

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LANSING

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Nov. 12, 2023 10:00 a.m.

Twenty-fourth Sunday After Pentecost



"Bridesmaids Sleeping" (Vanderbilt Divinity Library)

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.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prince Solace

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

PRELUDE

Sergei Kvitko

CALL TO WORSHIP

Christopher Venetis

Together, we choose to serve God,
which means:

We choose love.

We choose hope.

We choose peace.

We choose kindness.

We choose welcome.

We choose justice.

We choose to serve God.

Let us worship.

++HYMN #757 [GTG] Today, We All Are Called to Be Disciples

This text placing stewardship in the context of faithful witness was written by a retired Presbyterian minister to be part of the 1986 stewardship campaign titled "Called to Be Disciples." The tune name, KINGSFOLD, recalls the Sussex village where the arranger first heard the melody.

SERVICE OF RENEWAL

Call to Confession

Christopher Venetis

Unison Prayer of Confession

Everlasting God,

we say we want to see you,

we say we want to know you,

we say we want to serve you,

but we also do not want to put in the work.

We do not want to prepare for your coming

by working for your kin-dom on this earth.

We do not keep alert for signs of you among us,

so we schedule you in for an hour or so on Sundays.

Forgive us. Inspire us to put our faith to action.

Surprise us with your presence so we might learn

to always be ready for you to arrive.

++indicates to stand in body or spirit

++Response to Forgiveness

#447[GTG]

We Are Forgiven

447

We Are Forgiven

G Am D7 Gsus G C

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

G Am7 Dsus D G Am

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

D7 Gsus G C G Am7 D G

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

++PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Christopher Venetis

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

Christopher Venetis

Sovereign God, let your Word rule in our hearts
 and your Spirit govern our lives
 until at last we see the fulfillment
 of your realm of justice and peace;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PSALM: Psalm 70

Christopher Venetis

Be pleased, O God, to deliver me.

O Lord, make haste to help me! Let those be put to shame and confusion who seek my life.

Let those be turned back and brought to dishonor who desire to hurt me. Let those who say, "Aha, Aha!" turn back because of their shame.

Let all who seek you
rejoice and be glad in you.
Let those who love your salvation
say evermore, "God is great!" But I am poor and needy;
hasten to me, O God!
You are my help and my deliverer;
O Lord, do not delay!

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM "Roll Down, Justice" by Mark A. Miller.

*There's a voice, strong and clear, ringing out far and near, "Let justice roll down, let justice roll down!"
Like the rush of a stream, comes a powerful dream, let justice roll down, justice rolls down!
Let the earth be restored, every soul be reformed; let the healing renew, creation reborn.
Here in this sacred space with the strength of God's grace, let justice roll down, justice rolls down!
Roll down! Roll down, justice! Roll, like an ever flowing stream.*

*On this glorious day, give us courage, we pray, that justice rolls down, let justice roll down!
Let the vision take flight and God will delight as waters flow down, justice abounds!
Roll down! Roll down, justice! Roll, like an ever flowing stream.*

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 25:1-13

Rev. Stan Jenkins

"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your

oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. Later the other young women came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

SERMON

Rev. Stan Jenkins

++HYMN #352 [GTG] My Lord, What a Morning

This spiritual reflects on Jesus’ saying about the endtimes as recorded in Matthew 24:29-30 / Mark 13:24-26. It belongs to the slower less common style of spirituals with long, sustained phrases and was among those popularized in concerts by the Fisk Jubilee Singers.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lydia Joy Bradford

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.

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

“God Has Work for Us to Do” by Mark A. Miller.

'Til all the jails are empty and all the bellies filled; 'til no one hurts or steals or lies, and no more blood is spilled:

God has work for us to do, God has work for us to do, 'til God's will is done, and all things are made new, God has work for us to do.

'Til age and race and gender no longer separate, 'til pulpit, press, and politics are free of greed and hate:

God has work for us to do, God has work for us to do, 'til God's will is done, and all things are made new, God has work for us to do.

By praying through our doing, and singing though we fear, by trusting that the seed we sow will bring God's harvest near:

God has work for us to do, God has work for us to do, 'til God's will is done, and all things are made new, God has work for us to do.

Offering

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

For the life that you have given, for the love in Christ made known.

With these fruits of time and labor, with these gifts that are your own:

Here we offer, Lord our praises; heart and mind and strength we bring;

Give us grace to love and serve you, living what we pray and sing.

Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Stanley Jenkins

++HYMN #192 [GTG] Lord, the Light of Your Love is Shining

While the reference to Jesus as the Light of the world (John 8:12, 9:5) can be understood generally, this hymn is perhaps best understood as a response to the Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-8 / Mark 9:2-8 / Luke 9:26-36). This is the most popular of the author / composer's many songs.

BENEDICTION

Rev. Stanley Jenkins

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	Chris Venetis
Organist/Pianist	Sergei Kvitko
Director of Music	Megan Higl
Dir. Church Life/Comm. Outreach	Prince Solace
Pastor	Rev. Stanley Jenkins
Supply Choral Director:	Colin Dewitt

Concerns of the congregation:

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

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 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, November 12

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

Monday, November 13

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 Class
6:00 p.m. Open Spot Theatre - Chapel

Tuesday, November 14

8:00 a.m.-10 Mobile Farmers Market prep – Kitchen
9:00 a.m. GIL Class
5:30 p.m. Worship Committee - Library
6:00 p.m. MidMI Photo Officers Meeting - Parlor
6:30 p.m. Glen Erin Pipe Band Rehearsal – Litten Hall
7:00 p.m. Capital City Chordsmen – Chapel

Wednesday, November 15

9:00 a.m. GIL Class
10:30 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study - Zoom
12:00 p.m. Baby Boomers&Beyond luncheon – Parlor
5:30 p.m. Yoga – Yoga Room
4:30 p.m. Lansing Children's Choir rehearsal - Chapel
5:00 p.m. Open Spot Theatre – Litten Hall
6:30 p.m. Mission and Social Justice Committee - Zoom

Thursday, November 16

9:00 a.m. GIL Class
6:00 p.m. Greater Lansing Quilt Guild – Litten Hall
7:00 p.m. Victory in Jesus Bible Study – Library
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal – Choir Room

Friday, November 17

5:00 – 8:00 p.m. Silver Bells – Memorial Garden
5:30 p.m. Yoga – Yoga Room

Saturday, November 18

Sunday, November 19

10:00 a.m. Morning Worship – Sanctuary
11:30 a.m. Adult Forum – Litten Hall
11:30 a.m. Children's Faith Formation – Children's Education Room
12:30 p.m. Victory in Jesus Ministries Worship – Sanctuary
3:00 p.m. Lansing Symphony Orchestra – Molly Grove Chapel

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

SILVER BELLS on Friday, November 17! Our church will be a warming center between 5 - 8 p.m. Join us for caroling, hot chocolate, fellowship as you walk to and from the festivities in Downtown Lansing! We will have a couple of fire pits, music and fun times in the Memorial Garden.

If you would like to help out with decorating (Jackie Blankenship); if you want to help with day of set up (Ann Harvey); if you want to help with singing carols (Megan Higle).

NAME TAGS: Would you like a name tag? Or does your old one need to be replaced? Please email Pam Blair blairkids3@yahoo.com or call/text 517-281-9099. The deadline to get names to the printer is November 12, 2023.

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

November 12

So Exciting! Ms. Kathy will help with creating stars and crowns for our Christmas aPageant, "The King's Birthday"

November 19

So Exciting! We will continue our work on our Christmas Pageant, "The King's Birthday"

November 26

Decorate the Church Day! We will have OUR Christmas Tree to decorate (Parlor) and then will go into the Sanctuary to rehearse our Christmas Pageant.

Handbell choir rehearsals are Mondays, 6:30pm in the Sanctuary. All are welcome! Contact Darin Showalter for more information.

Adult Bible Study: occurs Wednesdays at 10:30 AM by ZOOM. All are welcome as we explore two readings from the Revised Common Lectionary. Here is a link to the lectionary: <https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/> Here is the Zoom link to connect: <https://bit.ly/3Q2iBKZ> Meeting ID: 832 1565 8039, Passcode: 661418
Pastor Bob Higle / bob.higle@gmail.com / 517-512-8018

ADULT FORUM

(11:15-12:15 in Litten Hall downstairs or on zoom).
(Childcare can be available through this time.)
Children's Faith Formation also happening.

NOVEMBER 12 TODAY **Thanksgiving? Thanks but no thanks!** **Dr. Elliot Ryser**

Our traditional Thanksgiving holiday along with several others has continued to decline in popularity compared to some recently adopted holidays. However, there is at least one thing for which we are all universally thankful, namely the food that sustains us. Come and hear how many people it takes to get your Thanksgiving dinner to the table. It's more than you think.

NOVEMBER 19
The First Presbyterian Church of Lansing
Vision and Mission Statement
will be presented and questions answered.

NOVEMBER 26
Time to join the holiday fun of decorating the church.
(No Adult Forum today)