

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 3, 2017



MUSIC SUNDAY



THE PEOPLES CHURCH

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

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:30 a.m.

Worship Service, Chapel

9:30 a.m.

Adult Sunday School
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

6:10 p.m.

Youth Choir

6:30 p.m.

High School Youth Group

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!

5:30 p.m.

Community Meal

6:00 p.m.

Youth Choir Rehearsal
Children's Education K-5

6:30 p.m.

Adult Formation Classes
Middle School Youth Group
Yoga Class
Childcare for infant/
preschool

7:30 p.m.

Clarion Ringers

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 332.5073

Rev. Andrew Pomerville 908.4442
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Dr. Jonathan Reed, Music Director
Elizabeth Reed, Children's Music Director
Judy Kabodian, Musician in Residence
office@thepeopleschurch.com

Abigail Waller, LMSW, Grief Counselor
Appointments by Pastoral Referral

COUNCIL OF ELDERS

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

Alan Canady, 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.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

8:30 a.m. - Chapel

10:30 a.m. - Sanctuary

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICES

6:00 p.m. - Family service with children
& youth choirs

9:00 p.m. - Traditional service with
Sanctuary Choir

11:00 p.m. - Hymn Service



MAKE A GIFT ONLINE

ThePeoplesChurch.com/GIVE

Children through 5th grade are invited to participate in Sunday School following the Children's Moment during service. Please be sure to check-in your child at one of the kiosks located in Friendship Hall, prior to worship service, to receive a name tag for your child. Julie Bills, Children's Christian Education Director, will lead the children to the classrooms on the third floor for Sunday School. At the conclusion of worship, you may pick up your child on the third floor; please show the security code you received at check-in to the teacher.

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Prelude "Glory to God in the Highest" Giovanni Pergolesi

Choral Introit (10:30 a.m.) "Jubilate Deo" Dale Wood
Sanctuary Choir, directed by Dr. Jonathan Reed

Welcome to The Peoples Church! Rev. Andrew Pomerville
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.

Lighting of the First Advent Candle

Leader: People of God: awake!
The day is coming soon when you shall see God face-to-face.
Remember the ways and the works of God.
God calls you out of darkness to walk in the light of his coming.
You are God's children.

People: Lord, make us one as we walk with Christ today and forever. Amen.

Gathering Hymn "O Come, All Ye Faithful" No. 133

Procession of the Light of Christ Ava Giltner, Acolyte

Celebration of Holy Communion

Hymns during Communion

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" No. 82

"While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks" No. 117

"Hark the Herald Angels Sing" No. 119

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

Rev. Drew Filkins

(Children are dismissed after the Children's Moment and can be picked up after service on the third floor.)

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

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Scripture Reading

Luke 21:25-36

(Pew Bible Page 1,056; Large Print 1,604)

Sermon (8:30 a.m.)

"Send Me a Sign"

Rev. Betsy Aho

"Christmas Cantata" (10:30 a.m.) Sanctuary Choir and Brass Quintet

Daniel Pinkham

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.

Thanksgiving and Dedication of Gifts

Offertory (10:30 a.m.)

"Gloria"

Randall Alan Bass

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

With the gift of song in our hearts, let us sing your praises, Lord, through the way we worship, serve, give, and share. Use our honest, heartfelt offerings for peace. Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Closing Hymn

"God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen"

Verse 1

God rest you merry, gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay,
For Jesus Christ our Saviour
Was born upon this day,
To save us all from Satan's power
When we were gone astray:
O tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

Verse 2

Verse 2

From God our heavenly Father
A blessed angel came,
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name:
O tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

Verse 3

Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood
Each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas
All others doth deface
O tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

Benediction *(Please stand if able)*

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

"Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying"

arr. Wilbur Held

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR 'MUSIC SUNDAY' BRASS QUINTET:

BEN BERGHORN, TRUMPET
ALESSANDRO BONOTTO, TRUMPET
NICOLE VANDEN BOSCH, HORN

AARON WRIGHT, TROMBONE
RANDY WESTMORELAND, TUBA

ADVENT MUSIC!

Today is Music Sunday! Our Sanctuary Choir and brass quintet have a wonderful lineup scheduled and will perform Daniel Pinkham's "Christmas Cantata" and Randol Alan Bass' "Gloria." Enjoy!



On **Monday, December 11 at 7:00 p.m.** join us for the MSU Holiday Brass Concert in the Sanctuary. The Fine Arts Committee, hosting the event, will provide refreshments in Friendship Hall following the performance.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Join us on **December 10** for our annual Children's Christmas Pageant. During our 10:30 a.m. worship service, the children, directed by Liz Reed, will present *The First Christmas*. There will be a cookie reception to follow in the Snider Social Hall. Contact Julie Bills, if you would like to donate cookies.

YOUTH WRITING CONTEST

A Third Way Youth Writing Contest: Exploring Solutions for Difficult Problems will be accepting entries from middle school, high school, and college students of The Peoples Church. Prizes will be awarded in each age group. Submission of essays and narrative writing are welcomed. The winners will be encouraged to present their submissions at *WNL!* during the Lenten season. This event is co-sponsored by Fruit of Agape Community Transformations. More information to come in the December Portal and online.

THE PEOPLES FORUM

Today The Peoples Forum welcomes Ken Beachler, who will give us a holiday reading. Join us in the Robertson Room at 9:30 a.m. The Peoples Forum welcomes a different speaker each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the Robertson Room.



PEOPLES 101

Got a question you've been dying to ask about The Peoples Church? Are you new and just want more information? Looking for ways to get involved? Come to a 20-30 minute informal discussion with a Pastor and members of the Welcome Ministry in the Robertson Room, **Today**, immediately following 10:30 a.m. worship. We've got answers and all are welcome!

SNOW PANTS COLLECTION!

Keep your donations coming; snow pants collection continues! All new and gently used snow pants are delivered to Judson Memorial Baptist Church for distribution in the Lansing area. A collection box is outside of the main office. Thank you for keeping our kids warm while playing outside in the Michigan weather!

SOUTHSIDE COMMUNITY KITCHEN

Each week Southside Community Kitchen serves 200 - 250 meals to hungry people of all ages, and for 30 years they've depended on volunteers to help. The Peoples Church participates in this effort the third Tuesday of each month from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at Galilee Baptist Church, 2511 Reo Rd., Lansing. To help, please contact Jan Perron at jrperron@comcast.net, or sign up using the sign up sheet located on the back of this bulletin.

THIS WEEK AT WNL!

Join us, Wednesday, December 6, at 6:30 p.m. in the Robertson Room as we continue to explore the Songs of Christmas. All are welcome!

THANK YOU TO OUR NOVEMBER BARISTAS!

Sue and Wayne Budde, Susan Coopes, Mary Culham, Jane and Dave Ledebuhr, Ann and John Lindley, Matthew Rick.

If you wish to be part of this wonderful fellowship service, sign up to serve coffee via the Coffee Fellowship link found on our website under **CONNECT!**

CHRISMON TREE HISTORY: PART 1

The ornaments on the tree in the front of the sanctuary are known as Chrismons – CHRIST MONograms. They have been made over a number of years by the children, youth and adults of The Peoples Church. Chrismons are made of white and gold materials signifying Christ's purity and majesty. The cross is one of the earliest symbols of Christianity and variations have developed over time. There are at least nine different cross forms on the tree. See how many you can find.

Latin Cross - with an extended vertical arm this is one of the most familiar.

Anchor Cross – the anchor is an ancient symbol of safety and hope for the future. Christ is the hope for Christians.

Celtic Cross – a cross with a ring surrounding its intersection. Legend says St. Patrick used the image to teach pagans about the importance of the cross by linking it to the life-giving properties of the sun.

Cross of Constantine – formed by the first two Greek letters of the word, Christ, Chi and Rho.

Cross Treflee – the three circles at each end represent the Trinity; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Cross with Orb – the circle reminds us that earth and heaven are in God's hands and the Word of God is spread around the earth.

Eastern (Orthodox) Cross – recognized by three horizontal crossbars. The top bar represents the plate inscribed with INRI and the bottom one a footrest slanted upward toward the repentant thief on Jesus' right and down toward the unrepentant one on his left.

Greek Cross – a symmetrical cross representing the four directions of the earth and the spreading of the Gospel.

St. Andrew's Cross – the X-shaped cross on which the Apostle Andrew was martyred. It is often used as a symbol for the whole church.

EDGEWOOD VILLAGE CHRISTMAS GIFTS!

You're invited to help the children at Edgewood Village enjoy a wonderful Christmas. On December 3 and December 10, a Christmas tree with gift ideas will be in the Northwest Entrance. Choose an ornament and return the new, unwrapped gift by December 17 so it can be wrapped and delivered before Christmas morning! If you can assist with gift wrapping on Wednesday, December 20 at 1:00 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: _____

email: _____

phone: _____

CHILD OF PEACE—A CHRISTMAS STORY FOR ALL

On **Wednesday, December 13**, from 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m., the Women of Peoples Church Rebecka/Hannah Circle will host *A Child of Peace Christmas Story* beautifully told through music and in American Sign Language. This event is open to the deaf and hard-of-hearing community, The Peoples Church members, and friends and family! Join us in the Robertson Room.



Bev Mason,
Vocalist/Narrator



Vicky Ramirez-Smith,
Sign Language Interpreter

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



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA MEMORIAL GIFTS (PLEASE PRINT)

_____ 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 DEC. 10

Questions? Contact Dee Przybylski at 517.332.5073 or dprzybylski@thepeopleschurch.com



WANT TO HELP AT SOUTHSIDE COMMUNITY KITCHEN IN 2018



JAN. 16, FEB. 20, MAR. 20, APR. 17, MAY 15, JUN. 19, JUL. 17, AUG. 21, SEP. 18, OCT. 16, NOV. 20, DEC. 18 (circle dates you are available)

Name: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Questions? Contact Jan Perron at 517.337.2656 or jrperron@comcast.com



"Christmas Cantata"

Movement I

Shepherds, tell us your story. Speak to us!
Again describe the vision of glory which on earth appeared.
Born for us was Christ Jesus.
We heard the angel chorus singing praises of the Lord. Alleluia!

Movement II

O wond'rous this mystery that even lowly beasts might behold Him.
Who though the Son of God, a Son of man on earth was born.
Within a manger he did lie. O blessed virgin most holy.
O blessed virgin worthy was the womb that did carry our Savior Jesus Christ.

Movement III

Refrain: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, goodwill towards men.
O be joyful in the Lord, ye nations,
With gladness serve the Lord, with gladness serve ye Him.
(Refrain)
Come before Him, come before His presence,
Come unto Him with singing, joy and exultation.
(Refrain)
Now know ye, know that the Lord, He is God strong and mighty,
He created us and not we ourselves.
(Refrain)
Alleluia!



"Gloria"

Glory be to God on high,
and on earth peace, good will towards men.
We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee, we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.
For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.



"Gloria"

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and on earth peace, good will towards men.
We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee, we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
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Come unto Him with singing, joy and exultation.
(Refrain)
Now know ye, know that the Lord, He is God strong and mighty,
He created us and not we ourselves.
(Refrain)
Alleluia!