

# THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LANSING



La presentación de Cristo en el templo  
by Kelly Latimore, 2018

510 W. Ottawa Street ■ Lansing, Michigan 48933

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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

Dec. 31, 2023 10:00 a.m.  
FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

**PRELUDE** Piano Four Hand Carols

Megan Higle & Sergei Kvitko

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Gwen Botting

As the land is renewed each year  
and new crops sprout,  
**so the Lord God is restoring us.**  
We are transformed by God's glory and power,  
**God's revelation in a little child.**  
Salvation shall bring complete transformation.  
**The Lord God is saving us.**  
**With our whole being we rejoice in our God.**  
**Let us worship God!**

**++HYMN #143 [GTG]** Angels From the Realms of Glory

*This familiar carol was first published as a poem in the Christmas Eve 1816 issue of a newspaper the author edited in Sheffield, England. The tune name, REGENT SQUARE, celebrates the location of a prominent Presbyterian Church in London, sometimes called the "Presbyterian cathedral."*

## SERVICE OF RENEWAL

Call to Confession

Gwen Botting

Unison Prayer of Confession

**O God,**  
**in Christ you were born a humble child,**  
**love-made-flesh, God-with-us.**  
**Forgive us when we fail**  
**to follow in your way of humility, love, and peace.**  
**Free us to see your Light**  
**reflecting in the faces of friends and family,**

**++**Indicates to stand in body or spirit

**neighbors and strangers,  
enemies and friends,  
and make us shine forth with your love.**

Assurance of Pardon

Gwen Botting

Hear the promise of the Lord:  
See, your salvation has come!  
You are a holy people, redeemed by God,  
sought out, not forsaken.  
Isaiah 62:11–12  
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!  
**Thanks be to God.**

++Response to Forgiveness #137 [GTG] He Came Down (verse 1)  
***He came down that we may have love;  
He came down that we may have love;  
He came down that we may have love; hallelujah forevermore.***

**++PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Gwen Botting

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

**#757 [GTG] (verse one)**

***Dona nobis pacem. Dona nobis pacem.***

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

Ms. Megan

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Gwen Botting

Gracious God, by the gift of your Holy Spirit  
show us the Word made flesh—  
good news of great joy for all—  
so that we may sing with the angels:  
glory in the highest and peace on earth;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**CELEBRATION OF GOD'S WORD FOR 2024 IN SCRIPTURE AND IN SONG**

**January: John 1:1-5**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

**Feb: Philippians 4:4-5**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.

**March: Psalm 9:1-2**

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds. I will be glad and exult in you; I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.

**April: Philippians 4:8**

Finally, 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.

**May: Romans 5:1-2**

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.

**June: Galatians 6:9-10a**

So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest-time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all...

**July: Hebrews 13:1-2**

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.

**August: Romans 8:28**

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.

## **September: Psalm 139: 7-10**

Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there. If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.

## **October: John 3:16-17**

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

## **November: Revelation 21:1-4**

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.”

## **December: Isaiah 40:3-5**

A voice cries out: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

## **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 #600[GTG]**

***Amen, amen. Amen, amen, amen.***

## **PRESENTING OUR GIFTS**

### **Offering**

SPECIAL MUSIC “Gesù Bambino” by Pietro Yon, Megan Higle, soprano. Karen Viele, violin

**++ Doxology** (Tune of #145 [GTG] Greensleeves)

***We bring our gifts to celebrate your gift of incarnation:  
The Word made flesh in Jesus Christ, the Lord of all creation.  
Praise, praise to you, O God, and to your Son, forever be;  
Praise Holy Spirit, praise the blessed Trinity.***

### **Prayer of Dedication**

**++HYMN #113 [GTG] Angels We Have Heard On High**

*This French carol probably dates from the 1700s, though it was not printed until the following century. Because it uses a vernacular language for the narrative stanzas and Latin for the refrain, it belongs to a special category called “macaronic” or mixed-language texts.*

## **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

**\*PLEASE BE AWARE THAT WE USE CAMERAS TO BROADCAST VIDEO OF OUR**

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## INFORMATION FOR THE DAY

Participants in this morning's service:

|                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Liturgist               | Gwen Botting         |
| Organist/Pianist        | Sergei Kvitko        |
| Director of Music       | Megan Higle          |
| 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 SECURELY ONLINE."** Take a picture with your phone and it will take you to the website to make a donation.



**MORE LIGHT**  
PRESBYTERIANS



**Pledge envelopes now available in Molly Grove Chapel by the windows.**

## **THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE**

### **Sunday, Dec. 31**

10:00 a.m.

Morning Worship - Sanctuary

12:30 p.m.

Victory in Jesus Ministries Worship - Chapel

### **Monday, January 1**

**Happy New Year!**

### **Tuesday, January 2**

9:00 a.m.

GIL classes

4:00 p.m.

Adult Forum – library, Zoom

6:30 p.m.

Glen Erin Pipe Band Rehearsal – Litten Hall

7:00 p.m.

Book group – Zoom

7:00 p.m.

Capital City Chordsmen rehearsal – Chapel

### **Wednesday, January 3**

9:00 a.m.

GIL classes

5:30 p.m.

Yoga – Yoga Room

6:00 p.m.

Mid-Michigan Photo Club – Litten Hall

6:30 p.m.

Mission Committee – Zoom

7:30 p.m.

Lectionary Bible Study – Zoom

### **Thursday, January 4**

9:00 a.m.

GIL classes

10:30 a.m.

Library committee – Zoom

12:00 a.m.-2 p.m.

NWI Food Distribution – Litten Hall

7:00 p.m.

Chancel Choir Rehearsal

7:00 p.m.

Victory in Jesus Ministries– Library

### **Friday, January 5**

5:30 p.m.

Yoga – Yoga Room

### **Saturday, January 6**

### **Sunday, January 7**

10:00 a.m.

Morning Worship - Sanctuary

12:30 p.m.

Victory in Jesus Ministries Worship - Chapel

## **ADULT FORUM**

(11:30-12:30 in Litten Hall downstairs or on Zoom).

(Childcare can be available through this time.)

Children's Faith Formation also happening.

Jan. 7 No Class, help undecorate the church

Jan. 14 Slavery to Freedom Art Installation at MSU, Presenter: Mila Lynn

Jan. 21 Sister City in Japan, Presenter: Yuta Mastubara



