

SUNDAY WORSHIP

DECEMBER 26, 2021



THE PEOPLES CHURCH

200 W. Grand River Ave. | East Lansing, MI 48823
517.332.5073 | [ThePeoplesChurch.com](https://www.ThePeoplesChurch.com)

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

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

There is no Sunday School
today

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 out [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.

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Dr. Jonathan Reed, Director of Music
Elizabeth Reed, Children's Music & Bell Choir Director
Judy Kabodian, Musician in Residence
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. Kari Naghtin, 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,
please dial
(844) 933-0517
and follow the prompts.

**MAKE A GIFT
ONLINE**

[CLICK HERE!](#)

Order of Service | December 26, 2021

Prelude

Greensleeves
Judy Kabodian, Organist

R. Vaughan Williams

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

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Devon Herrell

***Call to Worship**

One Praise God from the heavens!

All Praise God from the skies above!

One Praise God, angels and all the hosts of heaven!

All Praise God, sun and moon, and shining stars!

One Praise God, all creatures great and small,

All Praise God, animals and birds, reptiles and fish!

One Praise God, kings of the earth and people everywhere,

All Praise God, men and women, young and old!

One Let all the earth bring praise to the Lord,
at whose word creation came into being.

All We gather to praise and worship our God!

***Gathering Hymn**

Joy to the World (v. 1-4)

no. 134

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king; let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground; he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

Joy to the World
Text: Isaac Watts (1719)
Music: Attr. George Frederick Handel (1742)
Copyright: 2013
CL#: 1698862

Prayer of Confession

Forgiving God, have mercy on us when we allow darkness to overcome the light.

When hard hearts keep us from recognizing the needs of others, may we be overwhelmed by your grace. When wars around us do not evoke concern, move us to compassion for all who suffer, and to seek justice for our brothers and sisters.

We confess our sins before you and each other. Remove all barriers that divide us, and let there be no obstacle to our love for you and for one another. Amen.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

***Sung Response** Good Christian Friends, Rejoice (v. 3) no. 132

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall. Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

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

Children's Moment

Solo The Son of Mary arr. Jackie O'Neill

Christine Roberts Glassman, Mezzo-Soprano

What shall we give to the son of Mary? What shall we give to the tiny boy? Raisins and figs and walnuts and olives, these are the things that the child would enjoy. La, la, la la la la la, la la. Angels come down from the sky to adore him. Angels from high come to rock him to sleep. Raising their voices in songs full of glory, while the babe slumbers so safe in their keep. La, la, la la la la la, la la.

Scripture Colossians 3:12-17

Sermon "New Christmas Clothes" Rev. Dr. Devon Herrell

Carol Sing Along

Hark the Herald Angels Sing (v. 1, 3) no. 119

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king. Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!" Joyful, all ye nations rise; join the triumph of the skies; with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Hail the heaven born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings. Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die, born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Away in a Manger (v. 1-3)

no. 115

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes. I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky, and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

Away in a Manger
Text: Vineyard Songs (1892)
Music: James R. Murray (1887)
Copyright: 2013
CLI#: 1698862

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly (v. 1-2)

no. 128

Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall; oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the babe is Lord of all. Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing: Christ the babe is Lord of all! Christ the babe is Lord of all!

Flocks were sleeping; shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of the gospel true. Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing greet the morrow; Christ the babe was born for you! Christ the babe was born for you!

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly
Text: Polish carol
Music: Polish folk melody
Copyright: 2013
CLI#: 1698862

The First Noel (v. 1-2)

no. 147

The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay, in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far; and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

The First Noel
Text: English Carol
Music: English Carol
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**

King of Kings, we join the angels in singing your unending praise. You alone created the universe in all of its glory. We present these gifts knowing that they will be transformed into ministries of Good News. Bless this offering so our giving honors your glory. In the name of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, we pray. Amen.

***Sending Hymn**

Go Tell it on the Mountain (v. 1-3)

no. 136

Refrain: Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. Refrain.

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. Refrain.

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born, and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. Refrain.

Go Tell it on the Mountain
Text and Music: African American spiritual
Copyright: 2013
CLI#: 1698862

***Benediction**

Postlude

Now Sing We, Now Rejoice

J.S. Bach

****Please stand as able***

WEEKLY HAPPENINGS AT THE PEOPLES CHURCH

PEOPLES FORUM: Peoples Forum will recess until January—see you in the new year!

CAMPUS MINISTRY: Campus Ministry will recess until **January 12th**, when Campus Ministry will begin meeting Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. for dinner and bible study.

PEOPLES CHURCH YOUTH GROUP: PCYG will resume until **January 9th**—enjoy your break!

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.**

SERMON PREVIEW GROUP: The sermon preview group will resume **Wednesday, January 5th, 2022.**

WEDNESDAY NOON MEN'S GROUP: We have completed our study of *The Tyranny of Merit*. We will recess until Wednesday, January 12th, when we begin our study of *If God is Love Don't be a Jerk*, by John Pavlovitz.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LET'S PLAY GAMES (POSTPONED)!

Due to the rise in Covid-19 cases, we will be postponing our game night until February—we hope we are able to safely play games with each other soon!

THANK YOU

To all the Elves—Thank you for providing holiday gifts for the children of Edgewood Village. This year we were able to provide gifts for 108 children from 47 families. Your generosity in shopping, wrapping, providing donations and delivery is deeply appreciated!

REFUGEE SERVICES RESPONSE

Years ago I was talking with a most interesting man. When asked why he married his wife, he answered "Because she makes me a better man." That is how I feel about being part of the Peoples community. Recent response to the underwear drive and now the appeal for gift cards for Refugee Services support this. Many have said that they have been blessed and it is their joy to share. We at Peoples are part of a community that has consistently and now again demonstrated overwhelming generosity. The spirit does move among us. Something happens here. Thank you all.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FROM THE FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR:

End of year contributions must be postmarked by **December 31st**. If you are prepaying pledges for 2022, please be sure to indicate that. Also, one last gentle reminder to please fulfill your 2021 pledge by **December 31st**. We are grateful for your generosity!

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE

Chairs of Ministry: It is again time to assemble the annual report for Peoples Church. Ministry reports should include activities and achievements of the ministries and other events/information that you would like to share with our church family. The Annual Report of The Peoples Church provides well-documented records for our yearly activities and adds to the rich history of Peoples Church. Reports are due on **January 10th** and should be sent to Elizabeth at eprice@thepeopleschurch.com. Below you will find a list of who submitted a report in the 2019 or 2020 Annual Report:

- Senior Pastor
- Clerk
- Chairperson of the Elders
- Associate Pastor
- Children's Christian Education Director and Chairperson
- Campus Ministry Chairperson
- Peoples Church Youth Group Director
- Building & Grounds Chairperson
- Community Engagement Chairperson
- Finance Ministry Chairperson
- Personnel Chairperson
- Preschool Director
- Welcome Ministry Chairperson(s)
- Worship Ministry Chairperson
- Women of Peoples Church Chairperson

