowship. It's easy! Grab a cup of your favorite coffee and a sweet snack and log on to Zoom.

You can join the meeting by clicking **on this link:**

Join Zoom Meeting, or in your Zoom app enter Meeting ID: 885 9630 8098 and when asked for a password enter: TPC (please note, this is a new meeting link ID and passcode). Don't have access to internet? No problem! You can still join us from ANY phone! Dial by your location; see below: +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C) +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose) Enter the Meeting ID: 885 9630 8098 and password 680020

** Please note: For those who are with us in person for worship, there will not be a fellowship until further notice. Virtual fellowship will continue for those at home.*

Join Our Team

We are now hiring for the following positions:

Peoples Church Preschool is looking for a Full-Time, Co-Lead, *Toddler Room Teacher*. Applicants must have a degree in Early Childhood Education or equivalent. Please contact the preschool at: djohnson@thepeopleschurch.com for more information.

The Peoples Church is hiring two full-time (30 hours) support positions:

- *Finance Administrator* (requires a bookkeeping background)
- *Communications Coordinator* (requires expertise in Microsoft Suite)

The Peoples Church is also seeking a part-time *Custodian* (Monday-Friday 5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.)

Please contact : personnel@thepeopleschurch.com for more information.

