

# THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LANSING



Prophet Ezekiel, Michelangelo, 1510, Sistine Chapel, Vanderbilt University Divinity Library

510 W. Ottawa Street ▪ Lansing, Michigan 48933  
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Facebook – Lansing First Presbyterian  
Summer Church Office Hours (M-Th) 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

SERVICE FOR OUR LORD'S DAY  
JULY 7, 2024 @ 10:00 AM  
SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**

MEGAN HIGLE

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (TAKEN FROM PSALM 123)

STEVE WARNAAR

<sup>1</sup>To you I lift up my eyes,  
to you enthroned in the heavens.

**<sup>2</sup>As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters,  
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,  
so our eyes look to you, O LORD our God,  
until you show us your mercy.**

<sup>3</sup>Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy,  
for we have had more than enough of contempt,

**<sup>4</sup>too much of the scorn of the indolent rich,  
and of the derision of the proud.**

**++ HYMN #65** [GTG] Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

*Few Welsh hymns are as well-known or loved as this 18th-century text that did not gain its popular tune until the early 20th century. In both its original text and in English translation, it is a stirring hymn of pilgrimage filled with vivid imagery from Hebrew scripture.*

**SERVICE OF RENEWAL**

CALL TO CONFESSION

STEVE WARNAAR

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

CONGREGATION

**Gracious God, we live in the tension of what we are  
called to be and our lived reality. We often fall short of  
the good we intend and our growing in the likeness of  
Christ is painfully slow at best. Forgive us we pray.**

++indicates to stand in body or spirit.

**Offer us the peace that passes all understanding that we might be forgiven and begin anew. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

STEVE WARNAAR

Hear the Good News! The old life is gone, a new life has begun.  
You are not who you were, may you live into who you can be.  
Know you are forgiven and be at peace. Thanks be to God! Amen

++ RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS #188 [GTG] JESUS LOVES ME!

***Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.***

***Little ones to him belong.***

***They are weak, but he is strong.***

***Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!***

***Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.***

++ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

STEVE WARNAAR

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**#414 [GTG] *Be still and know that I am God (3x).***

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

MS. MEGAN

MINUTE FOR MISSION

GEORGE BENNETT

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

STEVE WARNAAR

Loving God, open our hearts and minds to what you would  
say to us this day. Speak Lord, for your people are  
listening. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING EZEKIEL 2:1-5

STEVE WARNAAR

*In 597 BCE, the priest Ezekiel was removed into exile in Babylon. While there, he received a vision of God appearing majestically on a chariot throne. Today's reading recounts God's commissioning of Ezekiel during this vision. The prophet is to speak God's word to a people unwilling to hear.*

<sup>1</sup>[A voice] said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you. <sup>2</sup>And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. <sup>3</sup>He said to me, Mortal, I am

sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. <sup>4</sup>The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, "Thus says the Lord GOD." <sup>5</sup>Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

**SPECIAL MUSIC** "Peace in the Valley" by Thomas A. Dorsey

CHRISTOPHER VENETIS, tenor

**NEW TESTAMENT READING: MARK 6:1-13**

PASTOR BOB

*At home and abroad, Jesus and his disciples encounter resistance as they seek to proclaim God's word and relieve affliction.*

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus] came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. <sup>2</sup>On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! <sup>3</sup>Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. <sup>4</sup>Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." <sup>5</sup>And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. <sup>6</sup>And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. <sup>7</sup>He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. <sup>8</sup>He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; <sup>9</sup>but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. <sup>10</sup>He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. <sup>11</sup>If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." <sup>12</sup>So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. <sup>13</sup>They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

**Affirmation of Faith**

PASTOR BOB

(adapted from *Belonging to God: A First Catechism*)

We believe when Jesus spoke, **he spoke with God's authority. When Jesus acted, he acted with God's power. Jesus amazed people with his deeds of power, but he was also gentle and loving. Even now, he cares for us in all our needs as a shepherd cares for sheep. Jesus also called his disciples to follow him. Jesus fed the hungry, healed the sick, blessed children, befriended outcasts, required people to repent, and forgave their sins. He taught people not to fear, but to always trust in God. He preached the good news of God's love and gave everyone hope for new life. We live our lives in gratitude for the person and work of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**SERMON – "IF ONLY"**

PASTOR BOB

++ HYMN #460 [GTG] Break Thou the Bread of Life

*The phrase, "bread of life" as a metaphor for scripture has misled many people into thinking of this hymn as being connected with the Lord's Supper, when its true subject is Bible study. Both the author and the composer were active in the work of the Chautauqua Assembly.*

**THE SACRAMENT OF OUR LORD'S SUPPER (all bread served is gluten free)**

PASTOR BOB

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you

**and also with you**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

... who forever sing to the glory of your name.

Sanctus (sung in unison) #565[GTG] Holy, Holy, Holy

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,***

***heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.***

***Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

... Let us proclaim together the mystery of faith:

*The Mystery of Faith (unison)*

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Invocation of Holy Spirit

PASTOR BOB

Lord's Prayer (**unison**)

**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 debts, as we  
forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver  
us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the  
glory, forever. Amen.**

Words of Institution

PASTOR BOB

The Sharing of the Bread and Cup

PASTOR BOB

Responsive Prayer after the Supper

PASTOR BOB

You have given yourself to us, Lord;  
**Now we give ourselves for others.**  
Your love has made us a new people;  
**As a people of love we will serve you with joy.**  
Your glory has filled our hearts;  
**Help us to glorify you in all things. Amen**

## **PRESENTING OUR GIFTS**

Offering

PASTOR BOB

All that we have and all that we are is a gift from God.  
Let us then give back a portion of that goodness  
to God's work in the world.

++Doxology #607 [GTG]

***Praise God, from whom all blessing flow;  
Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.***

Prayer of Dedication

PASTOR BOB

Gracious God,

**we offer these gifts to you. May they be used to bring grace and healing to this hurting world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

**HYMN #726 Will You Come and Follow Me**

*The first four stanzas of this ballad-like hymn are understood to be in the voice of Christ, with the fifth reflecting the individual singer's response. Created for this traditional Scottish tune, the text was written to mark the conclusion of a youth volunteer's time of ministry.*

**BENEDICTION**

PASTOR BOB

May we each go out with nothing but words of peace, grace and healing, relying on Jesus Christ, who always gives us what we need.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the father, and the fellowship of the Spirit be with you all.

**Amen.**

Blest Be the Tie That Binds #306 [gtg]

***Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love:  
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.***

**POSTLUDE**

MEGAN HIGLE

\*PLEASE BE AWARE THAT WE USE CAMERAS TO BROADCAST VIDEO OF OUR CHURCH SERVICES. LICENSED MUSIC STREAMED WITH PERMISSION UNDER ONE LICENSE, LICENSE #A-731144. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED."

## INFORMATION FOR THE DAY

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MORNING'S SERVICE:

LITURGIST: STEVE WARNAAR

ORGANIST / PIANIST: MEGAN HIGLE

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: MEGAN HIGLE

DIRECTOR OF CHURCH LIFE / COMMUNITY OUTREACH: PRINCE SOLACE

PRESIDING MINISTER: REV. ROBERT A. HIGLE (PASTOR BOB)

**LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AND HYMNS** are available.

**FLOWER CHART** There are many dates available on the chart to celebrate special days in our church family. The price is \$50. Simply sign up on the chart (in the office hall), indicate the occasion that you would like celebrated or honored (birthday, anniversary or memorial), write a check to the church and give it to Betsy, and we will order for you. If you would like to purchase or provide a silk arrangement, please see Judy Whitman. Thank you! ~ Worship Committee.

**YOUR SUPPORT IS VITAL TO OUR MISSION! PLEASE SCAN THIS CODE WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE TO GIVE SECURELY ONLINE.** *Take a picture with your phone and it will take you to the website to make a donation*





## This Week at a Glance

### **Sunday, July 7**

10:00 a.m.

12:30 p.m.

Sunday service – Chapel

Victory in Jesus Ministries – Chapel

### **Monday, July 8**

10:00 a.m.

5:00 p.m.

5:30 p.m.

Church staff meeting – Library

Open Spot Theatre – Litten Hall

Yoga – Yoga room

### **Tuesday, July 9**

10:00 a.m. -2

9:00 a.m.

5:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m.

6:30 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

GIL Classes

NWI Food Truck prep - kitchen

Open Spot Theatre – Litten Hall

Highland Dance – Litten Hall/GIL

Mid-MI Photo Club Officers – library

Glen Erin Pipe Band rehearsal – Litten Hall

Capital City Chordsmen rehearsal – Chapel

### **Wednesday, July 10**

10:00 a.m.-5

12:00 P.M.

1:00 p.m.

5:00 p.m.

5:30 p.m.

GIL Class

Bible study – Library

Personnel Committee – Zoom

Open Spot Theatre – Litten Hall

Yoga – Yoga room

### **Thursday, July 11**

9:00 a.m.

1:30 p.m.-4:30

5:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

NWI Food Truck prep – kitchen

Mandela Fellowship – Litten Hall

Open Spot Theatre – Litten Hall

Victory in Jesus Ministries – Library

### **Friday, July 12**

5:00 p.m.

5:30 p.m.

Office closed

Open Spot Theatre – Litten Hall

Yoga – Yoga Room

### **Saturday, July 13**

### **Sunday, July 14**

10:00 a.m.

12:30 p.m.

2:00 p.m.

Sunday service – Chapel

Victory in Jesus Ministries Worship – Chapel

Victory in Jesus party – Litten Hall

## CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

### **Summer Bible Study/Fellowship Opportunity.**

**Come and join us. Leave confident, optimistic, and energized in your faith.**

The church is now offering Wednesday Bible Study at noon, at the church and on Zoom. Participants can review the selected readings before each Wednesday session. Start reviewing the materials on the Thursday before the session, on your own schedule.

The group will review three reflective questions and discuss other items. If a session is cancelled, a makeup time will be set for the following Sunday after church. Materials can be found:

1. In the Participant's Booklet passed out at church. (some copies may still be available in the library on the mantel)
2. Online on our website. There is a button to click on the home page that will take you to the Bible Study page. Scroll to the bottom and click the Class Materials link.

The **Garden Committee** meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7pm via Zoom. Our meetings are scheduled for the remainder of the year as follows:

- July 24<sup>th</sup>
- August 28<sup>th</sup>
- September 25<sup>th</sup>
- October 23<sup>rd</sup>

**Per Capita Reminder:** The annual per capita payment to the Lake Michigan Presbytery this year is \$40.05 per member. Hopefully every member can pay that amount. The check can go to the church noting "per capita." Please consider paying the per capita for those who cannot afford to. We have raised about \$3,000 so far. Last year, we paid the Presbytery dues of about \$11,000. Thank you.