

SUNDAY WORSHIP
DECEMBER 21, 2014

my soul
Glorifies
THE LORD
and my spirit
Rejoices
IN GOD MY SAVIOR

Luke 1:46-47



THE PEOPLES CHURCH

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

**SUNDAY
MORNING**

8:30 a.m.

Worship Service, Chapel

9:30 a.m.

Adult Sunday School
Children's Chapel
Confirmation Class*
PCYG Open Hang Out
Peoples Forum*

9:45 a.m.

Carol Choir Rehearsal

10:30 a.m.

Worship Service, Sanctuary
Children's Sunday School

11:30 a.m.

Coppertone Rehearsal
Campus Ministry*

**Off this week*

**WEDNESDAY
NIGHT LIVE!**

5:30 p.m.

Community Meal

6:00 p.m.

Dance 149
Youth Choir Rehearsal

6:30 p.m.

Faith Builders | Children's Education
Adult Formation
Peoples Church Youth Group
Yoga Class

**WNL! returns Jan. 7.*

CHURCH OFFICE

Office hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and Sunday mornings. Call 517-332-5073.

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Dr. Jonathan Reed, Music Director
Elizabeth Reed, Children's Music Director
Judy Kabodian, Organist
office@thepeopleschurch.com

COUNCIL OF ELDERS

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

Crystal Branta, Chairperson
elders@thepeopleschurch.com



ABOUT OUR CHRISMONS TREE

The beautiful ornaments that adorn the tree at the front of the Sanctuary are known as Chrismons - *CHRIS*t *MON*ograms. They have been made over a number of years by the children, youth and adults of The Peoples Church. Chrismons are always made of white and gold materials to signify Christ's purity and majesty.

There are a number of Chrismons that are symbols for Christ / God / Holy Spirit. Most of them date back to the early years of Christianity, but one, the *Ojo de Dios*, is only a few centuries old.
How many can you find?

Alpha and Omega - *The first and last letters of the Greek alphabet; Christ is the beginning and end.*

Iota Chi - *Iota (I) is the first letter of Jesus' name in Greek. Chi (X) is the first letter of Christ in Greek. An accompanying circle represents that Jesus lives eternally in the one God.*

Chi Rho - *Ancient symbol of Christ.*

Triquetra or Trefoil - *Three interconnected loops or circles represent the Trinity - one God in three persons. An accompanying circle represents eternity.*

Triangle - *The Holy Trinity is a single unit; the eternal nature of our Triune God.*

Crown - *Christ the King of heaven and earth.*

Shepherd's Crook - *Christ the "Good Shepherd." Shepherds were the first to tell of Christ's birth.*

Ojo de Dios - *"Eye of God" watches over all things.*



GIVE ONLINE

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.*

ORDER OF WORSHIP | DECEMBER 21, 2014

Prelude (8:30 a.m.) "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" arr. Diane Bish

Prelude (10:30 a.m.) "Twas in the Moon of Wintertime" arr. Martha Lynn Thompson
Clarion Ringers directed by Elizabeth Reed

Welcome to The Peoples Church! Rev. Andrew
Pomerville

Call to Worship (Based on Luke 1: 46-50) Crystal Branta, Elder

Our souls magnify the Lord!

Our spirits rejoice in God our Savior!

The mighty One has done great things for us!

Holy is God's name!

Let us worship God.

For God is our Maker and our Redeemer;

from generation to generation God gives mercy.

Gathering Hymn "My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout" **No. 100**
(Please stand if able.)

Procession of the Light of Christ Boyd Cook & Audrey Cook, acolytes
(10:30 a.m.)

Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle Week Four: LOVE

Love –

in a young girl's song;

fearful,

determined,

hopeful.

(continued)

Love –

in a mother's song;
tender,
embracing,
challenging.

Love -

is God's song;
magnificent,
wonderful,
Jesus Christ.

We light a candle for love.

Let us pray together:

Holy One, be the light in our darkness.

**As we lit the candle of hope,
we prayed for those who feel hopeless.**

**As we lit the candle of peace,
we prayed for all victims of violence.**

**As we lit the candle of joy,
we prayed for those whose hearts are weighed down by sorrow.**

**As we light the candle of love,
we pray for those who do not feel loved and
for those who struggle to love others.**

**Holy One, be the light in our darkness,
that we might reflect your light into the dark corners of our world. Amen.**

Choral Response "The People Who Walked in Darkness" (Verse 1)

No. 86

The people who walked in darkness awaken to see a great light.

The people who dwelt in the land of shadow rise to a star shining bright.

His name is Wonderful, Counselor, Almighty God, Father Forever, Prince of Peace.

Old Testament Reading

Zephaniah 3: 14-20
(Pew Bible Page 945, Large Print Page 1,439)

Response to Scripture (10:30 a.m.)

Dance 149 choreographed by Jodi Cook

Children's Moment (10:30 a.m.)

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

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

New Testament Reading

Luke 1:26-38
(Pew Bible Page 1,025, Large Print Page 1,557)

Sermon

"Love Interruption"

Rev. Andrew Pomerville

Prayers of the People

(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.

Dooley Scholarship Presentation Sarah Lokey
(10:30 a.m.)

Offertory (10:30 a.m.)

"Christmas Carol Fest" arr. Douglas Wagner
Clarion Rings directed by Elizabeth Reed

"O Come, All Ye Faithful" (Verse 1)	No. 133
"The First Nowell" (Verse 1)	No. 147
"Away in a Manger" (Verse 1)	No. 115
"Joy to the World" (Verse 1)	No. 134
"Silent Night, Holy Night!" (Verse 1)	No. 122

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

Most High God, for you nothing is impossible. Through a poor young woman in a small town you gave birth to your realm of endless glory. By your Holy Spirit, fill us with new life and hope and overshadow us with your power and grace so that we, like Mary, might be your servants, bearing witness to the promise of your Word; through Jesus Christ, who is coming to reign.

Sending Hymn

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

No. 119

Benediction *(Please stand if able.)*

Benediction Response

"Angels We Have Heard on High" (Refrain)

No. 113

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Postlude (10:30 a.m.)

Carillon



Congratulations to Sarah Lokey, our 2014 Dooley Scholarship recipient! *Sarah is a 2014 Graduate of St. Johns High School, and was an active member of Peoples Church Youth Group. She has a heart for volunteer work, including significant contributions to the success of the Relay for Life in St. Johns for many years, among many other activities. Sarah is a freshman at Saginaw Valley State University.*



"Silent Night, Holy Night ..."

Candlelight Christmas Eve Services

6:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.



CONNECT

NEW MEMBERS CLASS | JAN. 11

Have you been thinking about becoming a member of our faith family here at The Peoples Church, while worshipping with us during the holiday season? We encourage you to join us for our next New Members Class. The 90-minute class will be hosted in the Robertson Room following the 10:30 a.m. worship service on January 11. (Following the class, you will be invited to formally join the church on January 25). Please contact the church office if you plan to attend, and also indicate if you will need childcare. We look forward to meeting with you!

PEOPLES 101

Want to know more about The Peoples Church? Our monthly informal Q&A session, Peoples 101, is hosted on the first Sunday of each month in the Robertson Room following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. The next Peoples 101 will be offered Jan. 4. All are welcome.



SERVE

SOUTHSIDE KITCHEN

Volunteers are needed to help serve lunch at the Southside Kitchen each month through 2015. Peoples Church members are invited to serve on the third Tuesday of each month: We are still looking for help on March 17, May 19, June 16, July 21, Aug. 18, Sept. 15, Oct. 20, Nov. 17 and Dec. 15. Questions? Contact Jan Perron at RPerron631@aol.com.

PERSONAL NEEDS BANK

Help stock the Personal Needs Bank. We collect bar soap, deodorant, sanitary pads, tampons, disposable diapers, baby wipes, disposable razors (men's and women's), shaving cream, dish soap, facial tissue or paper towels. The Personal Needs Bank is a joint ministry of The Peoples Church and All Saints Episcopal Church. We have served more 200 families in 2014. Donation baskets are located in the Main Sanctuary and at the Welcome Center in the Northwest Entrance. Thank you for your continued and generous support of this important ministry to our local community.

SIGN UP | *Return forms to Offertory Plate on Sunday or the Church Office during the week.*

SIGN UP: SOUTH SIDE KITCHEN

____ YES! I would like to volunteer to serve at the Southside Kitchen in 2015.

Name: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Month(s) Available: _____



GROW

MONDAY MORNING BIBLE | RETURNS JAN. 5

Interested in digging deeper into scripture? All are welcome to join in Monday Morning Bible Study, which gathers at 11 a.m. each week in the Centennial Room. Join us for study and friendship. We are currently reading and discussing N.T. Wright's book, "Matthew: 25 Studies for Individuals and Groups" to lead our conversations. For more information please contact Mary Hill at (517) 339-2502, Barb Potter at (517) 332-4733, or Pastor Drew.

THURSDAYS WITH JESUS | RETURNS JAN. 8

All women are welcome to join Thursdays With Jesus at 6:30 p.m. each week in the Robertson Room. Their fall study is "Living Beyond Yourself: Exploring the Fruits of the Spirit."

THURSDAY MEN'S GROUPS | RETURNS JAN. 8

Our **MORNING MEN'S GROUP** meets at 7:00 a.m. in the Robertson Room and the **AFTER-NOON MEN'S GROUP** meets at 12:00 p.m. in the Library each week.



SHARE

CHURCH DECORATING COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR HELP

Do you enjoy decorating, having new experiences, and meeting others in our church? Do you have a few hours every few months to donate to our church community? You may be just the person we are seeking to help coordinate the seasonal decorating of the sanctuary; primarily Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. Volunteers would operate as an ad hoc committee of the Council of Elders in 2015; they would determine dates for decorating and assemble a team to install the decorations. We need those who are creative and others who may want to offer their helping hands. Interested? Contact Crystal Branta at: cbranta@msu.edu or at 517-349-9373.

SUNDAY RECYCLING PROGRAM



NEXT DROP-OFF: GREEN GLASS (FOURTH SUNDAY)

The Peoples Church Recycling Program is a volunteer service to the members of our faith community. Items can be dropped off near our sign in the Northwest Entrance. Please be sure to only drop off items at this location on the Sundays that they are to be collected. It is difficult for us to store all of the items we recycle. Also, clean and rinse the items you bring in. Soiled items will be discarded in the trash. Recycle many other items each day at our Recycling Center across from the Church Office.

FIRST SUNDAY: SMALL BATTERIES
SECOND SUNDAY: POLYSTYRENE FOAM

THIRD SUNDAY: PLASTIC #1--7
FOURTH SUNDAY: GREEN GLASS