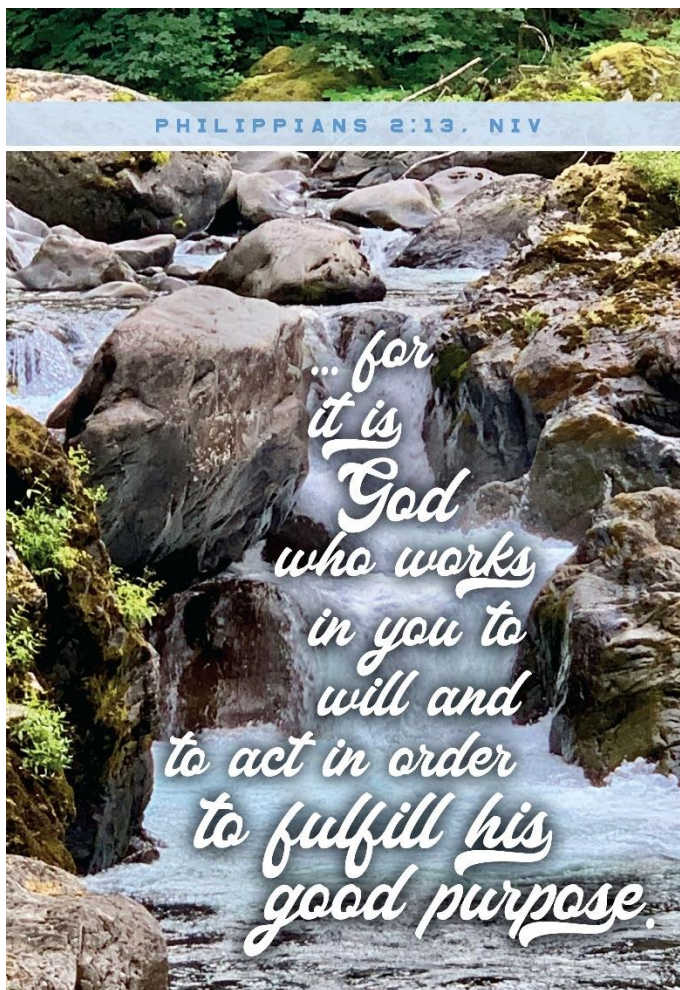


# THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LANSING



510 W. Ottawa Street ▪ Lansing, Michigan 48933

(517) 482-0668 [www.lansingfirstpres.com](http://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

Oct. 1, 2023 10:00 a.m.

Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
World Communion Day

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

## PRELUDE

Sergei Kvitko

## CALL TO WORSHIP ON WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Ruth Brunet

Leader: We gather in this place, even while God's people gather around the world.

**People: We speak in many tongues even as we proclaim one faith.**

Leader: We come in many colors, ages, sizes and shapes, with different cultures and lifestyles.

**People: In common we have God's love. In common we have God's peace. In common we have God's hope. So we come together to worship the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

## ++HYMN #631 [GTG] In the Presence of Your People

*This text based on the affirmative later parts of Psalm 22 (especially verses 3, 22-28) has an unusual structure with alternating lines of stanza and refrain. It also has an uncommon history, as the first stanza was written in New Zealand and the remaining stanzas in Canada.*

## SERVICE OF RENEWAL

Call to Confession

Ruth Brunet

Unison Prayer of Confession

**Lord, as we celebrate this day the supper offered us by your Son our Savior, we confess our oneness with those first disciples who gathered with Him around the table, not quite comprehending, not quite believing, not quite seeing what this walk of faith to which He calls us is all about. Like them, we often find ourselves to be wavering followers, losing sight of Christ's leading. We cast about in confusion, get caught up in secondary concerns, and so lose out on the abiding message of his person and his ministry. In your mercy, O God, replant us in more fertile ground. Renew our commitment to the best motives you have placed within us, and lead us once more to be faithful and uncomplaining servants in your Kingdom.**

++indicates to stand in body or spirit

++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

Ruth Brunet

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

Prince Solace

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Ruth Brunet

O God, you have given us your Scriptures that your Word may be preserved for all generations. Illumine our minds that your people here and now might receive that revelation, made perfect in the Gospel, and may go from here to serve you in Spirit and in truth.

**Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Exodus 17: 1 - 7

Ruth Brunet

<sup>1</sup>From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." <sup>5</sup>The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup>I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

### **CHORAL ANTHEM**

"Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord" collected by Elaine Hanson  
(arr Ralph M Johnson)

*Cameroon Processional Song*

*Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God's holy name. Alleluia!*

### **LESSON FROM THE EPISTLES**

Philippians 2: 1 - 13

The Rev. Charles Herrick

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, <sup>7</sup>but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, <sup>8</sup>he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup>for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

### **LESSON FROM THE GOSPELS**

Matthew 21: 23 - 32

<sup>23</sup>When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you

this authority?" <sup>24</sup> Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup>Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' <sup>26</sup>But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

<sup>28</sup>"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' <sup>29</sup>He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. <sup>31</sup>Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

## SERMON

"By What Authority?"

The Rev. Charles Herrick

## ++HYMN

#660[GTG]

Lord, We Thank You for This Food

*This sung table grace provides words for a melody from the Bunun people of Taiwan. Because the "tom tom" lines in the lower voices of this setting are intended to imitate the sounds made with pounding rice, this sung prayer is also a way of remembering all whose labors feed us.*

## SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Responsive Litany for the whole world on this World Communion Sunday (**see insert**)

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Sanctus #572[GTG]

**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!**

The 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.**

The Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Unison prayer

**Eternal God, we thank you for this Supper, prepared for us. As you called us to the table, so now call us from the table out into your world. May we carry your cross humbly but confidently, and may others experience your claim upon us by the fruits of our labors. May we prove as bountiful branches of the true vine who is your Son and our Lord, Jesus the Christ, in whose name we pray**

## **PRESENTING OUR GIFTS**

### CALL FOR THE OFFERING

CHORAL ANTHEM "Come Thou Fount" arr Daniel Musselman  
Sergei Kvitko & Chrisann Lowe, piano

*Come, thou fount of every blessing  
tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
Streams of mercy never ceasing  
call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
sung by flaming tongues above.  
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon  
it mount of thy redeeming love.*

*Here I raise my Ebenezer,  
hither by thy help I'm come;  
And I hope by thy good pleasure  
safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
wandering from the fold of God;  
He, to rescue me from danger,  
bought me with His precious blood.*

*Oh, to grace how great a debtor  
daily I'm constrained to be,  
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter,  
bind my wandering heart to Thee:  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,  
seal it for Thy courts above.*

**++ 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 below the vocal line. The score concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Prayer of Dedication



**+++HYMN #266[GTG] Joy To The World**

*While Isaac Watts did not write this text strictly for Christmas use, he did purposely cast his paraphrase of Psalm 98:4-9 in Christian terms, titling it "The Messiah's coming and kingdom." So "the Lord" here is Jesus Christ, rather than the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The tune, RICHMOND, is not one that is associated with Christmas.*

**BENEDICTION**

**BLEST BE THE TIE 306[GTG]**

*(We encourage you to reach out to those around you in the congregation)*

***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**  

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**PRESBYTERIANS**





## INFORMATION FOR THE DAY

Participants in this morning's service:

Liturgist	Ruth Brunet
Organist/Pianist	Sergei Kvitko
Director of Music	Megan Higle
Dir. Church Life/Comm. Outreach	Prince Solace
Preaching	The Rev. Charles Herrick

Church service leaders:

Bell Choir Director	Darin Showalter
Church Pastor (sabbatical)	The Rev. Stanley Jenkins returns Nov. 5

Our **CHILD CARE** Room, located up the ramp from the Pine St. entrance is available during Worship and Adult Forum every Sunday. Staff includes Lily Ferris, Makenna Davis and Sidney Knapp.

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 silk arrangements.**

**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.** phone and it will take you to the website to



Take a picture with your  
make a donation.

# THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

## Sunday, Oct. 1

10:00 a.m. Morning Worship – Sanctuary  
11:15 a.m. Potluck World Communion Day  
12:30 p.m. Victory in Jesus Ministries – Chapel

## Monday, Oct. 2

9:00 a.m. GIL Class  
10:00 a.m. Church staff meeting, library  
5:30 p.m. Yoga – yoga room  
6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir rehearsal - sanctuary  
5:00 p.m.-9 GIL Class  
7:00 p.m. Membership Committee - Zoom

## Tuesday, Oct. 3

8:00 a.m.-10 Mobile Farmers Market prep – kitchen  
9:00 a.m. GIL Class  
4:00 p.m. Adult Forum – Library – Zoom  
6:30 p.m. Glen Erin Pipe Band Rehearsal – Litten Hall  
7:00 p.m. Capital City Chordsmen - chapel  
7:00 p.m. Book Group – Zoom

## Wednesday, Oct. 4

9:00 a.m. GIL classes  
10:30 a.m. Bible Study – library/Zoom  
4:30 p.m. Lansing Children's Choir rehearsal – chapel  
5:00 p.m. OpenSpot Theatre – Litten Hall  
5:30 p.m. Yoga – Yoga Room  
6:00 p.m. Mid Michigan Photo Club – Litten Hall

## Thursday, Oct. 5

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, Oct. 6

9:00 a.m.-3 p.m. Red Cross Blood Drive – Litten Hall  
5:30 p.m. Yoga – Yoga Room

## Saturday, Oct. 7

## Sunday, Oct. 8

10:00 a.m. Morning Worship – Sanctuary  
11:15 a.m. Adult Forum  
11:30 a.m. Finance Committee  
12:30 p.m. Victory in Jesus Ministries Worship – Chapel  
2:00 p.m. Victory in Jesus Ministries Anniversary – Litten Hall

# CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

**World Communion Sunday TODAY.** Christians all over the world are celebrating communion on the same day to emphasize that together we are the body of Christ. We are celebrating with a display of international breads. Almost every culture in the world has a bread that is special for them.

## **CALL FOR CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:** Sunday, 15 October 2023

A Special Meeting of the Congregation of the First Presbyterian Church of Lansing, Michigan, is called for Sunday, 15 October 2023, immediately following the morning worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to elect Officers of the Church including Session, the Board of Deacons, Financial Review Committee, and Nominating Committee.

**BUDGET DEADLINE OCT. 18:** In the ongoing effort to balance the general budget and trim where we can, Session requests that all church committees and program directors provide their 2024 budget requirements to Clerk of Session Bill Collins for review at the October 18 regular meeting of Session.

Committees should submit budget requirements in writing/email, but committee chairs and directors are invited and encouraged to attend the Session meeting at the church, 7:00pm October 18. Time will be given for explanation and discussion of budget requirements for Session to consider in its final budget decisions.

## **CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION**

Today: October 1

World Communion Sunday!

Enjoy a potluck with your church family.

Cards to color/decorate will be available!

October 8

Join Ms. Kathy as we explore "The Ten Commandments" (Exodus 20:1-21), page 166 in your Growing in God's Love Bible.

Craft sticks, markers and glue will abound!

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

**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/83215658039?pwd=c21vSVhNQIJ2eHNBNmxZU1pyWWwydz09>  
Meeting ID: 832 1565 8039 Passcode: 661418

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!

## ADULT FORUM

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

**OCTOBER 1**  
**WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY**  
(No Adult Forum)

**OCTOBER 8 – OUR NEW WEBSITE** will be revealed!



**OCTOBER 15 – A MATTHEW 25 Initiative** presentation on both Building Congregational Vitality and Dismantling Structural Racism. As a “Matthew 25” and a “More Light” church, we will look at and discuss these two of the three tenets of the Matthew 25 initiative from PCUSA material.

**OCTOBER 22 – The third MATTHEW 25 tenet on Eradicating Systemic**

Poverty  
will be presented with a video and a launch of the book  
“Poverty, by America” as an All Church Read.