

Sanctuary Service

September 17, 2023

“...the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves.”

Matthew 18:23



THE PEOPLES CHURCH

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

517.332.5073 | ThePeoplesChurch.com

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

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

There is Sunday School after the Children's Moment.

Professional 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.

Please join us after the service in our front lobby for coffee hour and fellowship!

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 over-stimulated during church services and need something to help calm the nervous system. The kit can be borrowed at the Welcome desk.

LISTENING DEVICES

Listening devices that amplify sound from stage microphones are available upon request.

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.

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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. Diane Shafer, 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, you
can find
**The Peoples Church
of East Lansing
on YouTube!**

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



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MAKE A GIFT ONLINE
HERE!



Order of Service | September 17, 2023

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

Prelude

Prelude in F Minor
Judy Kabodian, Organist

J.S. Bach

Acolytes: Theo & Gabe

Welcome

***Call to Worship**

Jim McClurken

One This is a time of God's appearing!
Open your eyes and see God in our midst.

All Come, let us worship the Lord!

One Lift up your prayers and know that God listens.
Forgive one another as you are forgiven.

All Come, let us worship the Lord!

One Hear the Good News: you are God's children.

All We rejoice and worship the Lord!

***Gathering Hymn**

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty (v. 1-3)

no. 403

Open now thy gates of beauty, Zion, let me enter there, where my soul in joyful duty waits for God who answers prayer; O how blessed is this place, filled with solace, light, and grace.

Gracious God, I come before thee; come thou also unto me; where we find thee and adore thee, there a heaven on earth must be; to my heart O enter thou; let it be thy temple now.

Speak, O Lord, and I will hear thee; let thy will be done indeed; may I undisturbed draw near thee, while thou dost thy people feed. Here of life the fountain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty
Text: Benjamin Schmolck (1732)
Music: Joachim Neander (1680)
Copyright: 2013
CLI#: 1698862

Prayer of Confession

God of compassion, how can we stand in your presence? Your goodness and mercy are beyond our understanding. We confess we do not love like you love. Our love is conditional; our forgiveness must be earned. We convince ourselves that we can decide who is a saint and who is a sinner. Yet your love knows no boundaries and your mercy is freely given. Forgive us for all the ways we fail to be like Jesus. Forgive us for all our grudges and judgement. Draw us back into your presence and help us to love and forgive like Jesus. Amen.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

****Confession Response***

There is Now a New Creation

no. 774

There is now a new creation through the grace of Jesus Christ, peace and reconciliation with the God of endless life.

Passing the Peace of Christ

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

Children's Moment

Anthem

Here's One

Sanctuary Choir directed by Dr. Jonathan Reed

Talk about a child who do love Jesus, here's one, here's one. Talk about a child who do love Jesus, here's one, here's one. Ever since I heard the gospel story, I been walkin' up the road to glory. Talk about a child who do love Jesus, here's one. Talk about a child who's been forgiven, here's one, here's one. Talk about a child who's been forgiven, here's one, here's one. Ever since I heard the gospel story, I been walkin' up the road to glory. Talk about a child who's been forgiven, here's one. Talk about a child who's been converted, here's one, here's one. Talk about a child who's been converted, here's one, here's one! Ever since I heard the gospel story, I been walkin' up the road to glory. Talk about a child who's been converted, here's one. Talk about a child who do love Jesus, here's one, here's one, here's one.

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 149

Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 18:21-35

Hymn of Response

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive (v. 1-4)

no. 444

“Forgive our sins as we forgive,” you taught us, Lord, to pray, but you alone can grant us grace to live the words we say.

How can your pardon reach and bless the unforgiving heart that broods on wrongs and will not let old bitterness depart?

In blazing light your cross reveals the truth we dimly knew: what trivial debts are owed to us, how great our debt to you!

Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls and bid resentment cease. Then, by your mercy reconciled, our lives will spread your peace.

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots (1969)

Music: Supplement to Kentucky Harmony (1820); harm. Margaret W. Mealy (1985)

Copyright: 2013

CLI#: 1698862

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer

Rev. Haley Hansen

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



To make a gift online, please scan the QR code.

***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 are thankful that we have enough to share, holy God. Bless the gifts we have shared and the ministry of this church. May our small acts of generosity inspire large acts of mercy, done in Christ’s name. Amen.

O Master, let me walk with thee in lowly paths of service free; tell me thy secret; help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.

Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear, winning word of love; teach me the wayward feet to stay, and guide them in the homeward way.

Teach me thy patience, still with thee in closer, dearer company, in work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in trust that triumphs over wrong.

In hope that sends a shining ray far down the future's broadening way; in peace that only thou canst give, with thee, O Master, let me live.

Lord, Make Us More Holy
Text & Music: African American Spiritual
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CLI#: 1698862

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response**

Postlude

Rigaudon
Judy Kabodian, Organist

Andre Campra



Today's floral arrangement is dedicated in memory of Russ Kropschot on his birthday, from his wife Susan, and Jeffrey and Krissa.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW MEMBERS CLASS: Interested in learning more about The Peoples Church? Join us for a New Members Class **TODAY at 11:30 a.m.** Please indicate if you need childcare and it will be provided.

NEW ART EXHIBIT: The Fine Arts Committee has announced the installation of its latest exhibit, 'Where ART Thou??: Playful Reflections on Religion and Scripture' by local artist and member of The Peoples Church, Chance Liscomb. The exhibit will be on display throughout the hallways bordering the sanctuary, the kiosk in the Rotunda, and Friendship Hall until December 7. Find an exhibit program across from the Welcome Desk to learn more about Chance and his beautiful exhibit. You can also visit Chance's website, www.sculpturebychance.com.

HENRY & ANNABEL LARZELERE MEMORIAL LECTURE: The Peoples Church is hosting Dr. Kristin Kobes Du Mez for our annual Henry & Annabel Memorial Lecture on **Sunday, November 12 at 1 p.m.** The title of her lecture is 'Jesus & John Wayne and the Evangelical Reckoning.' Dr. Du Mez will give a brief presentation during our 10:30 a.m. sanctuary service, and there will be a luncheon following the service before her full lecture at 1 p.m. This free event is open to anyone who wants to attend, and all are welcome. Dr. Du Mez is a New York Times bestselling author and Professor of History and Gender Studies at Calvin University. She holds a PhD from the University of Notre Dame and her research focuses on the intersection of gender, religion, and politics. Her most recent book is 'Jesus and John Wayne: How White Evangelicals Corrupted a Faith and Fractured a Nation.' The Henry and Annabel Larzelere Memorial Lecture Series was established in 2017 to honor Henry and Annabel Larzelere's interest in continuing education on topics of international interest and theological thought.

NYAKA FUNDRAISER: Nyaka Global is back with its One-By-One fundraiser, *Soaring Above Adversity*. Celebrate with the friends and Ugandan staff of Nyaka **at Urban Beat in Old Town Lansing on Thursday, October 12 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.** For more information contact: info@nyakaglobal.org, or call 877-466-9252.

LADIES LUNCH BUNCH: Ladies Lunch Bunch is picking back up for a lunch at **noon on Wednesday, September 27 at Coral Gables restaurant in East Lansing.** The restaurant will need a close headcount to secure a reservation, so please call (517) 349-1074 to let the lunch organizers know you would like to attend, or make an email confirmation if you are already part of a previous Ladies Lunch Bunch email chain.

CHURCH TOURS: Join us for "The Peoples Church Talk and Tour" on **Sunday, October 1** if you would like to learn more about the history and ministry of The Peoples Church. To participate in the guided tour, come to the front of the sanctuary at the end of the 10:30 a.m. service. The tour will take about 45 minutes.

PROGRAMMING AT THE PEOPLES CHURCH

ACHE: Adults Connecting and Having Events is a young adult group that meets twice a month. **Sunday, September 24 at 6 p.m.** ACHE is going out to Horrock's Beer Garden for dinner and fellowship. The plan is to meet in The Peoples Church parking lot at 6 p.m. and carpool to Horrocks. To keep up with events, follow us on Instagram @ache_thepeopleschurch, or contact Pastor Haley by emailing hhansen@thepeopleschurch.com.

COLLEGE MINISTRY: Campus/college ministry is picking up some familiar and new activities this fall! College students are welcome to meet **in the Campus Lounge on Sundays after the 10:30 a.m. service** for a free lunch! College students are also welcome **Thursdays at 5 p.m.** for dinner and an activity; each Thursday of the month there will be a different activity following dinner. For more information, contact Pastor Haley by emailing hhansen@thepeopleschurch.com.

ENGAGING THE WORD: Pastor Shawnthea leads the in-person study group on **Mondays from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Robertson Room**, and the **Wednesday Zoom session from 9 to 10 a.m.** The Zoom link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86068627263>. Pastor Haley leads a Bible Study at **9:30 a.m. on Sundays in the Campus Lounge**. This week's passage is Matthew 20:1-16.

PEOPLES CHURCH YOUTH GROUP: PCYG will resume its normal Sunday meeting time **TONIGHT at 6:30 p.m.!** This is the time of the year when we welcome our incoming 6th grade students! If you know any new (or older) students who are interested in PCYG please contact our youth director, Elisha, by emailing esmith@thepeopleschurch.com.

PUB THEOLOGY: We meet on the **first Tuesday each month, 6:00 p.m. at Crunchy's** to engage in conversation about faith, life, and what is happening in the world.

TAIZE SERVICE: Monthly Taize services are back beginning **Sunday, September 24!** Taize services take place on **the last Sunday of every month at 6:30 p.m.**, and consist of repetitive and meditative singing, prayer, scripture, and silence. It is a powerful, quiet, contemplative worship experience. These services are inter-denominational and all are welcome.

TUESDAY MORNING MEN'S GROUP: The Tuesday Morning Men's Group is currently reading 'Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home' by Richard Foster. We continue to meet at **7:30 a.m. on Tuesdays in the Robertson Room**.

WEDNESDAY MEN'S GROUP: Join the men's Wednesday discussion group that meets **every Wednesday at noon in The Robertson Room** for good conversation and donuts. Currently the group is reading 'Saving Jesus From the Church' by Robin Meyers.

WEDNESDAYS @ PEOPLES CHURCH: Our Wednesday Community Dinners are back! Join us **every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. in Snider Social Hall!** At **6 p.m.** Pastor Shawnthea teaches dance aerobics in the gym, and Pastor Haley teaches a financial wellness course at **6:30 p.m.** All are welcome!