

SUNDAY WORSHIP

FEBRUARY 20, 2022



THE PEOPLES CHURCH

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

Sunday Schedule

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

Nursery Care is available for children under 3

Sunday School begins after the children's moment

Wednesday Night Programming

Our community meal outreach program continues. Individually prepared meals can be picked up between 5:00 & 6:00 p.m. in the Northwest entrance of the building. For more details, check [The Peoples Church Facebook page](#).

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., 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

Rev. Dr. Devon Herrell (517) 908.4448

Associate Pastor, United Methodist
dherrell@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

Elizabeth Price (517) 908.4452

Communications Specialist
eprice@thepeopleschurch.com

Elisha Smith (517) 332.6264

Youth Director
esmith@thepeopleschurch.com

Judy Kabodian, Musician in Residence

Elizabeth Reed, Children's Music & Bell Choir Director

Dr. Jonathan Reed, Director of Music

Todd Smith, Hospitality Coordinator

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 | February 20, 2022

Prelude

Balm in Gilead
Judy Kabodian, Organist

arr. L. N. Porter

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

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

***Call to Worship**

One Like empty jars, we have come to be filled.

All Like unlit candles, we have come to be set alight.

One Like weary travelers, we have come to find rest.

All Like little children, we have come to be surprised.

One Hear the word of God and make your reply:

‘Come into my house and be in my presence!’

All We hear God call and we have come to God’s house.

Let us celebrate God’s power and glory!

***Gathering Hymn**

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven (v. 1-2, 4)

no. 620

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; to his feet your tribute bring; ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore his praises sing: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favor to his people in distress; praise him still the same as ever, slow to chide, and swift to bless: Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious in his faithfulness.

Angels, help us to adore him; you behold him face to face. Sun and moon, bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven
Text: Henry Francis Lyte (1834)
Music: John Goss (1869)
Copyright: 2013
CLI#: 1698862

Prayer of Confession

Eternal God, remind us of all the times and ways we have neglected to listen to you. Some of us have been complacent with the tasks we have been given. Others have chosen to follow the desires of their hearts rather than seek your will. We have pretended we are not equipped to carry out your ministry. We have imagined ourselves too busy to attend to the needs of the soul. Our souls lack purpose and our hearts are heavy. You know what ails us and the cure we require. Forgive us. Love us. Draw us back to you through Christ Jesus. Amen.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

***Confession Response**

Spirit of the Living God

no. 288

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Passing the Peace of Christ

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

Children's Moment

Anthem

Ubi Caritas

Ola Gjeilo

Sanctuary Choir, Directed by Dr. Jonathan Reed

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.

Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.

Exsultemus et in ipso jucundemur.

Timeamus et amemus Deum vivum.

Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.

Amen.

Where charity and love are, God is there.

The love of Christ has gathered us together.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Let us revere and love the living God.

And from a sincere heart let us love one another.

Amen.

Scripture

Luke 6: 27-38

Sermon

"Please Help"

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

Hymn of Response

God, How Can We Forgive (v. 1, 3)

no. 445

God, how can we forgive when bonds of love are torn? How can we rise and start anew, our trust reborn? When human loving fails and every hope is gone, your love gives strength beyond our own to face the dawn.

Who dares to throw the stone to damn another's sin, when you, while knowing all our past, forgive again? No more we play the judge, for by your grace we live. As you, O God, forgive our sin, may we forgive.

God, How Can We Forgive
Text: Ruth Duck, (1994)
Music: Jewish melody (17th cent.)
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***

Holy One, bless our offering and help us to care for those who hunger, who hurt, who seek new hope. Receive these gifts as a sign of our intention to live attuned to your Spirit and open to the joy of Christ's presence. Amen.

****Sending Hymn***

Help Us Accept Each Other (v. 1-3)

no. 754

Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us; teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace. Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe we are ourselves accepted, and meant to love and live.

Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith. Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some, to love them as we find them, or as they may become.

Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved in living situations to do the truth in love; to practice your acceptance until we know by heart the table of forgiveness, and laughter's healing art.

Help Us Accept Each Other
Text: Fred Kaan (1974)
Music: Doreen Potter (1974)
Copyright: 2013
CLI#: 1698862

****Benediction***

Postlude

Overture in G Major

G. F. Handel

WEEKLY HAPPENINGS AT THE PEOPLES CHURCH

PEOPLES FORUM: The Forum will resume **February 27th** with Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe, *"Telling Our Story."* Presentations are held in the Robertson Room and over Zoom from 9:30—10:15 a.m. If you would like to join online, go to zoom.us, click join meeting, **Meeting ID: 843 6791 4516, Passcode: 907964.**

CAMPUS MINISTRY: Join us on Sundays following service for Lunch and Lounge—a time of fellowship, food and rest. Campus Ministry also meets at **6:30 p.m. on Wednesday nights** for Bible Study! Theology on Tap has been cancelled for the month of February.

PEOPLES CHURCH YOUTH GROUP: We have resumed **in-person meetings on Sunday evenings.** Reach out to Elisha Smith for more details: esmith@thepeopleschurch.

TUESDAY MORNING MEN'S GROUP: The Tuesday morning men's group is reading *Everyone's a Theologian: An Introduction to Systematic Theology* by R.C. Sproul. We continue to meet at **7:30 a.m. on Tuesdays in the Robertson Room.**

TOWN & GOWN & GREAT DECISIONS: Town and Gown and Great Decisions will sponsor the upcoming session with Dr. Ann Larabee on *"The Dynamite Fiend: A Tale of Terror in the 19th Century"* **next Tuesday, February 22nd.** All presentations are held in the **Robertson Room and over Zoom.** To join online, click [here](#) (online bulletin only), and when prompted enter passcode: Town&Gown. Town and Gown is held from 5-6:20 p.m. on Tuesday evenings. View upcoming presentations [here](#) (online bulletin only). Dr. John Waller, program director, sends a weekly email announcing the Town & Gown speaker and topic, and Zoom information. To register, go to the Age Alive home page: <https://www.agealive.org>. Scroll down half way, and you will see information on the Town & Gown series and how to register to receive weekly notices and the Zoom link for each session.

SERMON PREVIEW GROUP: The sermon preview group will meet **Wednesday, February 23rd at 9 a.m.** to review **Exodus 34:29-35.** Join us on zoom by clicking [here](#), or enter the meeting ID into your zoom app: 813 6414 0406.

WEDNESDAY NOON MEN'S GROUP: We continue our study of *If God is Love, Don't be a Jerk* by John Pavlovitz.

CHiCs (CONNECTED HEARTS IN CHRIST) WOMEN'S GROUP: We meet on **Thursday evenings from 7-8:30 p.m. both by zoom and/or in person.** For more information about CHiCs or to join the group, contact Beth Lundy at lundybb@comcast.net or 610-246-0029.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

A memorial service honoring Ernamarie Messenger will be held today in the sanctuary. The service will begin at 2 p.m. and will be livestreamed.

PREPARING FOR LENT

The Community Lenten Devotional will be available online and in print by **February 27th**. There are multiple ways to participate on **Ash Wednesday (March 2nd)**. Drive Thru ashes will be available from **8 a.m.—2 p.m. via the drop off loop on the North Side of the Church**—off Albert Street. An in person **Ash Wednesday** service will be held in the **sanctuary at 7 p.m.**, we continue to broadcast all services on our YouTube channel.

REBEKAH-HANNAH CIRCLE

Rebekah-Hannah Circle will meet for fellowship and conversation on **Wednesday, February 23rd at noon in the Centennial Room**. Bring your own brown bag lunch. Beverages will be provided. Pastor Devon will be our guest—others are welcome to join us! If you have questions, please call Gretchen Rosenbrook at 332-5132, or Joan Wright at 349-1074. **Circle attendees: Please do NOT bring Shellfish or Fish in your bagged lunches. Todd Smith, TPC Hospitality Coordinator, has an extreme airborne allergy to these food products. Thank you!**

THE KNITTING PEOPLE

We invite you to join us in the **Robertson Room on February 24th from 1-3 p.m.**, as we knit and crochet baby blankets, prayer shawls, hats and mittens. Please bring completed items for blessing! New people are always welcome. Questions? Call Mary Anne at 517-214-1487.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Confirmation classes will **begin March 6th, from 5:30-6:30 p.m.** If you know a middle school aged child who would be interested, please reach out to Elisha Smith (esmith@thepeopleschurch.com) or Devon Herrell (dherrell@thepeopleschurch.com).

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY PICTURES

Unfortunately, we are not able to use pictures from the last pictorial directory. However, you will be included in the directory even if you did not have a recent picture taken. If you do not want to be included, please contact Beth Lundy at blundy@thepeopleschurch.com, or call 517-908-4453.

Floral Dedication

In honor of Elfriede Lechler.
In memory of Barbara Lindgren.
- Peter & Lori Lechler





Every Wednesday in February, Rev. Dr. Devon Herrell invites you to walk the labyrinth in the **Snider Social Hall from 4-7 p.m.** She will have resources for you to participate and options for guided meditation. Just bring yourself, an open mind, and an adventurous spirit! We hope you will join us. For more information about Praying the Labyrinth Way, view our February *Portal*.



Take a few moments to visit the new Fine Arts Committee exhibit by Michigan artist Sharon McAuley which is now on display throughout the halls bordering the church Sanctuary and the Thomsen case across from the library. Additional pieces can be found in the Kiosk adjacent to the church office. The exhibit is titled "This Re-birthing: Coming Alive Painting with Oils" and grew out of personal loss as well as the political, cultural and environmental crises afflicting our world. Eight months prior to the onset of the Covid pandemic, Sharon's husband, Frank passed away and in that turbulent world she was seeking hope, renewed vitality and a re-emergence of life. That culminated in a creative explosion — she put down her brushes and began painting with her hands. The exhibit features nearly 30 pieces resulting from that effort. It features both brush-applied and hand-applied oil work that portray healing, hope and a rebirth of life. The exhibit will be on display through May 19. Pick up a catalog for the exhibit in the NW entrance of the church.