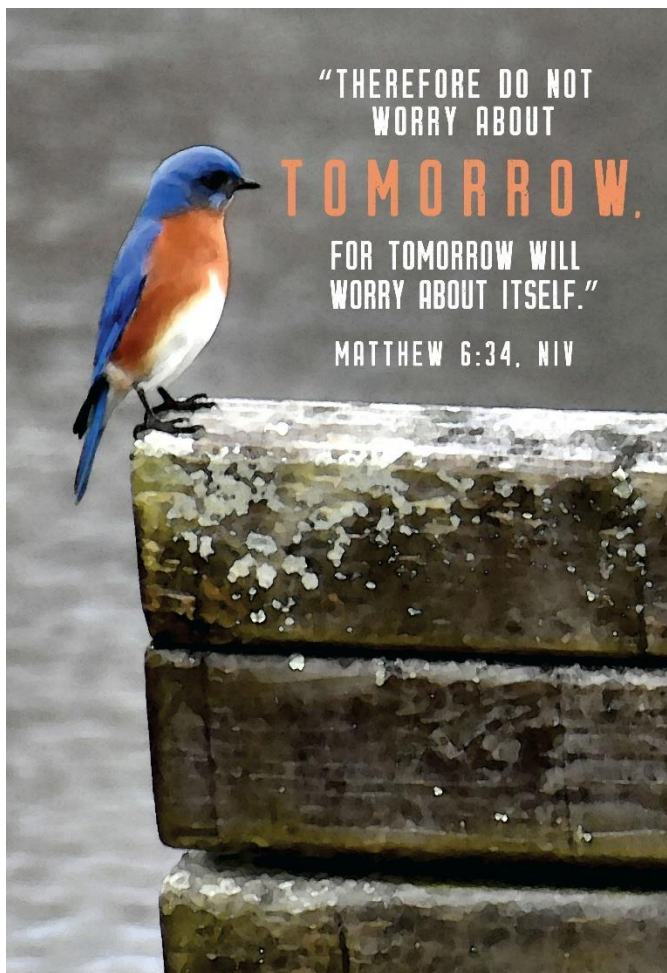


THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LANSING



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

September 10, 2023 10:00 a.m.

Fifteenth 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

Betsy Sneller

Where two or three are gathered together,
God is in their midst.

**We gather to proclaim the promises,
to retell the stories,
to remember who we are as people of God.**

Let us worship!

++HYMN #276 [GTG] Sing a New Song unto the Lord

This loose paraphrase effectively conveys the joyful tone of Psalm 98, largely by incorporating allusions to many other Scriptures, such as Psalm 149:3, Romans 13:11 Psalm 16:9, 1 Corinthians 15:52, and Job 19:25. These familiar echoes help to give the text depth and breadth.

SERVICE OF RENEWAL

Call to Confession

Betsy Sneller

Unison Prayer of Confession

**Beautiful Savior,
you have made your law clear:
Love. Love one another.
Owe one another nothing but love.
Do no wrong to a neighbor.
But we have not mastered what it is to love.
We have fallen short,
causing harm to others
through careless action
and thoughtless lack of action.
Forgive us.**

**Teach us how to love more fully,
more perfectly,
as generously as you love,
following your law and fulfilling your will.**

++indicates to stand in body or spirit

Assurance of Pardon

Betsy Sneller

Christ does not judge us harshly,
but forgives all our sin
and leads us into new life.

**We will not take this forgiveness for granted,
but will let it transform how we live and love.**

++Response to Forgiveness 447[GTG] We are Forgiven

447

We Are Forgiven

We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to
God. Thanks be to God. We are for - giv - en.
We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

++PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Betsy Sneller

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

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Judi Harris

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Betsy Sneller

Faithful God, how blessed are those
who hunger and thirst for righteousness.
Sanctify us by your Word and Spirit
so that we may glorify you
in the company of the faithful;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Psalm 119:33-40

Betsy Sneller

- ³³Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes, and I will observe it to the end.
³⁴Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart.
³⁵Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it.
³⁶Turn my heart to your decrees, and not to selfish gain.
³⁷Turn my eyes from looking at vanities; give me life in your ways.
³⁸Confirm to your servant your promise, which is for those who fear you.
³⁹Turn away the disgrace that I dread, for your ordinances are good.
⁴⁰See, I have longed for your precepts; in your righteousness give me life.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM

“Ubi Caritas” by Victor Johnson

*Ubi caritas et amor; ubi caritas, Deus ibi est.
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.
Exsultemus et in ipso jucundemur.
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.
(TRANSLATION)
Where charity and love is, God is there.
The love of Christ has brought us together.
Let us rejoice and be glad in Him.
And let us love each other sincerely from the heart.*

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 6:24-34

Rev Stanley Jenkins

²⁴“No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

²⁵“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ ³²For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴“So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.

SERMON

Rev. Stanley Jenkins

++HYMN #316 [GTG] Where Charity and Love Prevail

This English paraphrase is based on a longer Latin hymn traditionally associated with the foot washing ritual on Maundy Thursday, an enactment of Christ’s “new commandment” that we should love on another (John 13:34). For a chant setting of the first line of the hymn see no. 205.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prince Solace

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 #571 [GTG] Amen

571

Amen

Capo 5: (Am) (Em) (F) (Am) (D7) (Em7) (A)
Dm Am B^b Dm G7 Am7 D



A - men, a - men, a - men.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text
MUSIC: Curt Oliver, 1997
Music © 1997 Curt Oliver

AMEN (Oliver)

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS

CHORAL ANTHEM “You Are Holy (Prince of Peace)” by Marc Imboden & Tammi Rhoten

You are holy; you are might; you are worthy, worthy of praise.

I will follow; I will listen; I will love you all of my days.

I will sing to and worship the King who is worthy.

(You are Lord of lords; you are King of kings; you are might God, Lord of everything.)

I will love and adore him; I will bow down before him.

(You're Emmanuel; you're the great I AM; you're the Prince of Peace, who is the Lamb.)

I will sing to and worship the King who is worthy.

(You're the living God; you're my saving grace; you will reign forever; you are Ancient of Days.)

I will love and adore him; I will bow down before him.

(You are Alpha, Omega, Beginning and End. You're my Savior, Messiah, Redeemer, and Friend.)

You're my Prince of Peace, and I will live my life for you.

Offering

++ Doxology #717[GTG] “For the Life That You Have Given”

717 For the Life That You Have Given

For the life that you have giv - en, for the love in
Christ made known, with these fruits of time and la - bor, with these
gifts that are your own: here we of - fer, Lord, our prais - es;
heart and mind and strength we bring; give us grace to
love and serve you, liv - ing what we pray and sing.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of six systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are placed between the two staves of each system.

Prayer of Dedication

First published among songs celebrating the end of Spanish control of The Netherlands, this text's blend of patriotism and piety has made it popular at (often ecumenical) Thanksgiving Day services. The tune is named for the Viennese arranger (KRESMER) whose male chorus popularized it.

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

Sergei Kvitko

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MORE LIGHT

PRESBYTERIANS



INFORMATION FOR THE DAY

Participants in this morning's service:

Liturgist	Betsy Sneller
Organist/Pianist	Sergei Kvitko
Director of Music	Megan Higle
Dir. Church Life/Comm. Outreach	Prince Solace
Prayers of the People	Prince Solace
Preaching	Rev. Stan Jenkins

Concerns of the congregation:

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

CHANCEL FLOWERS TODAY welcome us all back to the Sanctuary with the fullness of light as we head into the season of celebration.

HEARING ASSISTANCE (The devices have been checked to ensure their functioning.) **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 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, Sept. 10

10:00 a.m. Morning Worship – Molly Grove Chapel
11:15 a.m. Congregation Tailgate – parking lot
12:30 p.m. Victory in Jesus Ministries – Chapel

Monday, Sept. 11

9:00 a.m. GIL Class
5:30 p.m. Yoga – yoga room
6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir rehearsal - sanctuary
5:00 p.m.-9 GIL

Tuesday, Sept. 12

8:00 a.m.-10 Mobile Farmers Market prep – kitchen
10:00 a.m. Church staff meeting, library
5:30 p.m. Worship Committee
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, Sept. 13

9:00 a.m. GIL classes
10:30 a.m. Bible Study – library/Zoom
12:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. NWI focus group – Litten Hall
4:30 p.m. Lansing Children's Choir rehearsal – chapel
5:30 p.m. Yoga – Yoga Room
7:00 p.m. Deacons Meeting - Zoom

Thursday, Sept. 14

9:00 a.m. GIL classes
8:00 a.m.-10 Mobile Farmers Market prep – kitchen
7:00 p.m. Victory in Jesus Bible Study – Library
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Choir room

Friday, Sept. 15

5:30 p.m. Yoga – Yoga Room

Saturday, Sept. 16

10:30 a.m. – noon PeaceQuest Choir rehearsal – chapel

Sunday, Sept. 17

10:00 a.m. Morning Worship – Molly Grove Chapel
11:15 a.m. Adult Forum – Litten Hall
12:30 p.m. Victory in Jesus Ministries Worship – chapel

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Judi Harris – who presents the Minute for Mission this week – is executive director of the **Mid-Michigan Chapter of the Red Cross**.

The Mid-Michigan Chapter is based in Lansing and covers 11 surrounding counties. It is one of six Red Cross Chapters across Michigan. In her role, Ms. Harris provides support to the vast network of Red Cross humanitarian and biomedical services. These include disaster response, blood collection, training services, and helping members of the military, veterans, and their family members.

She joins the Red Cross from St. Vincent Catholic Charities in Lansing, where she served as program director for refugee services for 14 years. A refugee foster parent for more than 12 years, Ms. Harris is a co-founder and board member of the Global Institute of Lansing that helps refugee youth earn a high school diploma. She also helped establish the All Faith Alliances for Refugees in Lansing. She will be at the Mission Tailgate table to talk with anyone interested in volunteering with the Red Cross.

School Supplies Collection. Lansing Riddle Elementary School has a teacher who is in need of supplies for his classroom. Wish List: **New or Used:** Pencils, pens, colored pencils, erasers, paper, journals, index card, folders **Sanitary Items** : Tissue, hand sanitizer, paper towel. Please place items in plastic tote box in the coat closet across from the church parlor.

Handbell choir will be starting rehearsals on Monday, September 11 at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary. All are welcome! Contact Darin Showalter for more information.

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

BIBLE STUDY happens Wednesdays at 10:30 AM, led by **Pastor Bob Higle**. We will meet each week in our library or by Zoom® as we explore readings from the Revised Common Lectionary. Each week will include readings from the Old Testament and readings from the Epistles (sometimes Acts) and Gospels. Here is a link to the Revised Common Lectionary:

<https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/> In the event you want to join us, but are unable to do so in person, here is the **Zoom link to connect:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87896832001?pwd=V2lJWjUrN05sMkhIRGNVbVkJ3MHI6QT09>

A church wide email will be sent out Mondays prior outlining the readings. We will finalize our readings when we gather each Wednesday. All are welcome!

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 next fundraising dinner in 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 waechtersue@gmail.com. To learn more about ACT, visit actuganda.org. **Please join us to celebrate this exciting milestone!**

ADULT FORUM

(11:15-12:15 in Litten Hall downstairs or on zoom. Childcare provided.)

SEPTEMBER 10

Tailgate Sunday: Today! Join the fun, food and fellowship with your church friends!

SEPTEMBER 17

WHAT SENSE CAN WE MAKE OF OUR POLITICS TODAY AND NEXT YEAR?

Even though we are a year and a couple of months out from the presidential election, many are scrambling to make sense of the current political scene.



Everyone has a view, even if that is inattention, or confusion. What role will you play in the upcoming debate? How much will other Christians of various stripes help determine the outcome? Studies show, e.g., that the MAGA movement draws its strength from those who are less inclined to attend church or call themselves believers. **Charlie Herrick** will lead a free-for-all discussion on how and why things are shaping up for both (or more than two?) parties in 2024. Come and add your voice!

SEPTEMBER 24

PODCAST REUNION – A MOTHER'S PERSPECTIVE

"A Mother's Perspective" is a podcast where we seek to understand how our family structure and things we've learned from our mothers have impacted the way we interact with our community. In this session we will hear from members of our congregation and local community as they reflect on the influences of motherhood.

OCTOBER 1

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY.

It's time for our traditional **potluck**. Plan to come and bring a dish from your heritage or a family favorite. (No Adult Forum)