

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF LANSING



Street art initiative in an Ithaca, NY, 2008, Divinity Library, Vanderbilt University

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Facebook – Lansing First Presbyterian
Church Office Hours (M-F) 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

SERVICE FOR OUR LORD'S DAY

FEB. 23, 2024 @ 10:00 AM
SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

SUSANNE HOEKZEMA

CALL TO WORSHIP

GWEN BOTTING

The way of Christ turns the world upside down.

God's ways are not our ways.

It moves us beyond retribution
and cycles of violence.

God's ways are not our ways.

It leads us to enemy-love
and scandalous forgiveness.

God's ways are not our ways.

It calls us beyond reciprocity into radical giving.

God's ways are not our ways.

So let us commit our way to the Lord together
**until our righteousness shines like the dawn
and our justice like high noon.**

++ HYMN #410[GTG] God is Calling through the Whisper

This wide-ranging text reminds us of the many surprising and urgent ways God calls to us, both to draw us near and to send us forth. In the third line of music it is especially effective at harnessing the momentum of the phrases that are each a note higher than the one before.

SERVICE OF RENEWAL

CALL TO CONFESSION

GWEN BOTTING

++Indicates Congregation standing as **able**

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PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O Christ,
the economy of your love is beautiful,
expending goodness
and extending lines of forgiveness
beyond our imagining.
The economy of our love
is stingy and crooked.
We invest love where it can be repaid.
We spend mercy where it yields gain.
We advance blessing we can bank on.
We hold grudges with interest.
We do all of this with no recognition
of how deeply indebted we are to you.
Forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors,
we pray with our whole hearts.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

GWEN BOTTING

How are the dead raised?
Through the death and resurrection of Jesus,
our weakness gives way to power,
our dishonor disintegrates into glory,
and we are raised with Christ.
This is gospel!
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

++ RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS #659 [GTG]

***Know that God is good. Know that God is good.
Know that God is good; God is good; God is good.***

++ **PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

GWEN BOTTING

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)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GWEN BOTTING

Saving God, source of our calling,
your Word is full of power and glory.
Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us
so that we may receive your grace
and live as your beloved children;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

GWEN BOTTING

- ¹Do not fret because of the wicked; do not be envious of wrongdoers,
²for they will soon fade like the grass, and wither like the green herb.
³Trust in the LORD, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.
⁴Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.
⁵Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act.
⁶He will make your vindication shine like the light, and the justice of your cause
like the noonday.
⁷Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently for him; do not fret over those who
prosper in their way, over those who carry out evil devices.
⁸Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath. Do not fret—it leads only to evil.
⁹For the wicked shall be cut off, but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit
the land.
¹⁰Yet a little while, and the wicked will be no more; though you look diligently
for their place, they will not be there.
¹¹But the meek shall inherit the land, and delight themselves in abundant
prosperity.
- ³⁹The salvation of the righteous is from the LORD; he is their refuge in the time
of trouble.
⁴⁰The LORD helps them and rescues them; he rescues them from the wicked,
and saves them, because they take refuge in him.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM "Trust In the Lord" by Rollo Dilworth
I have trusted in Thy mercy; my heart shall rejoice, my heart shall rejoice.

*I will rejoice, rejoice in Thy salvation.
I will sing unto the Lord, for He hath dealt bountifully with me.
I have trusted in Thy mercy; my heart shall rejoice.*

*Trust in the Lord with all thy heart, and lean not to thine own understanding.
In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and he will direct thy path.
I will trust in the Lord 'til I die.*

GOSPEL READING

Luke 6:27-38

REV. STANLEY JENKINS

²⁷“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you. ³²“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. ³⁷“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

SERMON

REV. STANLEY JENKINS

++HYMN #753[GTG] Make Me a Channel for Your Peace
Though popular opinion credits this prayer to St. Francis of Assisi, the earliest known printing was in a French religious magazine in 1912. Yet that gentle saint's spirit seems evident in these words, a quality that has spurred many paraphrases and musical settings such as this one.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

GWEN BOTTING

The Lord be with you

Commented [KB2]: Omitted word 'in'

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: #554 [GTG]

554

Amen

Capo 3: (G) (A) (Bm) (G) (D) (A) (Bm) (Em7) (A) (Dsus) (D)
B^b C Dm B^b F C Dm Gm7 C Fsus F

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

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text

MUSIC: American folk melody; arr. Richard Proulx, 1995

Music Arr. © 1995 GIA Publications, Inc.

LAND OF REST

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY MUSIC "Welcome to God's Love!" by Mark A. Miller

Families of all shapes and kinds, love the only tie that binds this gathering of open minds, welcome to God's love.

Every person has a place in this holy, sacred space, earth's entire human race, Welcome!

Come and feel God's love!

No proof required of your worth, a gift to you before your birth from God, who made the heavens and earth.

Welcome to God's love.

We'll love each other and take care of every need encountered there, within God's heart there is room to spare.

Welcome! Welcome to God's love! Come, and live God's love!

++Doxology #608 [GTG]

Praise God, from Whom 608 All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all
peo - ple here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er -
more; praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore.

Prayer of Dedication

HYMN #819 [GTG] Be Still, My Soul

This meditative text seems to be rooted in Psalm 46:10, "Be still and know that I am God," while also reaching forward to 1 Thessalonians 4:17b, "we will be with the Lord forever." Much of the appeal of this hymn comes from its tune, named for the tone poem on which it is based.

BENEDICTION

Blest Be the Tie That Binds #306 [GTG]

***Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love:
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.***

POSTLUDE

SUSANNE HOEKZEMA

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INFORMATION FOR THE DAY

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MORNING'S SERVICE:

LITURGIST:	GWEN BOTTING
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:	MEGAN HIGLE
ORGANIST:	SUSANNE HOEKZEMA
DIRECTOR OF CHURCH LIFE / COMMUNITY OUTREACH:	PRINCE SOLACE
PASTOR:	REV. STANLEY JENKINS

First Presbyterian Church welcomes Susanne Hoekzema as our organist/pianist this morning. Susanne, a Lansing native, has been playing organ for decades in the Lansing area. We are grateful that Susanne is sharing her gift of music with our congregation this morning.

Flowers today are in honor of church member Jean Dietrich and her 91st birthday.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AND HYMNS are available.

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, February 23

10:00 a.m. Worship service – Sanctuary
11:15 a.m. Annual Congregational Meeting - 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 - Chapel

Monday, February 24

9:00 a.m. GIL classes
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 – Sanctuary

Tuesday, February 25

9:00 a.m. GIL classes
9:00 a.m.-4 AARP Tax assistance – Litten Hall
6:30 p.m. Glen Erin Pipe band rehearsal – Litten Hall
7:00 p.m. Capital City Chordsmen rehearsal - Chapel

Wednesday, February 26

9:00 a.m. GIL classes
10:30 a.m. Lectionary Bible study – Zoom
4:30 p.m. Lansing Children’s Choir rehearsal – Choir room
6:00 p.m. Wired Word Bible study - Zoom
5:30 p.m. Yoga – yoga room

Thursday, February 27

9:00 a.m. GIL classes
1:00 p.m. Bridge in the Parlor
7:00 p.m. Victory in Jesus Ministries Bible Study - Library

Friday, February 28

5:30 p.m. Yoga – Yoga room

Saturday, March 1

8:00 a.m.-4 Gamaliel Group – Litten Hall/GIL

Sunday, March 2

10:00 a.m. Worship service - 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

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CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Show off your talent by yourself or with a group. A **talent show** will take place on **March 8, 2025, at 3 pm**. If you want to be in the show please contact Pam Blair blairkids3@yahoo.com The show needs an audience too, so if you are not in the show come to be wowed and enjoy the fun.

Do YOU attend Worship on Sunday Mornings?

Consider being a **“Lenten Candle Reader”** during the season of Lent!

The Worship Committee is looking for readers/candle snuffers for the Sundays in Lent (March/April) to lead a reading and prayer at the beginning of worship. Please see Gwen Botting to sign up for a Sunday!

Looking for ways to volunteer at Lansing First Presbyterian Church?

The Christian Education Committees (Adult and Youth) are hoping YOU might be interested in helping shape programming, events and materials for our church family.

Please see Ceci Anderson, Alyse Collins or Megan Higle for more information. YOU are welcome and needed!

Adult Education (Ceci Anderson, chair) meets, currently, on the First Monday at 2:00 p.m. (in person and on zoom).

- Adult Forum Programming
- Bible Studies
- Lent & Advent Devotionals
- Library
- Book Group

Youth Education (Alyse Collins, chair) meets, currently, on the First Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. (via zoom).

- Sunday School
- Child Care Room/Staff
- Children’s Moment
- Christmas Pageant
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Outdoor Playground
- Youth Fellowship w/Holt Presbyterian Church

The **Capitol City Chordsmen** are presenting their big annual show on **March 8, 2025, at 7:00 pm**. “Turn Your Radio On” will include quartets, the chorus, fun times, audience participation, Steve Warnaar’s quartet and a story about Matt Ottinger trying to get his first job. Good, old-fashioned entertainment for only \$22. Call 517-896-3804 for tickets.

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held today, February 23, 2025 after worship. The Annual report, including the financial report, will be presented along with the budget for the coming year. The pastor’s terms of call and election of nominees to fill leadership vacancies will be voted on by members.

Per Capita Reminder: The annual per capita payment to the Lake Michigan Presbytery for 2025 is **\$42 per member**. This is for every member to consider. The check can go to the church noting “per capita.” Please consider paying a per capita for those who cannot afford to.

There will be a **Pottery Fundraiser to benefit our Food Pantry starting on February 28 and going through March 9**. There will be lots of pottery (79 pieces!) by Terri Froemel, and **other crafters are welcome to donate their wares** to generate funds for our Food Pantry. If you have items to donate, please contact Gwen Botting, co-chair, Worship, Music and the Arts Committee. GwenBotting9496@gmail.com or 616-755-2221. Church members and the general public will be able to “purchase” an item for a donation – cash or check – in envelopes provided. More details coming up! This is a very generous gift from Terri, who attends worship online. Thank you, Terri, in advance!

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CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (INCLUDING ADULT FORUM AND CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION)

11:15-12:15 (ish) after worship service in Litten Hall (adults) and Sunday School room (children)

Childcare is available through this time - please let Childcare staff know if this is needed.

February 23 TODAY!

Adult Forum - "The Journey Home (part 2)" - **Join** Elder Willye Bryan as she shares her recent travels to discover her ancestors in Cameroon.

Children's Faith Formation - "Care for Creation: Appreciate God's Creation" - Pam Blair, teacher

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March 2

Adult Forum - **Are** you ever in the church building? Then make sure that you join the EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GROUP, led by Elder Mike Bryan, as we practice a Tornado Drill, prepare for weather events and have discussion on how to best respond while at the church building and/or in the church parking lot.

Children's Faith Formation - Library & Story Time with Ms Megan (library). Children will also see where their Food Bank donations go.

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March 9

Adult Forum - "Make Disciples: Live As A Disciple" - **Join** Elder Ceci Anderson and Director of Christian Education, Megan Hagle, as we begin our Multi-Generational Bible Study for the season of Lent. (Fruits of the Spirit)

Children's Faith Formation - "Make Disciples: Live As A Disciple" - Pam Blair, teacher

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March 16

Adult Forum - "Make Disciples: Go!" - **Ways** of spreading the love of God. Hear how Ben Watson (cousin to Megan Hagle) spreads the love of God in China!

Children's Faith Formation - "Make Disciples: Go!" - Kathy Banghart, teacher

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