

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

NEW TO FIRST PRES?

We are so thankful that you have joined us today for worship. We would love to get to know you and help you get to know us. Please sign the Friendship Pad. Sign it then pass it down to others. Interested in membership? For more info, contact Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers, mrogers@fpca2.org.

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Children are always welcome in worship! You will find children's Bibles in the pews and activity resources in the Narthex. We provide childcare for children (infant to 5 years old) from 9:15 am to 12:15 pm on the first floor. If you need assistance, please alert an usher.

PRAYER

If you are carrying any personal burdens or joys this morning, the Prayer Team will be available following worship in the Prayer and Compassion Room—just outside the Sanctuary doors near the Lounge.

FELLOWSHIP

One of the easiest ways we live out our faith is through hospitality. A smile, a greeting, or a brief conversation can help guests and longtime members alike feel welcomed. Join us after worship for fellowship time! Our fellowship hour assistants are Heidi Dodson, Barbara Brewster, and Andrew Campbell. Cookie bakers this Sunday are Cathy King and Barbara Brewster.

TODAY AT FIRST

8:00am –9:00am	New Member Breakfast (Social Hall)
8:00am –9:00am	Worship (Monteith Hall)
9:30am –10:30am	Worship (Sanctuary)
10:25am –11:00am	Lemon Chapel Singers (Grades K-8) (Lemon Chapel)
10:30am –11:00am	Fellowship (Social Hall)
10:30am –12:30pm	Capital Campaign Q&A (Monteith Hall)
11:00am –12:00pm	Faith Formation for All Ages (Classrooms) <i>See page 12.</i>
12:00pm –2:00pm	Children & Youth Ministry Town Hall Potluck (Social Hall)
12:30pm –1:30pm	Mission & Justice Committee (Vance Room)
6:00pm –7:30pm	Youth Group (Youth Room)

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First Presbyterian worship services are filmed, recorded, and broadcast online. If you do not want to appear in any videos or photos, please speak with an usher.



8:00 AM WORSHIP | MAY 17, 2026
Ascension Sunday

** Please rise in body or spirit when you see this symbol,
and join in singing or reading aloud text in **bold**.*

GATHERING

Opening Voluntary

On a Quiet Lake

Florence Price

Lighting of the Christ Candle

The light shines in the darkness.

And the darkness cannot overcome it.

Welcome and Life in the Church

***Call to Worship**

Sing to God.

Sing praises to God's name.

Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth.

Sing praises to the Lord.

Let us worship God.

Together we join our voices to sing a new song!

***Hymn 264**

At the Name of Jesus

KING'S WESTON

Pouring of the Water and Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**We confess, O God, that too often we have our heads in the clouds.
We are more comfortable with dreaming of the world as we wish it
would be instead of working with you to bring that wish to reality.
At times, we find it difficult to claim the power you have given us.
Surely you have others more capable of being your witnesses?
And so, we continue to gaze heavenwards. Jolt us out of our
complacency, O God. Remind us we have work to do with you. Give
us your energy, courage, and vision to be your witnesses to the end
of the earth....**

Kyrie

AFDAHL



Assurance of Grace

*Passing of the Peace

**Congregational Response

CORONATION

**Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall,
hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!**

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 47

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Second Scripture Reading

Luke 24:44-53

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Mark Mares

RESPONDING & SEALING

Congregational Response

The musical score consists of two systems. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

System 1:
 Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a - lone, O Lord, are ho - ly.
 Com - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am - bo - nus.

System 2:
 Come and fill our hearts with your peace, al - le - lu - - - ia!
 Com - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no, al - le - lu - - - ia!

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Offertory

Give Me Jesus

arr. Moses Hogan

*Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God, above ye heavenly host.
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

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.

Sanctus

LAND OF REST



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord. God of pow - er and might. _____
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



Heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Communion of the People

When receiving each element, please respond as follows:

The bread of life. **Thanks be to God.**

The cup of salvation. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

*Hymn 267

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

MADRID

*Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary

Ride On, King Jesus

Marquez/arr. H.T. Burleigh





9:30 AM WORSHIP | MAY 17, 2026

Ascension Sunday

** Please rise in body or spirit when you see this symbol,
and join in singing or reading aloud text in **bold**.*

GATHERING

Opening Voluntary

Sleepers Wake

J.S. Bach

FPC Orchestra

Pouring of the Water

Welcome and Life in the Church

Faith in Action

Teacher Recognition

*Call to Worship

Sing to God.

Sing praises to God's name.

Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth.

Sing praises to the Lord.

Let us worship God.

Together we join our voices to sing a new song!

*Hymn 264

At the Name of Jesus

KING'S WESTON

Call to Confession

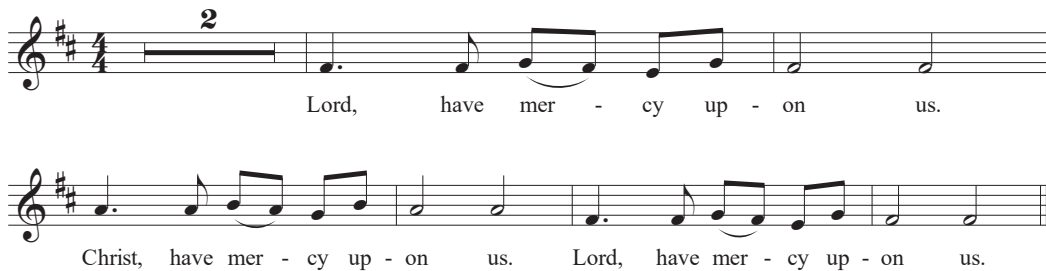
Prayer of Confession

**We confess, O God, that too often we have our heads in the clouds.
We are more comfortable with dreaming of the world as we wish it
would be instead of working with you to bring that wish to reality.
At times, we find it difficult to claim the power you have given us.
Surely you have others more capable of being your witnesses?
And so, we continue to gaze heavenwards. Jolt us out of our
complacency, O God. Remind us we have work to do with you. Give
us your energy, courage, and vision to be your witnesses to the end
of the earth....**

Silent Prayer

Kyrie

AFDAHL



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Assurance of Grace

*Passing of the Peace

*Congregational Response

CORONATION

**Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,
ye ransomed from the fall,
hail him who saves you by his grace,
and crown him Lord of all!
Hail him who saves you by his grace,
and crown him Lord of all!**

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 47

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

A Conversation with Young Disciples

Please join in singing as the children come forward.

**Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

Second Scripture Reading

Luke 24:44-53

The grass withers, the flower fades;
The word of the Lord endures forever.

Sermon

David Prentice-Hyers

RESPONDING

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Offertory

O Clap Your Hands
Chancel Choir

John Rutter

O clap your hands together all ye people;
O sing unto God with the voice of melody.
For the Lord is high and to be feared.
He is the great king upon all the earth.
He shall subdue the people under us;
And the nations under our feet.
He shall choose out an heritage for us;
Even the worship of Jacob whom he loved.
God is gone up with a merry noise,
And the Lord with the sound of the trumpet.
O sing praises unto our God;
O sing praises unto our king.
For God is the king of all the earth;
Sing ye praises with understanding.
O clap your hands together all ye people.

*Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, above ye heavenly host.
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

*Prayer of Dedication

Welcome of New Members

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

SENDING

Litany of Parting

Students (Kindergarten through 8th grade) are invited to exit the Sanctuary for Lemon Chapel Singers (our children and youth choir).

5 Congregation: Children:
May God be with you there. May God be with you here.

*Hymn 267

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

MADRID

Commissioning for Theological Education

*Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary

When Morning Gilds the Sky
FPC Orchestra

arr. Jeff Cranfill



Leading in Worship

8:00 AM WORSHIP

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Mark Mares

Sarah Rutherford

Barbara Eichmuller, *Lay Reader*

MUSICIANS

Kathryn Goodson, *Pianist*

9:30 AM WORSHIP

LEADING IN WORSHIP

David Prentice-Hyers

Mark Mares

Sandra McDonald

Melissa Anne Rogers

Stacey Pakela, *Lay Reader*

MUSICIANS

Chancel Choir

FPC Orchestra

Michael Haithcock, *FPC Orchestra Conductor*

David Hufford, *Organist*

David VanderMeer, *Minister of Music and Fine Arts*

USHERS DURING THE MONTH OF MAY

Bob Andrus

Dick Carlisle

Martin Swindle

Keith Bilby

Carol Carter

Bill Wood

Sheila Bilby

Joe Schmidt

Jim Cameron

Connie Swindle

FLOWERS

The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of Scott Strodman on his 80th birthday.

The rosebud placed in the chancel today celebrates the birth of Clementine Ladd Upton, on February 10, 2026, to Constance and Thompson Upton. Grandparents are Dusty and Bill Upton. We give thanks to God for this precious new life and join in prayers of joy and blessing for the family.

TEACHER APPRECIATION

Thank you to our faith formation teachers for sharing your time, wisdom, and heart to help nurture faith in our community.

NURSERY

Becky Gaffney

Beth Gerwig

Diane Knibbs

Nancy Fox

Ellen Johnson

Jenny Stahl

PRE-K TEACHERS

Becky Gaffney

Chris Hayes

Charlotte Sawtell

Delena Harrison

Alice Holderby

K-5 TEACHERS

Beth Gerwig
Peggy Hodgson
Mark Lindley

Diane Tamblyn
Sandy Talbott
David VanderMeer

Cassie Wieczerza
Megan Wolfe

CONTRIBUTORS TO PRE-K AND K-5 CLASSES

Dorie Anderson
Bob Anderson
Stacie Barrett
Nan Burlingame
Susan Crowell
Mark D'Angelo
Anne Gere
Delena Harrison

Jillian Hopper
David Hufford
Bill King
Sandra McDonald
Randall Nicholls
Timothy Orikri
Jen Peters
Shayla Powell

Gregg Powell
Hanna Richards
Mel Rogers
Sarah Rutherford
Jim Schaafsma

Representatives from
UCARE

YOUTH LEADERS AND CONTRIBUTORS

Dave Andrea
Kelsey Beckett
Price Burton
Mary Jane Chase
Callie Feyen

Keanu Heydari
Hannah Lundberg
Mark Mares
Betsy McCallister
Lilly Rego

Hanna Richards
Sarah Rutherford
Nicki Sorter
Pat Tamblyn
Susan Whitlock

ADULT FAITH FORMATION TEACHERS

Ed Koster

Carole Pawlowski

CONTRIBUTORS

Steve Bouma-Prediger
Marti Burbeck
Tom Burbeck
LJ Brazier
Mary Jane Chase
Barb Concannon
Elizabeth (Beth) Currans
Elizabeth Deibert
Joe Dixon
Jane Dutton
Roseanne Emanuele
Scott Ellsworth
Callie Feyen

Kate Drinkwater
Ashley Kerns
Nora Krinitsky
George Lambrides
William D Lopez
David Lowenschuss
Mark Mares
Michael Lindvall
Madeline Lindvall
Nicole Ortiz-Garcia
Hanna Richards
Sarah Rutherford
Tara Shantz

Diane Singer
Emily Sirona
Sidonie Smith
Rick Spalding
Gretchen Spreitzer
Mira Sussman
David VanderMeer

Members of the Mission
and Justice Committee

Today in Faith Formation

CHILDCARE & NURSERY _____

AGES 5 AND YOUNGER

9:15 AM to 12:15 PM | Room 101

CHILDREN & YOUTH _____

LEMON CHAPEL SINGERS

10:25 AM | LEMON CHAPEL

PRESCHOOL

11:00 AM | 4 & 5 YEAR OLDS - RM 102 |

NURSERY - 3 YEAR OLDS - RM 101

K - 5TH GRADE

11:00 AM | LEMON CHAPEL

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL

11:00 AM | YOUTH ROOM

ADULTS _____

EXPLORING THE FAITH

EMU's College in Prison Program

11:00 AM | LEWIS ROOM & LIVESTREAM

Speakers: Elizabeth Currans, CIP

Administrator and Professor of Women's and Gender Studies, Eastern Michigan University

Nicole Ortiz-Garcia, former student and current intern in CIP

Host: Michael Oswalt

The EMU College in Prison (CiP) program provides incarcerated women at Huron Valley Correctional Facility the opportunity to pursue a Bachelor's Degree from Eastern Michigan University. The administrator of the program, Elizabeth Curran, will describe how the program got started, what it offers, and how it transforms women's lives. Nicole Artiz-Garcia, a graduate of CIP, will share her experiences in the program and explore the difference it has made in her life.

EXPLORING THE BIBLE

The Story of Scripture

11:00 AM | FRENCH ROOM

ZOOM: [US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/86528108491](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86528108491)

Host: Ed Koster

Join us for a discussion of the role, importance, and message of the Bible as a whole.

FIRST FRIENDS

When God Talks Back – Exploring the Reality of Spiritual Experience

11:00 AM | CURTIS ROOM

ZOOM: [US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/89503587438](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89503587438)

In this engaging TED Talk, anthropologist Tanya Luhrmann examines how people come to experience God as an active, responsive presence in their lives. Drawing on her research with contemporary Christian communities, she explores the practices that shape spiritual awareness and the ways individuals learn to recognize and interpret God's voice. Together, we'll watch this thought-provoking 14-minute presentation and reflect on questions it raises about prayer, imagination, and the nature of faith.

Announcements

ADULTS _____

Journeys Book Group

THURSDAY, MAY 2`

2:00 PM

Journeys will gather at the home of Nancy Oliver for a conversation on *The Book of Longings* by Sue Monk Kidd. All are welcome. For more information, contact Nancy at nancyoli72@gmail.com.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES _____

TODAY! Townhall Meeting

SUNDAY, MAY 17

12:00 PM, SOCIAL HALL

Both the Children and Youth Workgroups invite you to a town hall meeting on Sunday, May 17, at 12:00 pm. Join us for a potluck lunch as we share plans for summer and fall programming and gather your hopes, ideas, and questions. No registration is required—everyone is welcome! You are invited to stay for the Potluck even if you did not bring food.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE _____

All-Church Picnic

SUNDAY, MAY 31

11:00 AM, FRONT LAWN

Save the date for one of our favorite annual traditions: the All-Church Picnic! Right after worship, we'll gather on the front lawn for a fun-filled afternoon of food, fellowship, and live music. RSVP at fpca2.org to register

Holy Chow: Small Group Dinners

SATURDAY, JUNE 20

6:00 PM

Looking for a meaningful way to connect with others? Join Holy Chow—an evening of shared meals and fellowship. You'll be placed in a small group, with one host providing the main dish and others bringing sides or dessert. It's a simple, joyful way to meet new people and build relationships. We especially encourage our young families to attend. Sign up by May 31 at fpca2.org.

Labyrinth Walk

The Hilligs invite you to walk their labyrinth at 7654 W. Ellsworth Road on three Saturdays—May 30, July 25, and September 26—between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. No sign-up is needed. Long pants, closed-toe shoes, and a hat are recommended; insect spray will be provided. For more information, contact Kathy Hillig at hilligk@umich.edu.

MUSIC & FINE ARTS _____

Music Camp 2026!

JULY 27-31

Open to rising 2nd–9th graders, with a new K–1st option. If you would like to volunteer during the camp, please contact David VanderMeer at dvandermeer@fpca2.org. Register at fpca2.org.

Calendar

- Mon May 18 **Prayer Group** | 9:00 am | Zoom
- Mon May 18 **Stephen Ministry (McCallister)** | 2:00 pm | Vance Room
- Mon May 18 **Stephen Ministry Training** | 6:30 pm | Curtis Room
- Mon May 18 **Finance Committee** | 7:00 pm | French Room
- Tues May 19 **Card Making** | 9:30 am | Social Hall
- Wed May 20 **Session** | 7:00 pm | Curtis Room
- Thur May 21 **Mature Ministries Trip** | 7:45 am
- Thur May 21 **Journeys Book Study Group** | 2:00 pm | offsite
- Thur May 21 **Chancel Choir Rehearsal** | 7:00 pm | Monteith Hall
- Fri May 22 **Bicentennial Planning** | 10:00 am | Vance Room



*with Capital
Campaign Leaders*

Curious about the projects, priorities, or impact of our capital campaign? Stop by the Q&A session this Sunday at 11:00 AM in Monteith Hall. Your questions are welcome, and your voice matters.

SUNDAYS @ 11:00 AM

For more info, visit fpca2.org/onward