

Sanctuary Service

January 1, 2023



THE PEOPLES CHURCH

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

517.332.5073 | ThePeoplesChurch.com

Sunday Schedule

Chapel Service: 8:30 a.m.
(resumes January 8)

Sanctuary Service: 10:30 a.m. in
the Sanctuary & Livestreamed on
YouTube.

Sunday School will resume next
week.

Nursery Care is provided for
Children Under 3.

A Nursing Room is available for
those who need it. Ask an usher
or the Welcome Desk for
directions.

W@PC

Wednesdays @ Peoples Church
is a weekly community dinner
followed by programming. Join
us at 5:30 p.m. in the Social
Hall!

ASL Interpreted Service

The Peoples Church is proud to
welcome ASL interpreters for our
Sunday worship service and for
special events.

Sensory Tool Kit

A Sensory Tool Kit is
reserved for individuals who
get overstimulated during
church services and need
something to help calm the
nervous system. The kit can
be borrowed at the
Welcome desk.

THE PEOPLES CHURCH STAFF

Office hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri., and Sunday mornings. Phones are monitored from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

Reception Desk (517) 332.5073

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe (517) 908.4442
Senior Pastor, United Church of Christ
smonroe@thepeopleschurch.com

Zoe Aho (517) 908.4452
Communications Specialist
zaho@thepeopleschurch.com

Jess Beurkens (517) 908.4446
Finance Administrator
jbeurkens@thepeopleschurch.com

Dana Johnson (517) 908.4449
Preschool Director
djohnson@thepeopleschurch.com

Beth Lundy (517) 908.4453
Membership Coordinator
blundy@thepeopleschurch.com

Zack Matthews (517) 908.4444
Facility Director
zmatthews@thepeopleschurch.com

Kathi Mitchell (517) 908.4447
Children's Christian Education Director
kmitchell@thepeopleschurch.com

Elisha Smith (517) 332.6264
Youth Director
esmith@thepeopleschurch.com

Vince Watson
Events Coordinator
vwatson@thepeopleschurch.com

Judy Kabodian, Musician in Residence

Elizabeth Reed, Children's Music & Bell Choir Director

Dr. Jonathan Reed, Director of Music

Rev. Penny Swartz, Minister Emeritus

COUNCIL OF ELDERS

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

JOIN US REMOTELY!

To join the online livestream of the worship service, click [here!](#)

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

MAKE A GIFT ONLINE

[CLICK HERE!](#)



Order of Service | January 1, 2023

Prelude

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice
Judy Kabodian, organist

arr. Franz Liszt

Please take this opportunity to fill out the black attendance pad found at the end of your pew.

Welcome

Rev. Penny Swartz

***Call to Worship**

One: God's Spirit calls to our spirits,

All: Inviting us to worship.

One: God's Spirit calls to our spirits,

All: Inviting us by love.

One: God's Spirit calls to our spirits,

**All: Calling us by name,
Calling us to grow in faith,
Calling us to be made new.**

One: We come to worship in this season of the Spirit.

All: Amen.

***Gathering Hymn**

Here in This Place (v. 1-4)

no. 401

Here in this place the new light is streaming; now is the darkness vanished away; see in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day. Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us in, the blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery. We are the old, who yearn for your face. We have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race. Gather us in, the rich and the haughty; gather us in, the proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so lowly; give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water; here we will take the bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth. Give us to drink the wine of compassion; give us to eat the bread that is you; nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Continued...

Hymn of Response

Be Still, My Soul (v. 1-2)

no. 819

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side. Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain. Leave to thy God to order and provide, who through all changes faithful will remain. Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heavenly Friend through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: thy God doth undertake to guide the future surely as the past. Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake; all now mysterious shall be bright at last. Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know his voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.

Be Still, My Soul

Text: Katharina von Schlegel, 1752

Music: Jean Sibelius, 1899

Copyright: 2013

CLI#: 1698862

Pastoral Prayer and 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

Offertory

****Act of Praise***

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

Prayer of Dedication

We dedicate these gifts to you, O God, as an expression of our faith. You have given us the responsibility to be good stewards of these offerings. Open our minds and our hearts that we might imagine the best possible uses of these resources. May this act of giving draw us closer to you and extend a blessing to all who are helped through our sharing. Amen.

Service of Communion

Invitation

Prayer of Consecration and Blessing

Words of Institution

Sharing of Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks, O God, for refreshing us at the table of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world united in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

***Sending Hymn**

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing (v. 1-2)

no. 546

Lord, dismiss us with your blessing; fill our hearts with joy and peace; let us each, your love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace. O refresh us, O refresh us, traveling through this wilderness.

Thanks we give and adoration for your gospel's joyful sound; may the fruits of your salvation in our hearts and lives abound. Ever faithful, ever faithful to your truth may we be found.

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing
Text: Attr. John Fawcett, 1773
Music: Sicilian melody, 18th cent.
Copyright: 2013
CLI#: 1698862

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

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentleman
Judy Kabodian, organist

arr. Michael Burkhardt

PROGRAMMING AT THE PEOPLES CHURCH

COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP: After the service, please join us in Friendship Hall for freshly brewed coffee, sweet treats, and fellowship!

CAMPUS MINISTRY: Campus Ministry will resume on January 8th.

TAIZE SERVICE: This month's Taizé Service is on January 29th at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel. Services consist of repetitive and meditative singing, prayer, scripture, and silence. It is a powerful, quiet, contemplative worship experience. This service is inter-denominational and all are welcome.

ACHE: Adults Connecting and Having Events is a young adult group that meets on the first and third Thursday of each month. Our next meeting is on January 19th at 6:30 p.m. To keep up with events, follow ache_thepeopleschurch on Instagram.

PUB THEOLOGY: Pub Theology meets on the second Thursday of the month at to engage in conversation about faith, life, and what is happening in the world. We will meet at 6:30 p.m. on January 12th.

ENGAGING THE WORD: Led by Pastor Shawnthea, this group meets in-person on Mondays from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Robertson Room and Wednesdays on Zoom from 9 to 10 a.m. The Zoom link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81906921959>.

WEDNESDAYS @ PEOPLES CHURCH: A community dinner is hosted every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. in the Social Hall, followed by your choice of dance aerobics with Shawnthea Monroe, or Faith & the News bible study in the library. We hope you can join us for Wednesdays @ Peoples Church!

TUESDAY MORNING MEN'S GROUP: The Tuesday Morning Men's Group is currently reading *The Divine Conspiracy: Rediscovering Our Hidden Life in God* by Dallas Willard. We continue to meet at 7:30 a.m. on Tuesdays in the Robertson Room.

MEN'S WEDNESDAY NOON DISCUSSION GROUP: Please join us in the Robertson Room for our discussion of John Pavlovitz's book "A Bigger Table".

CHICs (CONNECTED HEARTS IN CHRIST): CHiCs (Connected Hearts in Christ) is a Women's small group that is currently reading *Accidental Saints* by Nadia Bolz-Weber. If you are interested in joining the group or have questions, contact Beth Lundy at lundybb@comcast.net or (610)246-0029.

VOICES OF THE COMMUNITY: Held on the first Sunday of each month at 9:30 a.m. in the Robertson Room, these informative presentations give a voice to various community members on a wide range of topics. Our January 8, 2023 speaker is Tom Bres, Chief Information Officer at Sparrow Health System.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TELL-A-TAIL: The Library Committee is sponsoring a Tell-a-Tail program for children on the second Wednesday of every month, January – May from 6 – 7p.m. in the Church Library. Children will be able to practice reading aloud to Reba, a therapy dog. Reading aloud to a dog has been shown to improve reading proficiency. Children may bring their own book or select a book from the Library. Reading sessions will last about 10 minutes per child. Please plan to come January 11.

EUCHRE TOURNAMENT: Join us for the 1st Annual Peoples Church Euchre Tournament! Friday, January 20th from 5:30-9:30 p.m. Cost is \$10.00 per person and includes pizza, snacks and beverages. Points will be kept individually, so there is no need to find a partner. Sign-up by emailing office@thepeopleschurch.com. Space is limited to 32 experienced players.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE: The American Red Cross will host a blood drive at our church on Friday, January 13th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Robertson Room. To schedule an appointment, visit RedCrossBlood.org or call 1-800-733-2767.

THANK YOU! *"We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give."* -Winston Churchill. Profound thanks to all who donated to the Refugee Services shoes and boots fund. The generosity of the Peoples Church congregation is astounding.

JANUARY PORTAL: The January Portal is out now! To view the newsletter, visit <https://www.thepeopleschurch.com/newsletter-archive> . If you would like to submit an article to the February Portal, please email zaho@thepeopleschurch.com by January 15.