



*In everything do to others
as you would have them
do to you...*

Matthew 7:12

ALL ARE WELCOME

Whether you are young or old, rich or poor, doubtful or hopeful ... no matter where you are in your faith journey, YOU are welcome here. For those with children, be assured that noises and wiggling are signs of a church that is alive and growing; your entire family is welcome in worship.

ORDER OF WORSHIP | FEBRUARY 10, 2019

Prelude

"Rhosymedre"
Judy Kabodian, organ

R. Vaughan Williams

Choral Introit

"We Come With Joy"
Carol Choir, directed by Elizabeth Reed

John Erickson

Welcome to The Peoples Church!

Rev. Betsy Aho

Worship is both personal and communal, formal and informal, intimate and casual. Here at The Peoples Church, we recognize that people come to worship God in both joy and pain, faith and doubt, with laughter and with tears. Our worship tries to reflect a desire both for meditation and celebration. Please know you are invited to participate in any and all ways you feel led. Our songs, prayers, words and actions are the works of imperfect people trying to worship a perfect God.

Call to Worship

Jesalyn Henry, Confirmation Student

Leader: In your wisdom, O God, you call us here to worship in your presence and in community.

People: We gather, alive to the Word of God.

Leader: You call us to be fully alive with your life abundant, ready to listen and respond with heart, soul strength, and mind.

People: We listen, alive to the Word of God.

Leader: You call us to be always watchful for your Word of wisdom, sometimes startling and unexpected, sometimes still and quiet, but always dwelling among us.

People: We watch and wait for the Word of God.

Gathering Hymn

"Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above" No. 645

Procession of the Light of Christ

Anna Harvey and Maya Canady, acolytes



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East Lansing, MI 48823
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ThePeoplesChurch.com

Prayer of Confession

I've tried to hide from your searching gaze, O God. I've climbed mountains, and burrowed deep into earth's caverns; I've fled to the farthest edges of my soul, and longed to sail in my fears to the dark side of the moon. And wherever I go, you are there. Even in the dimmest corners of my heart, your light is able to find me. Lost, I am found, afraid to speak of my brokenness - you hear my stumbling words before I shape them in my mind; unable to help myself - you redeem me through the gracious love of Jesus Christ.

Assurance of Pardon

In sorrow so deep we cannot find our way out, God cradles us in comfort; in moments so dark, we stumble over ourselves, God lights the way; in joy which cascades into our souls, God fills us with healing. Even when we cannot see it, God's hope is all around us, surrounding us with peace and healing. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.

Congregational Response "Great God of Every Blessing" (verse 3)

No. 694

**Your Spirit is our teacher, the light that guides our search,
Transforming broken people into the holy church.
For feeding us with mercy, for wisdom you impart:
Sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.**

First Reading

Psalm 139:7-18

(Pew Bible Page 621; Large Print 920)

Anthem (10:30 a.m.)

"A Joyous Psalm"

Carol Choir, directed by Elizabeth Reed

Eugene Butler

Communion (8:30 a.m.)

Children's Moment (10:30 a.m.)

Passing the Peace of Christ

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

Sacrament of Holy Baptism (10:30 a.m.)

Violet Suzanne Allen

Born October 30, 2018

Rev. Betsy Aho

Statement of Faith

We believe the teachings of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and with the help of God, we will strive daily to live the life of purity, unselfishness and service which He exemplified to the world.

Baptismal Hymn

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

No. 475

Second Reading

Matthew 7:1-20

(Pew Bible Page 971; Large Print 1,477)

Sermon

“Polishing Gold”

Rev. Betsy Aho

 @Connect2TPC #TPCsermon

Solo

“Let Us Love One Another”

Arnold B. Sherman

Christine Roberts, mezzo-soprano

Prayers of the People; 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever, Amen.

Thanksgiving and Dedication of Gifts

Offertory (10:30 a.m.)

“Lord, I Know I Been Changed”

arr. Bruce More

Sanctuary Choir, directed by Dr. Jonathan Reed; Jim Phelps, string bass

Act of Praise

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

Prayer of Dedication

God of all peoples and God of all places, we present these offerings, that they may be used to extend your liberating reign. With them we offer our varied ministries, that each of us may be part of your answer to the cries of the world. Amen.

Sending Hymn

“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

No. 547

Benediction

Benediction Response

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true. Know God will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**

Postlude

“Hyfrydol”

R. Vaughan Williams



Floral Dedication:

In celebration of Dale and Carolyn Schuster's 50th anniversary, by Mike, Kris, Maddy, Jill, Sarah, Matt, Alyssa, Reid, Sophia, and Ella.

"INSPIRATIONS"

Take a few moments to visit the new exhibit by Michigan artists Cindy Evans and Marge Clay, which is now on display throughout the halls bordering the church Sanctuary. The exhibit title "Inspirations" reflects how the artists react to what they experience around them through their art, bringing attention to the beauty in nature, scripture and the art of storytelling. The exhibit, which includes 29 pieces from their joint collections, features work in a variety of media including water color, fused glass, acrylic, ink, collage, glass mosaics and reverse painting on glass. "Inspirations" was curated by Fine Arts Committee Chair Sue Mills and installed by members of the Fine Arts Committee. It will be on display through April 18. Pick up a catalog for the exhibit in the NW entrance of the church.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE VACATION SPOT?

The Fine Arts Committee wants to know about your favorite vacation destinations. The Committee is planning a special exhibit for the summer, "My Favorite Vacation Spot," that will highlight our members' favorite places to travel. The committee is looking for photographs (matted and framed) as well as purchased artwork that best captures the flavor of your treasured travel memories. Submissions will be "juried" and **must be received by July 1** to be considered for the exhibit. If you are interested in contributing, or have questions, please contact Sue Mills at suemills@comcast.net or call 517.332.5535 or Jan Reed at reedjan7@gmail.com or call 517.337.3222.

PEOPLES FORUM

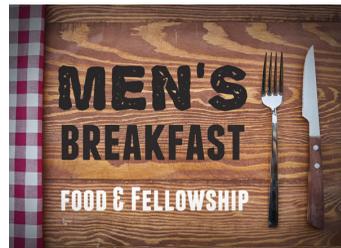
There will not be a Peoples Forum on **February 17**, due to the holiday weekend. Peoples Forum will resume on February 24.



The Peoples Church welcomes Dr. Suzanne McDonald, who has been studying and reflecting on the topic of dementia for 20 years. Her series, "Dealing Faithfully with Dementia," is for those who want to be faithful to God and the Gospel, and also faithful to the very difficult realities of the disease, as they walk beside those with dementia and their caregivers. Join us at 6:30 p.m. in the Robertson Room on February 13.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Join other men of TPC in fellowship for our Men's breakfast! This breakfast meeting will combine good food, fellowship, laughter, and stories with worship and scripture. Whether you are a visitor or a long-time member, this is a great way for us as Christian brothers to get to know one another better. Invite your friends and neighbors to this informal gathering. Let us know you are coming by signing up at the Welcome Desk, or by calling the church office. We look forward to seeing you at the breakfast!



WPC JEWELRY SALE COMING IN MAY!

The Women of Peoples Church are collecting donations of jewelry, purses, scarves, puzzles, etc. for their annual jewelry sale. Please drop off donations in the church office during normal business hours (9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Mon - Fri).