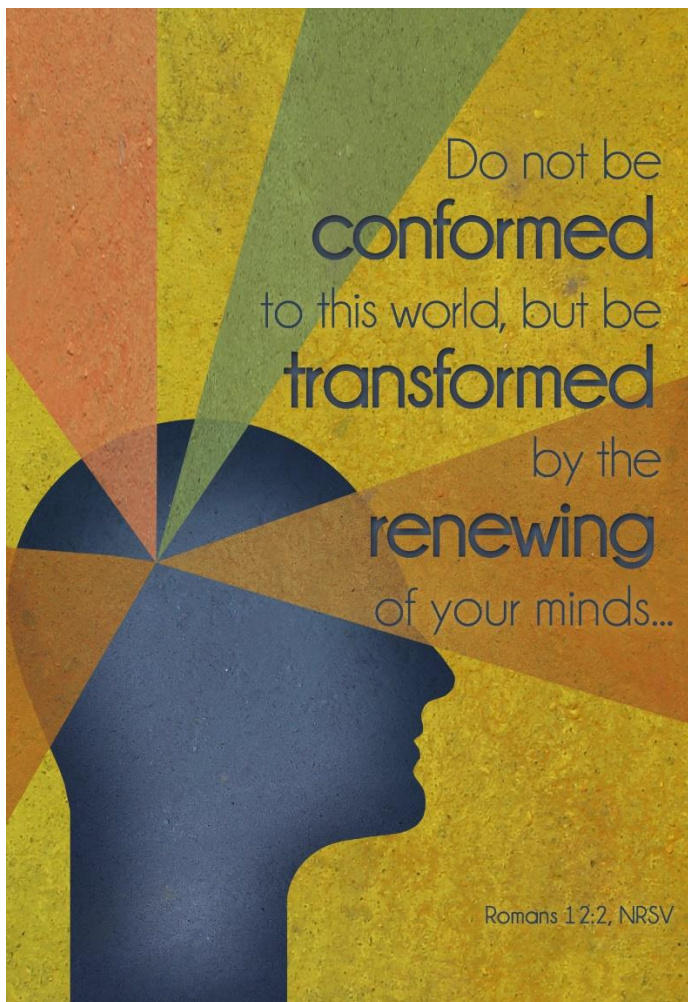


THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LANSING



510 W. Ottawa Street ■ Lansing, Michigan 48933

(517) 482-0668 www.lansingfirstpres.com

Facebook – Lansing First Presbyterian

Church Office Hours (M-F) 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 & 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

August 20, 2023 10:00 a.m.
Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

In order to maintain our worship environment, please turn off your cell phones. Thank you.

PRELUDE

Sergei Kvitko

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sherri DeMarco

Thus says the Lord:
Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come.

**God will bring us to the holy mountain,
a house of prayer for all people.
God gathers all the outcasts together,
and makes us joyful!**

++HYMN #422 [GTG] Just As I Am, without One Plea

When illness limited her involvement in a bustling household, the author (Charlotte Elliot) wrote this hymn that helped her both to achieve and to express a renewed sense of worth grounded in Christ's self-giving. Its simple, direct, and deeply felt language has made it a source of comfort to many.

SERVICE OF RENEWAL

Call to Confession

Sherri DeMarco

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of all goodness, We do not want to face all that is in our own hearts. We want to focus on the good— on the love, the compassion, the care— and ignore the bad— the greed, the envy, the cruelty. But before you, God, we must face it. Forgive all the ways we have let evil take hold in our hearts. Cleanse us. Help us face our own demons, and empower us to live a Christlike life.

++indicates to stand in body or spirit

Assurance of Pardon

We have been disobedient to God,
but we have received mercy.
**Let us live our lives as those transformed
by the abundant mercy of God!**

++Response to Forgiveness **584[GTG]** Gloria
Glory, Glory, Glory **584**

Glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry be to God on high!
¡Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, en las al - tu - ras a Dios!

And on earth peace to all peo-ple in whom God is well pleased.
Y en la tie - rra, paz a la gen - te que a - ma el Se - ñor.

TEXT: Based on Luke 2:14; Pablo Sosa, 1989
MUSIC: Pablo Sosa, 1989
Text and Music © 1989 GIA Publications, Inc.

CUEQUITA

++PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Sherri DeMarco

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

Be still and know that I am God (three times)

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Ms. Megan

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Sherri DeMarco

Holy, Holy, Holy One,

guide us by the Spirit of truth
to hear the Word of life you speak,
and to give all glory, honor, and praise
to your threefold name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Romans 12: 2-21

Sherri DeMarco

²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. ³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. ⁹Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. ¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” ²⁰No, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Ashokan Farewell” by Jay Unger

Lydia Bradford on violin

SECOND LESSON

Philippians 4:4-8

Karen Viele

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and

supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

SERMON **“A Testimony – God is Here”**

Karen Viele

++HYMN **#69 [GTG]** I, the Lord of Sea and Sky (Here I Am Lord)

The stanzas here need to be understood as representing the voice of God, while the refrain (based on Isaiah 6:8) is the faithful human response to God’s call. This becomes clearer if a leader or small group sings the stanzas, with the congregation joining on the refrain.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

George Bennett

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(Prayers continue)

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.

AMEN #598 [GTG] Amen, “We Praise Your Name”

Amen, we praise your name, O God!

Amen, we praise your name, O God!

Amen, amen. amen, amen. Amen, we praise your name O God!

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS

SPECIAL MUSIC “Paritta in D minor; Mvt. 1” by J.S. Bach Lydia Bradford on violin

Offering

Sherri DeMarco

++ Doxology #710[GTG] "We Lift Our Voices"

We Lift Our Voices 710

We Are an Offering

F C F C

We lift our voice-es; we lift our hands; we lift our

F C Dm7 F

lives up to you: we are an of-fer-ing. Lord, use our

C F C

voice - es; Lord, use our hands; Lord, use our

F C Dm7 F G7

lives; they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing.

Em7 Asus A Dm7 F G Esus E Am

All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we

F C B \flat Dm F

give to you, we give to you. We lift our

C F C F C

voice - es; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you:

Dm7 C

we are an of-fer-ing; we are an of-fer-ing.

Prayer of Dedication

Sherri DeMarco

++HYMN

#300 [GTG]

We Are One in the Spirit

A parish priest at St. Brendan's on the South Side of Chicago in the 1960s was very involved in the local Civil Rights movement and needed something for his youth choir to sing at ecumenical, interracial events. Finding nothing, he wrote this song in a single day.

BENEDICTION

Karen Viele

BLEST BE THE TIE 306[GTG]

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

POSTLUDE

Sergei Kvitko

*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."



MORE LIGHT

PRESBYTERIANS



INFORMATION FOR THE DAY

Participants in this morning's service:

Liturgist	Sherri DeMarco
Organist/Pianist	Sergei Kvitko
Director of Music	Megan Higl
Dir. Church Life/Comm. Outreach	Prince Solace
Preaching	Karen Viele

Rev. Stanley Jenkins is on a sabbatical

Concerns of the congregation:

In care facilities: Jean Dietrich (Story Point of Grand Ledge)
Dianne Rector (Rosewood Adult Foster Care- DeWitt)

CHANCEL FLOWERS TODAY are in honor of the 64th wedding anniversary of Chuck and Mary Lou Gebhardt.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS are available.

FLOWER CHART There are many dates available on the chart to celebrate special days in our church family. The new 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 Tracy, and we will order for you. If you would like to purchase or provide a silk arrangement for use when we don't have a fresh arrangement scheduled, 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, Aug. 20

10:00 a.m.

Morning Worship – Molly Grove Chapel

12:30 p.m.

Victory in Jesus Ministries – Chapel

Monday, Aug. 21

9:00 a.m.

GIL Class

10:00 a.m.

Church staff meeting, library

5:30 p.m.

Yoga – yoga room

6:00 p.m.-9

GIL

Tuesday, Aug. 22

8:00 a.m.-10

Mobile Farmers Market prep – kitchen

6:00 p.m.

Mid Michigan Photo Officers - library

6:30 p.m.

Glen Erin Pipe Band Rehearsal – Litten Hall

6:30 p.m.

Capital City Chordsmen – Chapel

Wednesday, Aug. 23

5:30 p.m.

Yoga – Yoga Room

Thursday, Aug. 24

8:00 a.m.-10

Mobile Farmers Market prep – kitchen

7:00 p.m.

Victory in Jesus Bible Study – Library

Friday, Aug. 25

10:00 a.m.-3 p.m.

Secretary of State – Chapel entrance

5:30 p.m.

Yoga – Yoga Room

Saturday, Aug. 26

Sunday, Aug. 27

10:00 a.m.

Morning Worship – Molly Grove Chapel

12:30 p.m.

Victory in Jesus Ministries Worship – chapel

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Are you able to “fill your bucket” when having a conversation with a young person?
Do you like to share God’s love with the “little people” around you?
Do you have 30 minutes on a Sunday morning to help you keep your church-wide baptismal vows?

The Christian Formation Committee is looking for a few people to round out our teacher roster for the 2023/2024 school year for our youngest brothers & sisters. We are only looking for a commitment of anywhere from once per month, to a couple times per year (classes are run from September – May).

Faith Formation happens after service, for approximately 30 minutes. We currently use a “school-house” model (all children between ages of 4 – 11 together).

An overview to a detailed lesson for each week is available. We use the “Growing In God’s Love Story Bible” each week, include a short discussion, a craft, a snack and story-time (we have over 20 books that the kids love to choose from each week!)

PLEASE talk to Megan Higle or Ann Harvey with any questions about how you can be involved! mhigle@lansingfirstpres.org cell phone 248-320-4578

The next Women’s Gathering will take place on Sunday afternoon, Aug. 27, at the home of Megan Higle. Mark your calendar and get your feet ready. Theme is “Bare Feet.”

Chancel Choir resumes rehearsals Thursday, Aug. 31 from 7-9 p.m. in the choir room. Contact Megan with any questions. (mhigle@lansingfirstpres.org).

Weekly Bible study will resume on Wednesday, September 6 at 10:30 AM in the library with Pastor Bob Higle. The Bible study will continue each week focusing on readings from the Revised Common Lectionary and will be available in person or by Zoom. Please stay tuned!

ACT UGANDA’s 20th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION! ACT is celebrating 20 years of working with our partners in Uganda, and your congregation has been a big part of this journey. Join us at one of our two fundraising dinners in Midland (Sept 8) or Traverse City (Sept 16) where you will enjoy a Ugandan-inspired dinner, gift basket raffle, video messages from our Ugandan partners, an overview of accomplishments, and an update on where we are headed. Tickets are \$35 per person and can be purchased by contacting Sue Waechter at waechersue@gmail.com. To learn more about ACT, visit actuganda.org. **Please join us to celebrate this exciting milestone!**

ADULT FORUM

Resumes **September 17** – Faith Journey. After church. Litten Hall