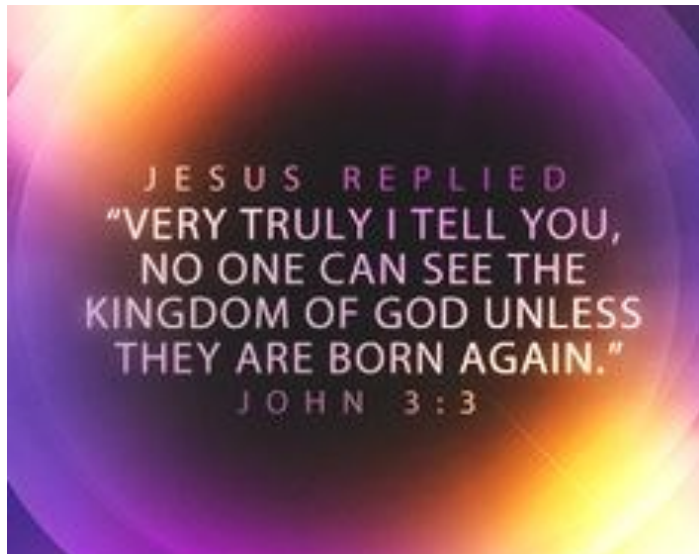


# SUNDAY WORSHIP

## JUNE 6, 2021



## THE PEOPLES CHURCH

200 W. Grand River Ave. | East Lansing, MI 48823  
517.332.5073 | [ThePeoplesChurch.com](http://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  
[smonroe@thepeopleschurch.com](mailto:smonroe@thepeopleschurch.com)

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  
[esmith@thepeopleschurch.com](mailto:esmith@thepeopleschurch.com)

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](mailto: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 6

**Prelude** "Beautiful Savior" arr. Dale Wood  
Judy Kabodian, organ

**Welcome** Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

### Call to Worship

One Listen to these words, all you beloved children:  
The Spirit gathers us to worship the Lord!

**All Like the wind, the Spirit moves where it will,  
building us up in faith, in hope, and in love!**

One Those who are born of the Spirit can see the Kingdom of God!  
This is the Good News which we proclaim to the world.

**All We will proclaim the gospel and work for justice and peace.  
We will do all things in the name and spirit of Jesus.**

One May the Spirit move in this hour and touch our hearts!

**All Come, Holy Spirit, and be with us as we worship the Lord!**

**Gathering Hymn** "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" (verses 1-3) No. 475

*Come, thou Fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above; praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love!*

*Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come; and I hope by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God; he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.*

*O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee. Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart; O, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.*

### Prayer of Confession

**God of glory, we recognize all the ways we have failed to embody Christ in this world. Jesus asks us to open our minds and souls to the power of your loving presence, but we hold fast to the old ways of thinking. Jesus invites us to live boldly and love without conditions, but we hold back, afraid of making mistakes. Jesus offers us life in abundance, but we focus on punishment and damnation. God of mercy, let your Spirit rain down upon our dry and dusty lives. Wash away our sins and heal our wounded spirits so we can rest easy in your presence. We pray 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** "Witness" arr. Mark Hayes  
Will Johnson, Tenor

*Who'll be a witness for my Lord? Who will be a witness for my Lord? Oh, I'll be a witness for my Lord. I will be a witness for my Lord. Now there was a man of the Pharisees. His name was Nicodemus and he didn't believe. The same came to Christ by night, wanted to be taught out of human sight. Nicodemus was a man desired to know how a man can be born when he is old. Christ told Nicodemus as a friend, "Man, you must be born again. Marvel not, man, if you want to be wise. Repent, believe, and be baptized." Then you'll be a witness for my Lord. Soul, is a witness for my Lord. You read about Samson from his birth, he was the strongest man that ever lived on earth. Way back yonder in ancient times, he killed ten thousand of the Philistines. Then old Samson went wand'rin' about; Samson's strength was never found out 'til his wife sat upon his knee. She said, "Tell me where your strength lies, if you please." Now Samson's wife, she talk so fair. Samson said, "Cut off-a my hair. Shave my head just as clean as your hand and my strength will come like a natural man." Samson was a witness for my Lord. Soul is a witness for my Lord. There's another witness. My soul is a witness for my Lord!*

#### Scripture

John 3:1-17

3Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? <sup>11</sup>'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup>'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

#### Sermon

**"Is Jesus The Answer?"**

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

**Hymn of Response**      “Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers” (verses 1-3)      No. 407

*Spirit divine, attend our prayers, and make this house your home. Descend with all your gracious powers. O come, great Spirit, come!*

*Come as the light. To us reveal our emptiness and woe. And lead us in those paths of life where all the righteous go.*

*Come as the fire and purge our hearts like sacrificial flame. Let our whole soul an offering be to our redeemer’s name.*

**Prayers of the People & The Lord’s Prayer**      Rev. Penny Swartz

**Invitation to Give**

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

**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**

**God of wind, word and fire, we give thanks for all the gifts, great and small, that have been poured out upon your children. Bless us and this offering so we might witness your love throughout the earth. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

**Service of Communion**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**At this table we have found refuge in your presence, dear God. We rejoice in these moments of communion. As we return to our daily lives, help us remember Jesus Christ each time we break bread. Amen.**

**Closing Hymn**      “Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts” (verses 1,3,5)      No. 494

*Jesus, thou joy of loving hearts, thou fount of life, thou light of all, from the best bliss that earth imparts we turn, unfilled, to heed thy call.*

*We taste thee, O thou living bread, and long to feast upon thee still; we drink of thee, the fountainhead, and thirst our souls from thee to fill.*

*O Jesus, ever with us stay; make all our moments calm and bright. O chase the night of sin away; shed o’er the world thy holy light.*

**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**      “All Glory Be to God on High”      J.S. Bach

## 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](mailto:haleyhansen02@gmail.com) if you are interested in receiving the zoom link!

**Sunday PCYG High School Group:** Our weekly PCYG meetings are coming to an end tonight (6/06), but we will be doing bi-monthly summer PCYG events! Please contact Elisha Smith at [esmith@thepeopleschurch.com](mailto: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!

## 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.*

## 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.

### LABYRINTH WALK

You are invited to walk the labyrinth located in Snider Social Hall on Sunday, June 6, from 9AM to 2PM. Please observe current Covid-19 protocols in effect at The Peoples Church.

### UNDIE SUNDAYS

UNDIE SUNDAYS are returning to Peoples Church starting Sunday June 13th and ending Sunday August 15<sup>th</sup>. 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](mailto:worthin2@msu.edu).

### THE PEOPLES CHURCH SUMMER SOCIALS

It has been so long since we have been together. We would like to invite you to join us for several summer socials over the next few months. Come talk to Shawnthea and Neil, see some friends and Council members. Bring a lawn chair-drinks and light refreshments will be provided. Our first social will be in Beth and Jon Lundy's backyard, Wednesday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at 3578 Cabaret Trail, Okemos. This will be a family friendly gathering from 5:30-7pm. RSVP to the Church at 517-332-5073. If there is rain the event will be cancelled.



### 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!

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:personnel@thepeopleschurch.com) for more information.

