

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LANSING



Christ Appearing to the Apostles, ca. 1460-1470, Vanderbilt University Collection

510 W. Ottawa Street ▪ Lansing, Michigan 48933

(517) 482-0668 www.lansingfirstpres.com

Facebook3 - 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

April 7, 2024 10:00 a.m.

Second Sunday of Easter

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

PRELUDE

Brooke Broughton

CALL TO WORSHIP

Ceci Anderson

How good it is
for us to come together as kindred spirits.

Hallelujah!

**Our doubts are answered,
and we feel the presence of Christ.**

The risen Christ
speaks to us and gives us peace.

Hallelujah!

Let our worship be the sign of our belief.

++HYMN #255 [GTG] O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing (all verses)

These stanzas from a 19th-century translation of a longer 15th-century Latin text are the continuation of hymn number 235 and are based on the traditional gospel reading for the Second Sunday of Easter. They are sung to a 15th-century French tune adapted for church use.

SERVICE OF RENEWAL

Call to Confession

Ceci Anderson

Unison Prayer of Confession

**O Christ, you rose from the depths of suffering,
from death itself, to breathe peace upon your disciples.**

Still, O Lord, we cannot trust your promise of peace.

Still, O Lord, we do not follow in the way of your love.

Forgive us when we fail to be people of resurrection.

Forgive us when we fail to recognize your grace.

Show us your hands and your feet once more,

and teach us to be your body in the world.

++Indicates to stand in body or spirit

Assurance of Pardon

Ceci Anderson

Hear the good news of God's promise:
I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh.
Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord
will be saved.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God.

++Response to Forgiveness #544 [GTG] Bless the Lord

***Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.***

++PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Ceci Anderson

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

Be Still and Know

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

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Ms. Betsy

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Ceci Anderson

Living God, with joy we celebrate
the presence of your risen Word.
Enliven our hearts by your Holy Spirit
so that we may proclaim the good news
of eternal and abundant life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Acts:32-35

Ceci Anderson

³²Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM “How Lovely and How Pleasant” by Michael Burkhardt

How lovely and how pleasant when people dwell in peace, and love is ever present to bind them each to each.

As dew upon the mountain refreshes every flow’r, so love springs like a fountain for those who know it’s pow’r.

Like sweetest oil pervading this temple where we meet, so flows a joy unfading o’er those at Jesus’ feet.

GOSPEL READING

John 20:19-31

Rev. Stanley Jenkins

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” ²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.” ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Sermon

Rev. Stanley Jenkins

++Hymn #684 [GTG]

Faith Begins by Letting Go

This text affirms that faith is not a state of being but a process of becoming what we are called to be in relationship to God, other people, and the world. The movement from one

stage of faith to another is suggested by gestures of the hand: letting go, holding on, reaching out.

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

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

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.

... 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.

Pastor: Invocation of Holy Spirit

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.

Pastor: Words of Institution

The Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Responsive Prayer after the Supper

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

Choral Anthem "Walk in the Light" by Andre Thomas

*We'll walk in th light; beautiful light, come where dewdrops of mercy shine bright,
Shine all around us by day and by night, Jesus, the light of the world.*

*Hark! The herald angels sing, Jesus the light of the world;
"Glory to the newborn King." Jesus, the light of the world.*

*Hail the heaven born Prince of Peace! Jesus, light of the world;
Christ, the everlasting Lord! Jesus, Light of 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

++HYMN #817 [GTG] We Walk By Faith and Not by Sight

The opening line here is essentially a quotation of 2 Corinthians 5:7, but that affirmation is fleshed out by the references to the appearance of the risen Christ to Thomas (John 20:19-29). The shape note tune, names for a stream in Fayette County, Pennsylvania (DUNLAP'S CREEK), adds resolution to the words.

BENEDICTION

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

Brooke Broughton

***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	Ceci Anderson
Organist/Pianist	Brooke Broughton
Choral Director	Colin Dewitt
Music Director	Megan Hige
Bells of First Director	Darin Showalter
Pastor	Rev. Stanley Jenkins

Concerns of the congregation:

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

HEARING ASSISTANCE (The devices have been recently checked and they DO work!) **LARGE PRINT AND BRAILLE BULLETINS** (If you would like a Braille bulletin, please let the church office know ahead of time.) We also have **CUSHIONS** available if you find the pews uncomfortable! Please see one of the ushers if any of these aids to worship will enhance your participation in the service.

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 Betsy, 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 picture with your phone and it make a donation. SECURELY ONLINE." Take a will take you to the website to



THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, April 7

10:00 a.m. Morning Worship - Sanctuary
11:30 a.m. Adult Forum – Litten Hall
11:30 a.m. Children's Faith Formation
12:30 p.m. Victory in Jesus Ministries Worship – Chapel
1:00 p.m. Glen Erin Pipe Band – Litten Hall

Monday, April 8

9:00 a.m. GIL Class
9:00 a.m.-4 AARP tax assistance – Litten Hall
10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting - library
5:30 p.m. Yoga – Yoga Room
6:30 p.m. Bells of First rehearsal – Choir room
7:00 p.m. Moms Demand Action – Litten Hall

Tuesday, April 9

9:00 a.m. GIL Class
9:00 a.m.-4 AARP tax assistance – Litten Hall
5:30 p.m. Worship Committee – library
6:30 p.m. Glen Erin Pipe Band – Litten Hall
7:00 p.m. Capital City Chordsmen rehearsal – Chapel
6:00 p.m. Mid-MI Photo Club Officers – library

Wednesday, April 10

9:00 a.m. GIL Class
2:30 p.m. Building & Grounds – library
4:30 p.m. Lansing Children's Choir rehearsal
4:30 p.m. Lectionary Bible Study – Zoom
5:30 p.m. Yoga – Yoga Room
7:30 p.m. Deacon's meeting – library

Thursday, April 11

9:00 a.m. GIL Class
9:50 p.m. NWI Food Distribution – Litten Hall
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
7:00 p.m. Victory in Jesus Ministries– Library

Friday, April 12

5:00 p.m. State of Fifths A Capella Group MSU – chapel
5:30 p.m. Yoga – Yoga Room

Saturday, April 13

Sunday, April 14

10:00 a.m. Morning Worship - Sanctuary
11:30 a.m. Adult Forum – Litten Hall
11:30 a.m. Children's Faith Formation
11:30 a.m. Finance Committee
12:30 p.m. Victory in Jesus Ministries Worship - Chapel

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Take a Tour of the Church **April 14 after worship**. New to the church or wonder where places are in the church? Come take a tour and ask all your questions. Meet in the front of the sanctuary and we will explore this big building.

On **Saturday, May 11, at 1:00 p.m.**, the **Capitol City Chordsmen** will present a concert here at our Church. We will feature popular Disney songs, with quartets and the chorus performing. As a thank you for allowing us to rehearse here at Church, the ticket price is waived for church members. We will all have fun.

10th Annual Hope in One Golf Outing, Aug. 7, Groesbeck Country Club.

This is a special year and North Westminster Presbyterian Church is recognizing those who have been a part of the golf event for 8 or 9 years. LFPC is one of them. Donors have contributed over \$50,000 for the missions of Advent House and Northwestminister Presbyterian. LFPC will be highlighted in the event program and in announcements.

Concert to Raise Funds for the Food Pantry

St. Paul's Episcopalian Church at 218 West Ottawa has been offering annual concerts to raise funds for our food pantry. Their congregation has also provided food and additional funds to support our pantry during the year. On Saturday, April 13 at 7 pm, MSU students will perform the concert: "If Music Be the Food". No admission will be charged but a free will offering will be collected for our pantry. The April First Epistle has more details on this special event.

Reminder: The annual per capita payment to the Lake Michigan Presbytery this year is \$40.05. That means every member should pay that amount. The check can go to the church with a note of per capita.

YOU HAVE TALENT and we want to know about it. When you have a performance, a game, or an exhibit, please tell your church family, so if we are available, we can come cheer you on and be wowed by your abilities. There is a Talent Calendar on the long table in the elevator lobby, so share the when and where and your name so we can come see you in action or talk to you afterwards about it. We also would love to have photos of any events you participate in. Please submit any photos to Prince Solace, psolace@lansingfirstpres.org

Children's Faith Formation is after service at the same time as Adult Forum

ADULT FORUM

(11:30-12:30 in Litten Hall downstairs or on Zoom).
(Childcare can be available through this time.)

APRIL 7

**Discussion of the all-church book read *Poverty, By America*
by Author Matthew Desmond.**

If you have read the book or not, JOIN US as we try to answer questions such as *Why does the United States, have more poverty than any other advanced democracy? Why does this land of plenty allow one in every eight of its children to go without basic necessities, permit scores of its citizens to live and die on the streets, and authorize its corporations to pay poverty wages?* Discussion led by **George Bennett**

APRIL 14

Waterwise Landscaping: Protecting the Grand River and Beyond
Mike Bryan and Carol Wallace, leading

Paige Filice, MSU Extension, will be discussing how to best manage and protect water resources in our lakes, streams, and even our backyards. Her presentation will include managing storm water issues through the use of rain barrels and rain gardens. In addition she will also discuss invasive species that sometimes plague water gardens, backyard ponds and Michigan's lakes and streams.

Paige Filice is a natural resources educator with MSU Extension. Her responsibilities include coordinating the aquatic invasive species education programs RIPPLE (Reduce Invasive Pet and Plant Escapes), assisting with the Clean Boats and Clean Waters program and serving as Associate Director of the MSU Extension Center for Lakes and Streams.

APRIL21

Earth Care Sunday

Barb Amunsen, Carol Wallace, Mike Bryan leading

Earth Day is April 22. The First Presbyterian Church Green Team invites all on this 54th anniversary of this celebration to learn about the PC USA Presbyterian Mission Agency's Earth Care Congregations program. More specifically discover how our church can become certified as an Earth Care Congregation by becoming more involved in being stewards of God's earth through completing activities and projects in the fields of worship, education, facilities and outreach. For example, churches that participate in community garden programs like ours, or promote Fair Trade Coffee or use Eco-Palms for Palm Sunday gain points towards qualifying. The ECC program started with a few churches in 2007. Today there are over 276 churches that have been certified.

In addition, come learn about our **First Pres Community Garden** – its history, opportunities to volunteer, and how to rent a garden space – will all be discussed.